

Problem Writing Worksheet

This worksheet is offered to help you think about how you will teach a problem you are in the process of writing.

Problem Title:

Author:

**Department/
Discipline:**

Target student population: *(Majors or nonmajors? Beginning or advanced? Large- or small- enrollment? Subject? Other?)*

Length of time/Staging *(How many class periods [of what duration each] will it take? Will it unfold in progressive disclosure format, or be distributed all at once?)*

Niche in course *(When in the semester? What comes before it? What comes after? Will it be a single event, or will other problems be used?)*

Brief Abstract *(of content of the problem; learning objectives for students)*

Format of Delivery *(What will the instructor do - mini-lectures during or after the problem? whole class discussions? How will the instructor help groups to make forward progress and stay on task? How will the instructor/students end the problem? Please provide a brief description of general strategies, then expand on this description for each stage of the problem in the Teaching Notes section below.)*

***Developed by Deborah Allen for Winter ITUE, 2001**

Instructor Resources (*What resources did you consult to write the problem? What content-related resources would another instructor find helpful if he/she wanted to use your problem?*)

Student Resources (*What resources will students use in working through the problem? Which of these, if any, will you provide for them?*)

Stage-by-Stage Teaching Notes (*What are the learning objectives for students? Why did you ask the particular end-of-stage questions that you did - what did you intend them to accomplish? How will the instructor introduce the problem? For each stage of the problem, how will it unfold, including the roles of instructor [lectures? discussions? feedback?] and students? What conceptual pitfalls might the students encounter and how will they get past them? How will the instructor help groups to make forward progress and stay on task? How will the instructor/students end the problem? How will the instructor be assured that all group members have contributed responsibly?*)

Notes (Cont.)

Products (*Will the students have to hand in a product at the end of the problem? Will it be individual or group? Will it be graded? Towards what percentage of the overall grade in the course will it contribute? Which of the problem objectives will it assess?*)

Assessment (*How will you know if students have met the content and process objectives for the problem? Will these assessment strategies be individual or group? Will it be turned in for a grade? Towards what percentage of the overall grade in the course will it contribute? NB: Please fill out this section for any assignments, quizzes, exam questions, etc. that are not described in the "Products" section above, providing examples of specific questions, instructions, etc.*)