The Bloom scale, formulated by a group of educational psychologists (Bloom et al., 1956), is a classification system for mental activities thought to facilitate learning (Modified from http://www.officeport.com/edu/blooms.htm.) (Hoskins, notes on teaching, GC 4/9/2010)

One question to ask yourself when designing classroom activities, quizzes and exams is whether you are challenging students to engage at levels beyond the basics (level 1 and 2). Bloom found in a study that something like 95% of the exams he looked at (in the mid 20th century) only tested students at the most basic level, even though the faculty all said they wanted students to be able to engage at the higher levels.