

W.O.W. FACTOR

WORDS OF WISDOM FOR WISCONSIN FPS STUDENTS & COACHES

SHOWING RESEARCH

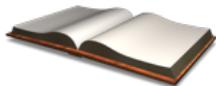
“Try to show more evidence of research.” If you are like most FPS teams, you’ve probably received this suggestion at one time or another. But . . . exactly how DO you accomplish this?

First of all . . .

You will want to do as much research as possible on the topic in preparation for solving the problem. The FPS International Office (FPSPI) provides *Readings, Research and Resources* (RRR) for purchase. For each of the year’s topics, this reference provides terms and definitions, an overview of important issues, questions for discussion, and short summaries of relevant articles. This can be a great starting point -- if you don’t have the time to do much research, this may be the one best source for you.

Also, at the beginning of the year, coaches were sent an attachment of *Wisconsin Future Problem Solving Program 2012-13 Materials for Global Issues Problem Solving*. It includes a bibliography of suggested readings for each topic -- full articles that FPSPI recommends. If you haven’t used it, you may want to revisit this resource.

Other options? Google the topic and see what you can find. Make a list of relevant terms and agencies, studies, challenges, possible U.P. phrases, and solutions as you read.



Three Basic Techniques. . .

#1 INCORPORATE SPECIFIC TERMS FROM YOUR RESEARCH. Here are some examples from our first topic, Culture of Celebrity:

♦ A **celebrity-industrial complex** may exist between Addison and Pepsi. The ethics of her fans purchasing Pepsi, due to the fact that Addison refers to the company’s generosity, may be questioned.

♦ Addison’s **persona** allows her to capitalize on her celebrity status to run for the office of U.S. president, for which she may be unqualified. Therefore, how might we more firmly differentiate the entertainment

world from the political realm, so that the country’s serious problems can be more sufficiently addressed in 2036 and beyond?

♦ Lawyers will impose a **superinjunction** against the **paparazzi**. This will help to protect Addison’s privacy.

#2 CITE SPECIFIC FACTS/STUDIES when applicable. Research information can be added anywhere in a challenge that makes sense. Here are some examples for our last topic, Robotic Age:

♦ Robotic technology can be extremely expensive. For example, our research cited \$40,000 for one PR2 robot and \$1900 per month for an hybrid assisted limb. Such costs may mean that other programs in the Termite communities may need to be cut back.

♦ Errors can always occur in intelligent machines. For example, a semi-autonomous robotic military cannon malfunctioned in South Africa (2007) killing nine “friendly” soldiers and wounding others. If the Artificial Photosynthesis Grass in Termite Q should malfunction and compromise the oxygen supply, it could endanger the lives of residents.

#3 CHOOSE AGENCIES FROM YOUR RESEARCH THAT HAVE THE PIE. Rather than use generic implementers of solutions (WHOs), such as the government, use appropriate institutions or individuals who have the **PIE** -- **P**ower, **I**nterest and **E**xpertise -- to implement them, such as . . .

♦ Major production companies, privacy lawyers, Writers Guild, paparazzi, networks (Culture of Celebrity)

♦ National Science Foundation (NSA), Anybots Inc., National Institute of Standards, MIT, computer scientists (Robotic Age)



Remember . . .
You can earn up to 10 points for research applied. So make it a goal to try one or more of these three techniques to help show research!