

# Creativity Drills

*“What are different ways to approach this problem?”*



*Includes:*

- “In Your Own Words”
- How Many?
- SCAMPER Activities

## Sample Creativity Drills:

# “In Your Own Words”

*students must re-state a simple statement using new wording*



What's the Problem?



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### Creativity Drills - "Immigration" (Paraphrase)

Shown below is a simple sentence that students must take through a "Complete Paraphrase". In this exercise, students are asked to repeat the sentence using entirely different words without changing the meaning. It forces the students to consider the importance of each word and to think outside the box as they search for alternatives. To learn more about "Complete Paraphrase" scenarios, [click here](#).



**Paraphrase the following inscription that is at the base of the Statue of Liberty:**

***"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free"***

Where do we begin? [Click here to find out how "Complete Paraphrase" scenarios work...](#)

The final goal of the Complete Paraphrase exercise is for students to deliver the full meaning of the original sentence. This may take several more words and be less succinct than the original, and that is okay. Here are sample paraphrases that you might hear for this sentence:



- *Anyone is welcomed to come to America to get rest, money and freedom.*
- *Even if you are in poverty and are worked to death, you can come to America and be able to live your life as you choose.*
- *Even large groups of people from around the world are welcomed in America and allowed to live a free.*
- *It doesn't matter who you are, America welcomes you.*

## Sample Creativity Drills:

# “How Many?”

students are asked to come up with as many scenarios as possible that fit a set of criteria



What's the Problem?



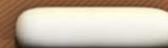
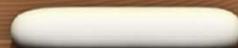
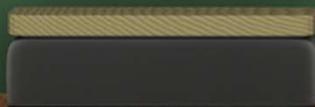
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### Creativity Drills - "Extinction..." (How Many?)

Shown below is a "How Many?" scenario. In this exercise, students are asked to come up with as many situations as possible that fit a set of criteria. This should include the obvious answers, as well as those that require more creative thinking. To learn more about "How Many?" scenarios, [click here](#).



**The Task:**  
How many natural and man-made factors can you name that have or could contribute to the extinction of a species?



## Sample Creativity Drills:

# SCAMPER

(Substitute, Combine, Adapt, Modify, Put to another use, Eliminate, Reverse)  
students must think creatively to come up with original ideas for a concept



What's the Problem?

### Creativity Drills - "Reduce the Friction" (SCAMPER Activity)

Shown below is a "SCAMPER" activity. In this exercise, students are encouraged to think creatively and come up with original ideas for a concept or scenario. Students will learn specific strategies that will help foster original ideas and "outside-the-box" thinking. To learn more about "SCAMPER" activities, [click here](#).

**The Task:**

A rectangular wooden block 4'x3'x1' is pushed down a wooden ramp.  
How can you reduce the friction and increase how quickly the block is pushed down the ramp?

[Where do we begin? Click here to find out how "SCAMPER" activities work...](#)

The term SCAMPER is an acronym for strategies that students might employ as they try to come up with original ideas:

- S - Substitute
- C - Combine
- A - Adapt
- M - Modify
- P - Put to another use
- E - Eliminate
- R - Reverse

Students should use the above strategies to foster their creative thinking. A few examples they might consider are:

- **Modify**- Add rollers underneath the block.
- **Substitute** - Put wax paper on the bottom of the block instead of the wooden bottom
- **Adapt**- Make the surface of the ramp smoother, or add oil to the ramp