

FPS Beginning Coaches Training

Part 2:
The Underlying Problem
Writing Solutions

April 2020

Topics for 2020-21



- ▶ **Problem #1 Youth in Competitive Sports**
- ▶ **Problem #2 Wearable Technology**
- ▶ **QP: Human Environmental Impact**
- ▶ **SB Personalized Medicine**
- ▶ **IC: Announcement March 1, 2021**

Step 2: The Underlying Problem (UP)

The precise statement of any problem is the most important step in its solution.

(Edwin Bliss)

izquotes.com

Underlying Problem (also known as the UP)

A UP is stated as one question containing four basic components

- ▶ The condition phrase
- ▶ The stem + KVP
- ▶ The purpose
- ▶ The future scene parameters

The completeness scores simply determines if “all the parts are there.”

Underlying Problem

Condition Phrase

- ▶ It is taken directly from Future Scene
- ▶ It provides a reason or a cause
- ▶ The condition phrase usually begin with “Because”

Underlying Problem

Stem + Key Verb Phrase

- ▶ *“How might we “ or “In what ways might we”*
- ▶ One action verb or phrase
- ▶ All the solutions are derived from the KVP
- ▶ The KVP needs to be relevant to the Future Scene

Underlying Problem

Purpose

- ▶ Reason
- ▶ Most purposes start with the words “so that ...”

Underlying Problem

The UP must contain all three Future Scene Parameters

- ▶ **Topic** (Food Distribution)
- ▶ **Time** (2065)
- ▶ **Place** (coastlines of Africa and South America or the World)

Underlying Problem

Example UP for Food Distribution:

- ▶ Because genetically-modified fish eggs grow into faster-maturing, higher-protein fish, how might we increase the probability that these super fish will continue to provide an edible food source so that the Poseidon Corporation can continue to distribute food to the impoverished countries of Africa and South America in 2065 and beyond?

Underlying Problem

Focus and Adequacy:

- ▶ It should be a significant sub-problem of the Future Scene
- ▶ Try not to make assumptions that are not inferred or stated in the Future Scene
- ▶ High quality UP's should have a **POSITIVE** impact
- ▶ State your KVP in a positive rather than a negative fashion. (Ex: increase rather than reduce, improve rather than impair)

Alumni Affirmation

The cliché is that FPS taught me "how to think, not what to think," but I think that's true—I learned so much about the process of defining and solving problems that I've used since I learned about conflict and compromise and negotiating the dynamics of a group of very strong-willed, often stubborn teammates under intense pressure. All of these are skills I've drawn on in college and in my life since.

Reuben Henriques

Brown University: Political Science

High School History Teacher, Kipp Academy

Step 3: Solutions



The Category List

(used for challenges and solutions)

- ▶ 1. Arts & Aesthetics
- ▶ 2. Basic Needs
- ▶ 3. Business & Commerce
- ▶ 4. Communication
- ▶ 5. Defense
- ▶ 6. Economics
- ▶ 7. Education
- ▶ 8. Environment
- ▶ 9. Ethics & Religion
- 10. Government & Politics
- 11. Law & Justice
- 12. Miscellaneous
- 13. Physical Health
- 14. Psychological Health
- 15. Recreation
- 16. Social Relationships
- 17. Technology
- 18. Transportation

Solutions

Solution ideas should be written in statement form as definite proposals.

- ▶ They should be Relevant
- ▶ Must not contradict the FS
- ▶ They do not have to quote from the UP

Solutions

- ▶ A solution may partially solve the UP
- ▶ Solutions do not have to work perfectly—they just need a likelihood of success
- ▶ They must be humane
- ▶ They should be new ideas
- ▶ They should be written as complete sentences

Solutions

Teams should elaborate each solution idea.

- ▶ **Who** will be responsible for putting this solution into practice
 - ▶ **What** will they actually be doing in the solution
 - ▶ **How** or **why** will they accomplish their plan
 - ▶ (Optional) When and where will the solution happen
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- ▶ For a solution to be counted as an elaborated solution, it needs to include three of the four—**who, what, why** or **how**.

Practice Writing Solutions

- ▶ **Assignment:** Using the Food Distribution UP (Slide #8), **write three solutions of your own** that you think will solve the UP.
- ▶ **Example solution 1:** By diversifying the types of genetically-modified fish eggs, the World Ecology Corporation will increase the diversity of fish reducing the probability of mass extinction of the fish being caught by the Poseidon Corporation.
- ▶ **Example solution 2:** The United World Conservation Corporation will create a world fish gene bank that will be used to create a greater fish gene pool so that many different types of fish will be more likely to survive if there is a global fish pandemic.

Alumni Affirmation

Participating in FPS has had and continues to have a profound impact on my education, career, plans for the future, and interpersonal relationships. Most notably, I learned to see undesirable and/or unforeseen circumstances as solvable challenges rather than unsurmountable problems. This mindset has encouraged me to pursue experiences that were outside of my comfort zone and to take on responsibilities that required me to quickly acquire additional skills.

Danielle Breidung

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AmeriCorps Vista at University of South Carolina, Program Coordinator for 55 VITA volunteers (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

THIS CONCLUDES PART 2 OF THE TRAINING

If you have questions, please email jbuissinkwafps@gmail.com

CHECK OUT THE wafps.org WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION