

# **Future Trends**

## **Briefing for Semis**

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# Essential items for Semis Presentation

- Show Fundamental Problem
- Present five potential solutions with research supporting their viability (ten in total in your portfolio)
- Present five criteria for selecting the best solution
- Present your decision matrix in selecting the best solution



# Duration of Prelims Presentation

7 mins oral presentation (all group members must speak)

3 mins Q & A



# First Slide

- **Group Number**
- **Project Title**
- **Names of Project Members**

# Second Slide

- **Fundamental Problem**



# How to word a potential solution

**Tip #1: Address the Key Verb Phrase and Purpose of your FP.**

**All FPs have a key verb phrase (e.g. improve social welfare policies for citizens, increase patriotism of citizens, reduce self-centredness of Singapore society)**

**A good FP also has a purpose apart from the KVP (e.g. so that Singaporeans from all aspects of society will help each other, so that the Singaporean government will be perceived as humane)**



# How to word a potential solution

Tip #1 cont'd: Address the Key Verb Phrase and Purpose in your FP.

Any potential solution serves to attempt to solve your FP, and the only way for your potential solution to be RELEVANT is for it to tackle the KVP and Purpose of your FP.

Simple tip: Have the FP right in front of you as you devise potential solutions



# How to word a potential solution

Tip #2: Never ever have more than 1 KVP in your FP

e.g. how might we reduce self-centredness in Singaporeans and increase their patriotism.

Because every single potential solution will then have to address both KVPs. This increases the possibility of your solutions not being entirely relevant.



# How to word a potential solution

Tip #3: State your potential solution in a definite manner. E.g. “we **WILL** do X”.

While your potential challenges in Step 1 were stated as possibilities, your solution ideas should be stated as definite in nature.



# How to word a potential solution

## Tip #4: Be humane

Solution ideas as far as possible should be humane (e.g. implanting a “patriotic” chip into a new-born baby isn’t exactly humane. Murdering people who have a genetic disposition to turn their back on their country isn’t humane too, and of course the secondary question of whether this is indeed possible remains).



# How to word a potential solution

Tip #5: You will be credited for elaborating in detail (not amounting to an action plan), so consider the 5Ws and 1H.

**Who** – who or what person/group will implement the solution (be creative, give yourself a futuristic name – you can adopt a different identity for each solution, since you have not been given a specific role in this scenario)

**What** – the solution idea in itself

**How** – describe how the solution will work

**Why** – explain why the solution will solve the FP (KVP and Purpose)

**Where** – describe relevant places for the solution to occur

**When** – designate a timeline, a specific date of completion, timeframes within the parameters of the scenario.



# How to word a potential solution

Let's look at some examples:

Consider this Fundamental Problem:

*Because tourists are causing damage (Conditional Phrase), how might we discourage the tourists who visit Antarctica in 2025 from taking rock samples (KVP) from Antarctica home with them so that they do not destroy Antarctica's natural environment (Purpose)?*



# How to word a potential solution

Example 1:

*We, Delta Airlines, (WHO) will charge an extremely high fee from this year onwards (WHEN) for tourists who want to carry rock samples from Antarctica (WHERE) back on the plane with them (WHAT). Thus the tourists will be discouraged from taking rock samples because they won't want to pay to take them home with them (HOW), and Antarctica's natural environment will be preserved (WHY).*

This solution relates to the KVP and Purpose, as well as includes elaboration (5W1H).



# How to word a potential solution

Example 2:

*In 2025, tourists will take animals from Antarctica home with them instead of rock samples. This will protect Antarctica's natural environment.*

This solution not only opens another can of worms; it also does not explain how the solution will work nor why it would indeed work.



# Research for your potential solution

Note: Imaginative inventions are fun, but they must include how or why explanations. Creativity and the futuristic element are essential in this step, but an invention can't happen just because someone says it will. Knowledge and research should be utilized to bring new approaches to existing ideas. In order to be relevant, an explanation of HOW the invention will accomplish its function should be included.



# Research for your potential solution

So while you would have briefly stated how or why a solution idea would work, you need another slide to show that you have indeed evaluated the viability of such a solution idea.

This slide would showcase your research (e.g. you may have read up on technology in its infancy that can be further developed for your solution idea, or economic theories to explain why your solution idea is going to be viable, etc).



# Past Year Example

## Fundamental Problem:

Our analysis shows that in the future scene, potential problems relating to the erosion of human freewill may occur, such as discrimination due to Eugenic beliefs (Problem 1), deprivation of right to religion (Problem 4) and mind control (Problem 5). Given the potential suppression of human liberty by technology, how might we **reduce the possibility of human beings compromising their human rights** in the year 2042 and beyond, **so that we can continue to be in control of science and technology?**



# Solution

The United Nations security council will set up UNDROID (WHO) year 2020 (WHEN). UNDROID - (UN Defensive Response Organization for Intelligent Design) will be a group of commandos specially trained to take out AI should they choose to rebel (WHAT). They will be trained in different terrain and have a secret base on Easter Island, unknown and free from the usage of advanced (parahuman, epihuman and hyperhuman) forms of AI. They will use EMP (electro-magnetic pulse) launchers that only harm AI to take out the AI (HOW). This is so that should AI rebel, there would be a special force trained to handle such situations rather than just the regular army and police struggling to do so (WHY).



# Research and Rationale

According to the NATO website, emergency response forces already exist.

The NRF (NATO Response Force) provides a rapid military response to an emerging crisis, whether for collective defence purposes or for other crisis response operations.

The NRF is specially trained to handle these emergencies. This is like the UNDRIOD team which is specially trained to handle AI crises.

An electromagnetic pulse is a burst of electromagnetic radiation that can produce damaging current and voltage surges, rapidly changing electric and magnetic fields, causing the breakdown of electrical and electronic systems. In this case, it can take out robots but leave human beings relatively harm-free apart from collateral damage to the electrical grid. This is deemed to be a necessary sacrifice in the war on robots.



# Developing criteria to choose your solutions

Formula:

Which solution will be the **(SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVE)** for **(WHO)** so that **(WHY)**? This **WHY** part should directly address your **KVP**.

e.g.

Which solution will be the fastest to implement (superlative adjective) for the United Nations Humanitarian Office (WHO) so that the threat of robots usurping the role of human beings can be reduced as soon as possible (WHY)?

Design 5 criteria.



# Poor criteria

Formula:

Which solution will be the **(SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVE)** for **(WHO)**  
so that **(WHY)?**

e.g.

Which solution will be the **best?**

Which solution will be the **most effective?**

Which solution will be the **cheapest?**



# Design a decision matrix

Rank your 10 solution ideas in a decision matrix based on the 5 criteria you have devised.



# Design a decision matrix

Sol. num	Alternative solutions	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	Total
#1	Melt all robots in a gigantic furnace.	9	1	3	8	7	28
#2	Screw diamond-made armour into all human beings' torsos.	2	5	6	7	9	39
#3	<b>Murder all transhumanists</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>42</b>
#4	Twiddle our fingers.						
#5	Hope for the best...						
#6	...						
#7	...						
#8	...						
#9	...						
#10	...						



# Important Dates

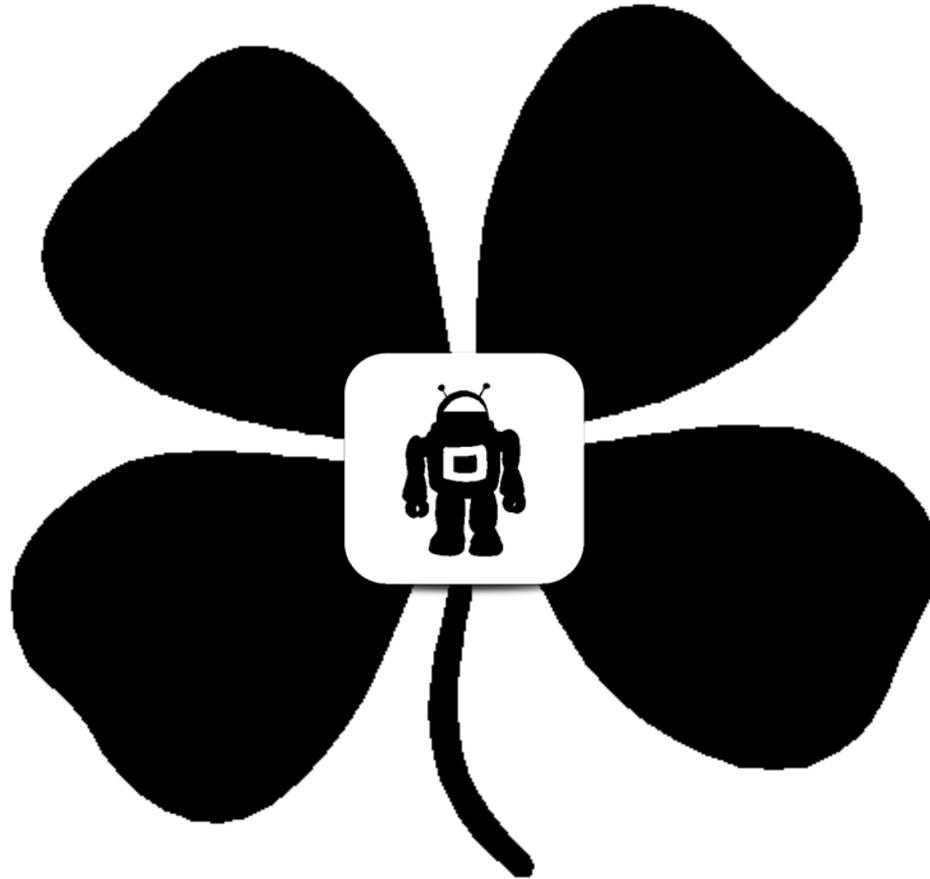
## Semi Finals: 11 July 2013

- 10 potential solutions
- 5 criteria
- Decision Matrix

## Finals: 23 August 2013

- Skit presentation of Action Plan (this involves scripting)
- Evaluation of Action Plan (formal presentation)
- Completion of Online Portfolio (1 week before 23 Aug, i.e. 16 Aug)





**Thank you, work hard & good luck!**