

Developing Problem Solving Skills Through Case Study Analysis

Rubric to Self-evaluate Problem Solving Skills

CRITERION	EXCELLENT	ADEQUATE	POOR	Score
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This rubric refers to “novel situations”. A novel situation is a “new” or “unfamiliar” event, place, activity or experience. Novel situations are important for developing new interests, learning, and memory. They stimulate your brain and create new connections, more activity across all regions.

UNDERSTANDING				
Demonstrates an understanding of the situation	3 points Organizes and makes sense of information, interprets and articulates the main ideas of the situation.	2 points Organizes and makes sense of information but unable to clearly articulate the situation.	1 point Has limited understanding of situation.	
Extrapolates implications of situation and interprets symbolic statements	3 points Understands and outlines the main ideas, articulates subtle implications and symbolic statements associated with the cultural and environmental contexts.	2 points Understands and outlines main ideas, subtle implications, and symbolic statements, but unable to articulate information.	1 point Lacks understanding and ability to articulate subtleties and symbolisms of the cultural and environmental contexts.	
APPLICATION				
Applies problem solving principles to novel Situations	3 points Full application of problem solving principles to novel situations.	2 points Partial application of problem solving principles to novel situations.	1 point Weak application of problem solving principles.	
Uses problem solving tools	3 points Makes use of appropriate models and tools that lead to problem understanding and resolution.	2 points Partial application of appropriate models and tools.	1 point Weak application of appropriate models and tools.	
ANALYSIS				

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Deconstructs information into understandable parts	3 points Examines and breaks down information into logical parts, identifies motives or causes, distinguishes between inferences and facts, makes inferences based on evidence.	2 points Examines and breaks down information into logical parts, partially identifies motives or causes.	1 point Incomplete breakdown of information.	
Considers alternate points of view	3 points Thoughtfully considers and analyzes major alternative points of view to discover themes and relationships.	2 points Thoughtfully considers and analyzes some alternative points of view.	1 point Weak consideration of alternative points of view.	

SYNTHESIS

Assembles salient information to reconstruct problem parts to make a whole	3 points Excludes introductory, unneeded information and sets aside irrelevant examples to establish a sound framework.	2 points Excludes some unneeded information and sets aside some irrelevant examples.	1 point Excludes little unneeded information and does not fully distinguish between unneeded and useful information and examples.	
Formulates a hypothesis based on sound evidence	3 points Identifies claim, reason, and evidence without distorting information.	2 points Partially identifies claim, reasons, and evidence.	1 point Identifies weak claim, reasons, and evidence and misses the point.	

EVALUATION

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Compares, contrasts and critiques information	3 points Examines facts, data and all information from more than one perspective.	2 points Partially examines facts, data and information.	1 point Incomplete examination of information.	
Makes unbiased, value judgments based on sound evidence	3 points Bases judgments on unbiased critique and credibility of all available information.	2 points Bases judgments on credibility of information, but limited in scope.	1 point Bases judgments on non-credible information.	
Total Score				0 / 60

Self-score:

Excellent = 60-30

Adequate = 29-20

Poor = 19-0

Rubric adapted from:

Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning Objectives, 1956.

Designing Rubrics for Assessing Higher Order Thinking,

<http://academic.pgcc.edu/~wpeirce/MCCCTR/Designingrubricsassessingthinking.html>

Developing Critical Thinking in College Programs, <http://www.aabri.com/manuscripts/08046.pdf>

Evaluating Critical Thinking Skills, http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/navy/eval_crit_thkg.htm

How to Use the Holistic Critical Thinking Scoring Rubric, http://www.insightassessment.com/pdf_files/Rubric%20HCTSR.pdf

Penn State Problem Solving Rubric, <http://www.schreyerinstitute.psu.edu/pdf/ProblemSolvingRubric1.pdf>