

## Generic Problem Solving Assignment for Early in the Semester

Instructors almost always introduce new concepts and ideas during their class. As teachers, we must determine the best way to present novel ideas within our discipline. This presents an opportunity to get students involved in Problem Solving. The following example represents a Problem Solving assignment that might be given to students early in the semester. It allows students to practice all the aspects of Problem Solving in the AAC&U Problem Solving rubric, so it is a good assignment to assess a student's Problem Solving skills. It can be adapted in various ways to any discipline, but there is an expectation that instructors will use the AAC&U Problem Solving rubric. This is crucial to the institution's ability to aggregate rubric based assessments of institutional Student Learning Outcomes from all disciplines.

Instructors could begin by creating a list of new terms, ideas, or concepts that will be presented to the class during the semester. A unique term or idea for each student in the class is not necessary, but it might be beneficial if no more than 1-2 students are working on any single term or idea. This is not a teamwork exercise.

Instructors could assign a concept or term to each student. The goal of the exercise is for the student to understand the concept themselves and then find a brief (1-2

The Student Becomes the Teacher