



W. O.W. Factor

Words of Wisdom for Wisconsin FPS Coaches and Students

What Makes a Good Solution?

A good solution is **relevant** -- the basic idea addresses the KVP and does not negate the purpose. It is explained in detail (**elaborate**), telling *what* is to be done *by whom* and *how or why* it helps to solve the Underlying Problem. Here are some tips for writing good solutions.



	DO 	DON'T 
RELEVANCE Your solution helps solve the UP and addresses the purpose	Solve your U.P. Use "will" in writing solutions – you are presenting ideas you believe WILL solve the U.P.	Solve other challenge ideas from Step one Use "may" – it can make your solution idea appear "iffy"/less sound
ELABORATION Your solution tells WHO will do WHAT and WHY or HOW it works to help solve your Underlying Problem	Use REAL agencies who have the PIE (Power, Interest, and Expertise) to implement your solutions (WHOs) Tell WHAT the agency or person will do. Be specific about the action that will be taken.	Use agencies you make up (e.g., NSW – Nanotechnology Solvers of the World). Although clever, they do not show research and may not really be an agency that actually has the PIE. Go on and on with small details that aren't important to the understanding of the basic solution. Save those for the Action Plan if this turns out to be your best solution.
CLARITY Your solution is written in a clear & concise manner	Express your ideas clearly. Be sure that what is in your head gets down on the paper, so that a stranger can tell exactly what you mean.	Just say it will solve your U.P. You need to explain HOW/WHY it will. Don't repeat your KVP, purpose, or the date over and over in your solutions.