

GIPS STEP FOUR

Step 4 – Criteria: Helpful Tips

Consider the following methods to generate criterion:

1. Use a basic stock criterion. It is a common-sense question which evaluates your solution ideas (e.g. *Which solution is easiest to implement in Jordan in 2123 and beyond?*).
2. Use the generic criterion from the method above with added relevant details specific to the Future Scene. (e.g. if the fuzzy is set in Nassau County, LI: *Which solution is easiest for the County Council of Nassau to implement?*).
3. Use advance criterion via these three methods:
 - a. Writing criteria that are based on the KVP or P from the UP.
 - b. Writing criteria that are specific to the Annual Topic of the Future Scene and can't be used with other topics.
 - c. Writing criteria that are generically worded, but justified with information from the Future Scene.

The first two methods of creating Criteria are not suggested. These methods produce Criteria which are too broad or generic. Evaluators are seeking for Criteria which are tailored for the specific Future Scene or your UP. The third method allows you to rate your solutions more effectively.

Also, note, you should avoid using this criterion: *Which solution best solves the UP?* That criterion is too broad. Your criterion should evaluate a specific concern or thread to help address the question of whether the solution best addresses the UP.

The following criteria are called scaffolding criteria. They are generic criteria that need “meat” added to the skeletons. Use these as guides to create criteria which are tailored to your specific UP and the Future Scene.

- Which solution is the most cost efficient?
- Which solution is the quickest to put in place?
- Which solution is the most acceptable?
- Which solution uses the resources best?
- Which solution is the easiest to put in place?



Key Terms Defined

Here are key terms to know:

• **UP: Underlying Problem** = Step 2. The core issue identified in the Future Scene.

• **Criteria** = Step 4. It is a question that provokes evaluation of solutions that you brainstormed in Step 3.

• **KVP: Key Verb Phrase** = an active key that declares intention in addressing the issue.

• **P: Purpose** = an explanation of why the action is required.