

Future Problem Solving Glossary

Action Plan (AP): (Step 6)	Proposal for solving the Underlying Problem (UP) . The basis comes from the highest scoring solution from Step 5 but is now expanded to explain in detail the who, what, how, why, where, and when of the solution idea. Will most often consist of three or more paragraphs, but may be presented in a unique format. This is the culminating work of the Future Problem Solving booklet.
Booklet:	The set of sheets provided to the Future Problem Solving team on which to complete the FPS process.
Category: (Steps 1 & 3)	A list of 18 different topics that are used to assist students to generate ideas from a variety of sources.
Challenge or Concern: (Step 1)	A challenge is an issue, concern, or problem that needs attention or consideration, which relates to the Future Scene .
Charge:	Directive, found in Future Scene , that indicates to students the goal of the Future Scene .
Condition Phrase (CP): (Step 2)	A lead-in phrase that describes the situation in the future scene that is the basis for the challenge chosen in the Underlying Problem (UP) .
Criteria: (Steps 4 & 5)	Questions or phrases used by the team to evaluate solution ideas. Criteria should be focus on a single dimension, demonstrate a measure of degree, and indicate the desired direction. Criteria may be classified as Generic or Specific .
Future Problem Solving - Team: (FPS)	Competition in which four students are given a Future Scene and a booklet which is to be completed within a specified time constraint. Their charge is to problem solve by identifying challenges and solutions in order to solve the situation presented in the future scene.
Future Problem Solving - Individual:	Competition in which one student, rather than a team of four students, is given a Future Scene and a booklet which is to be completed within a specified time constraint. The Individual FPS charge is to problem solve by identifying challenges and solutions in order to solve the situation presented in the future scene.
Future Scene (Fuzzy) (FS):	A hypothetical, what if, scenario based on current information or ideas. Also known as a " Fuzzy ".
Future Scene Parameters (FSP): (Step 2)	Elements that place the Underlying Problem within the parameters of the Future Scene , including time, place, and topic. Could be described as the setting of the Underlying Problem .
Fuzzy (Future Scene):	See Future Scene (FS) .
Generic: (Steps 4 & 5)	Criteria are relevant in measuring concerns to most any problems; nonspecific to Future Scene , Underlying Problem (UP) , or Solutions .
Grid: (Steps 4 & 5)	Table used in evaluation of solution ideas , solution receiving highest score in "grid" must be used for Action Plan in Step 6.
Imposed Purpose	A part of the Underlying Problem written with brackets [] in the team booklet when the team does not write a purpose. A logical connection MUST be made between the Condition Phrase and the KVP to be considered as an acceptable Imposed Purpose.

Key Verb Phrase (KVP): (Step 2)	One key verb in a phrase connected with only one object or modifier, that mandates what will be done to solve the Underlying Problem (UP) . The key verb phrase will occur most often just after the Stem .
Purpose (P): (Step 2)	The outcome or goal expected from the directive set forth by the Key Verb Phrase (KVP) .
Relevance: (Steps 4 & 5)	Measures the merit or value of each criterion in relation to Solution statements.
Solution: (Step 3)	Proposal ideas that are stated in definite terms that solve the Key Verb Phrase (KVP) and make a connection to the Purpose .
Stem: (Step 2)	Use of the phrase, " How might we "(HMW) OR " In what ways might we "(IWWMW), in the Underlying Problem(UP) .
Specific: (Steps 4 & 5)	Criteria specific to the Future Scene, Underlying Problem (UP) and any of the parts of the UP . They show greater insight and are more effective in evaluating the solution idea that is the best to use for the Action Plan .
Topic:	Released subjects that allow students to research and prepare for the Future Problem Solving competitions.
Underlying Problem (UP): (Step 2)	A challenge that identifies and states a very important issue within the Future Scene to solve. The UP is made up of the following components: Condition Phrase, Stem, Key Verb Phrase (KVP), Purpose and Future Scene Parameters .
UP-based criterion	A criterion that is based on the ideas from the Underlying problem with a tie to the Condition Phrase, KVP or Purpose .