

# Unpacking a Problem Scenario

## Unpacking a Problem Scenario

Always seek to unpack the scenario in a Basho or Group.

Elect a scribe and have them take notes.

Here's how you can break down a problem scenario in the context of PBL, like so:

### Understand the Scenario:

- Read and re-read carefully: Start by reading the scenario carefully. Try to more fully understand the context, the people involved, and any constraints or limitations mentioned.
- Identify the "Problem": Determine the central issue, challenge or "problem" that may need to be solved. Clearly define what it is that needs to be addressed here.

### Unpack the Scenario:

- Identify the Factors: Break down the problem into its components. Identify the different variables, people, systems, or factors that are relevant to the problem.
- Determine cause(s): Does the scenario have a "cause" or multiple origins? What different factors may have led to the emergence of the scenario?
- Consider Perspectives: Think about the scenario from various perspectives. How might different stakeholders or artists/scholars with different methods view the

problem differently?

### Speculate, Generate Hypotheses:

- Brainstorm Solutions: Encourage creative thinking in your Basho.
- Generate multiple possible approaches that relate to the scenario.
- Consider Alternatives: Think about different approaches to “solving” the scenario. What are the pros and cons of each approach?

Don't judge ideas at this stage; just let the ideas flow.

Write them down and map them out.

When you are finished, take a picture of your Basho's mind map and post it where your group can all see it.

---

**Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International Neil Mulholland 2023**

