WRITING SMART
LEARNING OBJECTIVES
What are Learning Objectives?

- Statements of intent (what the learner should be able to do as a result of studying a unit or section)
- Learner competency/outcome related statements
Types of Objectives

Objectives can be classified in many different ways.

- Benjamin Bloom identified three levels of objectives:
  - Cognitive level
  - Affective level
  - Psychomotor level
Objectives should indicate the learner behaviour at the end of the unit.

Objectives should be **SMART**:  
- **S**pecific  
- **M**easurable  
- **A**chievable  
- **R**ealistic  
- **T**ime-bound

They should also be simple, clear and precise.
Sources of Objectives

- Syllabus/module/unit outlines/subject content
- Your understanding of the target group
- Skills/attitudes to be developed/changed
- Existing objectives (if any)
- Own experience
Value of Objectives

Enable writers to:

- Clarify educational intentions
- Identify and sequence content
- Decide on most appropriate teaching media
- Select the most appropriate activities
- Decide on suitable ways of assessing learning
- Evaluate the effects & effectiveness of materials
Value of Objectives

Advantages for learners:

- Show them what is to be covered (concepts to be learned, skills to be mastered)
- Present them with challenges ahead and standards to be achieved
- Enable them to evaluate themselves (assess own progress against objectives)
- Build their self-confidence
- Prepare them for final exams
The End