

## Objectives & Outcomes

**OBJECTIVE:** What **WILL** students learn?

- Describes the **goals** for the learning that is about to occur
- States the educator's intentions and planned instruction to achieve this goal

**OUTCOME:** What **CAN** students do? (or what DO students know?)

- Describes the learning students have gained
- States what students know and can do as the **result** of their learning experience

If a statement uses the word "will" it is an OBJECTIVE because it describes FUTURE learning.

If a statement omits the word will, it is an OUTCOME because it describes the knowledge or skill students HAVE ACHIEVED.

"Students will draw conclusions about chemical reactions" is an OBJECTIVE because it states a goal for **future learning**.

"Students draw conclusions about chemical reactions" or simply, "draw conclusions about chemical reactions" omitting the word "students" is an OUTCOME because it states the knowledge or skill students **have achieved**.

The same sentence can serve either purpose depending on the presence or absence of the word "will." If it includes "will" it is an objective because it describes future learning. If it does not include "will" it is an outcome because it describes the result of learning.