W.O.W. FACTOR
Words Of Wisdom for Wisconsin FPS Coaches and Students

KEY TIPS FOR GIPS

READING THE FUTURE SCENE (FS)

- Read and analyze the FS carefully.
    - Consider reading it aloud, so that you are forced to go more slowly.
- Check with your team members to be sure you all understand what is going on.
- Try highlighting or underlining key ideas.
- Write notes to yourself in the margin.
- Consider a diagram or word map to chart out the important parts.
- Keep the FS out and refer to it often as you brainstorm challenges.

CHALLENGES

- Challenges must relate to the Future Scene.
- Use may, might, could (not will).
- Use the **cause-effect-consequence** format.
- Keep to 2-3 sentences – quality is more important than quantity.
- Try to cite challenges in as many applicable categories as possible.
- Try to use terms and concepts from the research.
- Avoid extreme consequences.

UNDERLYING PROBLEM (UP)

- Your UP must be based on either:
    - one category of challenges;
    - a compilation of several related challenges;
    - something that will make a big impact on the FS if solved;
    - one of your challenges (careful not to choose one that's too trivial).
- Start with your **key verb phrase (KVP)**.
    - MUST be singular (do not use the word "and")
    - Key verbs to avoid: educate, inform, convince, raise money
- Next think of a **purpose**.
    - Tells why you want to accomplish your KVP
    - MUST be singular (do not use the word "and")
- Finally, determine your **condition phrase**.
    - Tells what led you to choose your KVP
- Be sure condition phrase, KVP, purpose are not repetitive.
- Double check for completeness: condition phrase, stem + KVP, purpose, **all 3 parameters** (topic, place, time).

SOLUTIONS

- Your solutions must address the KVP.
- Solutions must support the purpose (either stated or inferred).
- Use "will" (not may, might).
- Tell **WHO** will do **WHAT** and **WHY** or **HOW** it works to help solve your UP.
- Good WHOs are those with the PIE (**P**ower, **I**nterest & **E**xpertise).
  - Use WHOs from your research if possible.
- Remember – simply saying the solution helps solve your KVP doesn't explain how or why it does.
- Try to use concepts from your research if applicable.
- Try to use as many applicable categories as possible.

CRITERIA

- To be **correctly written** a criteria must:
  - have a superlative (st word)
  - be singular
  - be in the desired direction
- **Generic** = can be applied to ANY UP
  - Which solution will be easiest to implement; costs the least; etc.
- **Modified** = generic criterion with details or stakeholders from the FS added
  - Which solution will be easiest for VR-T companies to implement?
- **Advanced** = so specific to your UP, it probably can't be used with any others
  - One should be from your KVP
  - One should be from your purpose

GRID

- Choose what you feel are your 8 best solutions.
- Write the number of the solution and a short phrase on each line.
- Rank solutions against each criterion from 1- 8 (8 = best meets; 1= least meets).
- If your totals add up to 180, you have done the grid correctly.
- If you have a tie, you MUST break it and tell us how you did. E.g.,
  - Add a sixth criterion to use with the tied ideas.
  - Recheck your rankings to see if you want to make any changes. BUT . . . be sure you still have 1-8 in each column and that your totals are correct.

ACTION PLAN

- Write your **basic solution idea**.
- Add **details** on how the plan will operate.
- Provide **timelines and tasks** for implementing the plan.
- Discuss how you might **solve a potential problem** (optional).
- Explain **how/why your plan works to help solve your UP.**
  - This is the most important part!
  - Remember, simply saying it works doesn't explain how/why it does.
- Tell **how the plan will positively impact the Future Scene**.
- You should be writing much more in this step than you did in Step 3!
- You may include your second highest solution as part of your action plan, but ONLY if the second idea is a logical sub-part of the first idea and doesn't become the main part.