

## Problem Solving Vocabulary

Here are some important words to understand about solving problems.

**alternatives** one of two or more things to choose from; choices; options

The teacher asked the students to make a list of **alternatives** for their class trip.

**conflict** a struggle or disagreement between parties with differences in information, personal experience, values, needs, or wants

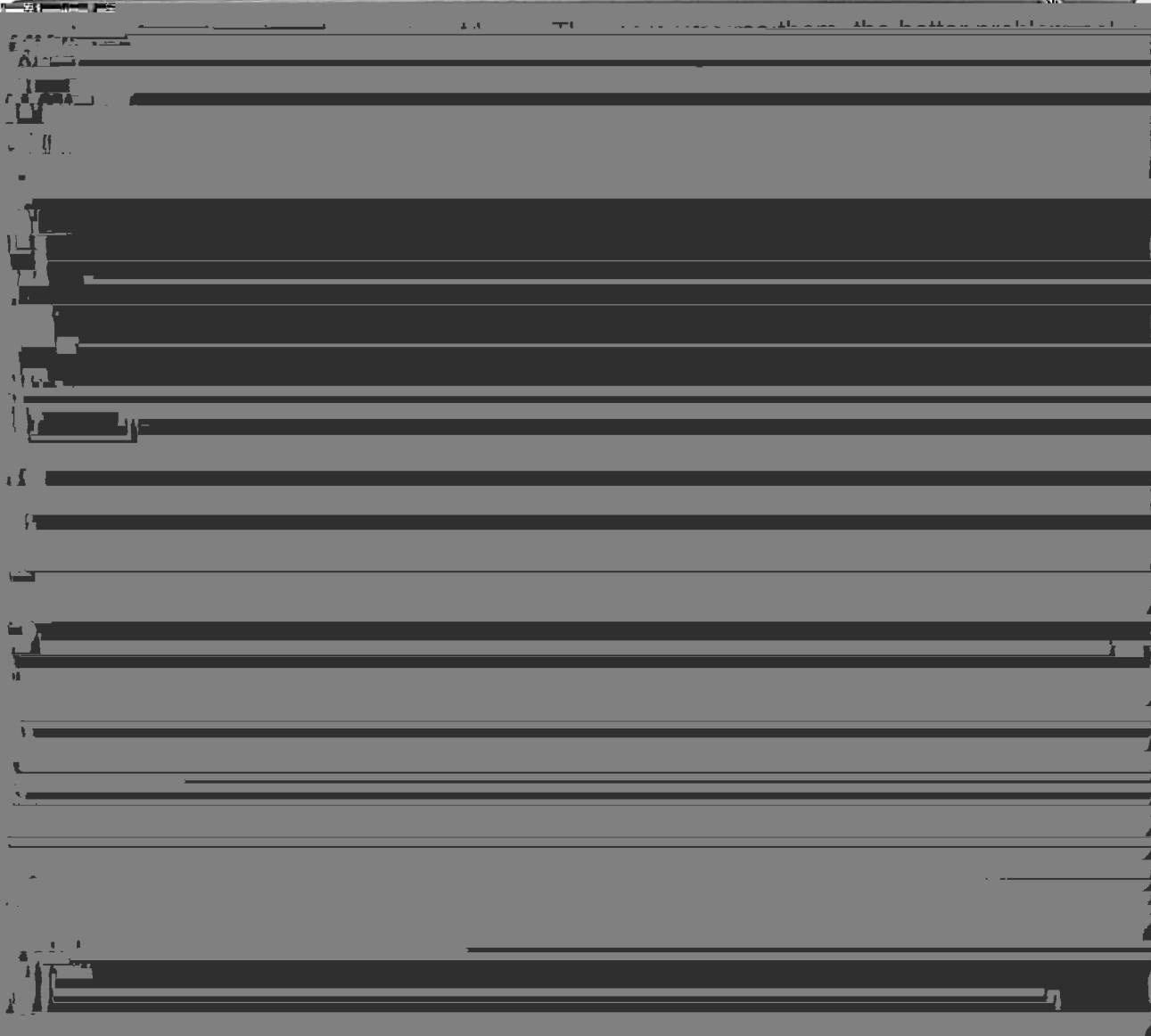
Jason ignored his brother's teasing in order to avoid further **conflict**.

**evaluate** to judge the success, value, or condition of something

Take time to **evaluate** how well you solved the problem.

Louis was glad the meeting with his teacher produced a positive **outcome**.

# Four Steps to Solve Problems



1. Identify the problem

4. Evaluate the ~~outcome~~ **outcome** problem?

- Who owns the problem?  
State the problem in one clear sentence.

2. Think of solutions

- List all the ways you could solve this problem.

# What's the Problem?

Read each situation. List the possible problems each situation could cause.

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1. Dale has the flu. He has missed three days of school.

Possible problems

2. Ellen loves to lie out in the sun without putting sunscreen on.

Possible problems

[Redacted text]

[Redacted writing area]

## 's t<sup>h</sup>e Prob<sup>l</sup>e ? , *continued*

6. Pam is in a band with some of her friends. One player is constantly late for rehearsals

Possible problems

7. It's very foggy outside. You notice many cars without their headlights on.

Possible problems

8. Stefan needs a specific book from the school library for his class project today. Roland has already checked out the book Stefan needs.

Possible problems

9. Latrice goes to school full-time and works part-time at the flower shop, the grocery store, and the car wash. Her boss at the grocery store wants her to work overtime one night a week

Read each situation and identify the problem. Then list at least three possible solutions for the problem on a separate sheet of paper. Write any solution you think of first, if it

be the one you would choose.

1. Adrian's dog, Patches, constantly chews on the furniture. Adrian's mom is getting tired of it.

Today she told Adrian that Patches must behave or get shipped to a

## Possible Solutions, *continued*

5. Your math teacher has a hard time controlling the students' behavior. Today she announced

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