



Psych.E.In. MOOC 1

Unit 7

3.2 b Questions to assess Analytical Problem Solving

Step 1: Identify the problem

- What is the condition considered undesirable by members of the organization?
- What may have caused the emergency?
- When did the event occur?
- Which stakeholders did it involve? Which ones might it involve in the future?
- What is the magnitude of the problem?
- What resources do I have to work with? And what constraints?
- What risks do I run?

Step 2: Explore alternatives

- What are my objectives?
- What are my targets?
- Can I generate alternatives using strategies such as Brainstorming, Surveys, Discussion group?
- Which strategy is more appropriate?



- What are the issues involved?
- Can I make reasonable assumptions based on available information?

Step 3: Plan the solution

- Have I mapped out sub-problems?
- Which of the suggested alternatives comes closest to solving the problem?
- Which of the suggested alternatives has the most advantages and fewest disadvantages?
- What are the possible consequences of implementing the selected solution?

Step 4: Implement the solution

- Have I developed an appropriate action plan?
- Is the time of day a factor? Is it getting dark?
- Have I determined objectives or measurable target?
- Have I Identified details of the action plan (who will do what, by when, where, and how, as applicable)?

Step 5: Evaluate the solution

- Is the solution reasonable? Does it make sense?
- Were the assumptions appropriate?
- Is the solution socially and ethically acceptable?
- Has the situation changed?
- Are more or fewer resources required?





**Psychological
Early
Intervention**

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- Are those resources immediately available or will they be delayed?
- Is a different alternative solution required?

Source:

<https://emilms.fema.gov/IS-0241b/curriculum/1.html>

Mourtos, N. J., Okamoto, N. D., & Rhee, J. (2004, February). Defining, teaching, and assessing problem solving skills. In *7th UICEE Annual Conference on Engineering Education* (pp. 1-5).

