

W.O.W. Factor

Words Of Wisdom for Wisconsin FPS Coaches and Students

TIPS FOR PRACTICE PROBLEM #2

As you get ready to solve the problem on **Disappearing Languages**, consider these suggestions.

FUTURE SCENE (FS)

- We recommend that students first see the Disappearing Languages Future Scene when they begin writing the booklet in December. This will help prepare them for the competitive conditions of the qualifying problem.
- Coaches, you may want to read the Future Scene ahead of time in order to focus the development of background knowledge on information most specific to the Future Scene.



We strongly recommend preparation sessions of at least 60 minutes per week

RESEARCH

- Begin with the chapter in *Readings*,
- *Research and Resources* for background.
- Practice the steps of the process using topic information as much as possible.

Useful Resources:

- *Topic Activity Units*
- *Process Pointers for Students*
- Lessons from our coaching trilogy: *Stepping Stones* (elementary), *Puzzle Pieces* (middle) and *Building Blocks* (high school)

WRITING THE BOOKLET FOR PROBLEM #2

- Write the booklet in one continuous session (recommended) or split across two CONSECUTIVE days.
- Guide the booklet writing for students in the first 2-3 years of problem solving experience (about 3 hours).
- The coaching trilogy publications have a recommended timeline (available on our website).
- For elementary and middle students, read the Future Scene aloud and discuss each paragraph.
- Consider using the guided booklet for students in the first 2-3 years.
- Develop a time schedule, slightly longer than 2 hours, for students with more experience writing independently.
- Develop an Underlying Problem together, or require students to *have their UP approved by you* before moving on. Help them to revise and/or include any missing parts.