

FUTURE Problem Solving Categories List



Arts & Aesthetics

Arts include expression via music, painting, sculpture, theatre, film, or other creative media. Aesthetics focuses upon beauty and whether something is pleasant to view or experience.



Basic Needs

Basic Needs include food, clothing and shelter—elements important for survival.



Business & Commerce

Business includes retail stores, restaurants, offices, corporations, etc. Commerce focuses upon the trade or the buying and selling of goods and services.



Communication deals with the exchange of information.



Culture includes the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular group. **Religion** includes a system of faith or worship.



Defense involves protection, safety, security, and/or privacy. This includes physical efforts by individuals, or groups as well as protection provided by firewalls and passwords.



Economics is the branch of knowledge that concerns the distribution, production, and consumption of wealth.



Education includes schools, training, instruction, and learning.



Environment includes one's surroundings or conditions that shape the lives of people, plants, or animals.



Ethics include the principles that govern a person's behavior. **Morality** involves principles concerning the distinction between right and wrong.



Government deals with how a community or country is managed. **Politics** involves elections and/or the activities related to making governmental decisions, especially debates or conflicts among individuals or parties having or hoping to achieve power.



Law includes the creation and enforcement of recognized laws, court procedures, sentencing, and personnel. **Justice** is the seeking of fairness and reasonable implementation of laws.



Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous is assigned when an idea does not fit within another category. If you have more than one Miscellaneous idea, and they are unrelated to each other, you may designate them as Miscellaneous 1 and 2.



Physical Health deals with the condition and care of the body as opposed to the mind.



Psychological Health focuses upon emotional and mental well-being.



Recreation includes hobbies, sports, entertainment, and other activities pursued during leisure time.



Science is the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world (including the wider universe) through observation and experiment.



Social Relationships encompass the connections between individuals with recurring interactions.



Technology is associated with machines, equipment, and/or certain advancements developed from applying practical or scientific knowledge.



Transportation is concerned with the movement of individuals, groups, or goods from place to place.

Name: _____

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Directions:

- Write your general research topic or a specific underlying problem in the brainstorming prompt box.
- Use the categories list to focus your brainstorming and generate ideas.
- Generate ideas based on your brainstorming prompt in each category shown.
- For general topics, think about all you have discovered through your research and identify related challenges ideas (step 1).
- For a specific underlying problem, generate solutions ideas (step 3).
- Record your ideas in the space provided for each category. Try to think of at least one idea for each category.

Brainstorming Prompt:

Arts & Aesthetics



Basic Needs



Business & Commerce



Communication



Culture & Religion



Defense



Economics



Future Problem Solving Categories List, Page 2

Education



Environment



Ethics & Morality



Government & Politics



Law & Justice



Miscellaneous



Physical Health



Psychological Health



Recreation



Science



Social Relationships



Technology



Transportation

