

## DECISION MAKING

Using the steps to problem solving, work through a problem facing the students, such as the one in the following example:

Step #1: Identify the Problem. Write down the problem that needs to be solved. Example: Which college should I attend?

Step #2: Brainstorm possible solutions. Write down a list of possible ideas or ways to solve the problem.

Example:           Utah State University  
                           University of Utah  
                           Dixie College  
                           University of California, San Diego

Step #3: Explore and Evaluate. Look at each possibility and write down the pros and cons of each.

Example:

USU	Pros	Cons
U of U	Pros	Cons
DIXIE	Pros	Cons
UCSD	Pros	Cons

(Pros and cons could include costs, distance from home, friends' choices, program choices, etc.)

Step #4: Make a Decision and Act on it. From your list of choices, select one that seems the best to you.

Decision—Dixie College

Act—Apply for fall, then attend

Step #5 Look at Results of Decision and Evaluate; then Accept Responsibility for Results.

Went to Dixie. Felt like it was too far from family, will transfer to Utah State University next term.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

## DECISION MAKING

Read the following situation. Use the problem-solving steps to make a decision.

Situation #1: You need extra spending money. You have found a job at the local Quick Stop. The job is Monday to Friday from 3:00-7:00 p.m. You are really excited until you get to school and realize your soccer practice is from 3:00-5:00 p.m. each weekday.

STEP #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #2:  
Option A: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROS: \_\_\_\_\_ CONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Option B: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROS: \_\_\_\_\_ CONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Option C: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROS: \_\_\_\_\_ CONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #4: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #5: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

SITUATION #2: You want a new CD player. You have been saving your money and now have \$100.00. You really want a certain model, but it costs \$400.00. You want a stereo NOW, so you buy a less-expensive model. You cannot play it very loud because it rattles and squeaks. How can you use the decision-making steps now?

STEP #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #4: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STEP #5: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_