## Steps for Better Thinking Competency Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 1 Skills</th>
<th>Step 2 Skills</th>
<th>Step 3 Skills</th>
<th>Step 4 Skills</th>
<th>Overall Approach to the Problem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify relevant information</td>
<td>Recognize and address uncertainties</td>
<td>Integrate multiple perspectives and clarify assumptions</td>
<td>Interpret and organize information</td>
<td>Communicate and implement conclusions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle ALL that apply</td>
<td>Circle ALL that apply</td>
<td>Circle ALL that apply</td>
<td>Circle ALL that apply</td>
<td>Circle ALL that apply</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Performance Pattern 0
**Confused Fact Finder**
- Identifies facts, definitions, and/or experts’ opinions.
- Identifies at least one reason for temporary uncertainty.

### Performance Pattern 1
**Biased Jumper**
- Identifies information that is relevant to the problem.
- Identifies at least one reason for significant and permanent uncertainty.

### Performance Pattern 2
**Perpetual Analyzer**
- Explores a wide range of relevant information.
- Addresses significant and permanent uncertainties when interpreting information.

### Performance Pattern 3
**Pragmatic Performer**
- Focuses on the most important information.
- Identifies and discusses the significance of the most important uncertainties.

### Performance Pattern 4
**Strategic Revisioner**
- Develops viable strategies for generating important relevant information over time.
- Develops viable strategies for minimizing important uncertainties over time.

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1 Information can take many forms, including facts, descriptions, definitions, arguments, opinions, ideas, claims, theories, concepts, observations, research findings, values, perceptions, beliefs, influences, effects, and so on. Information can be obtained in many ways such as reading, seeing, hearing, touching, feeling, experiencing, interesting, thinking, etc.

2 Uncertainties can relate to many aspects of the problem, including the problem definition, availability of solution alternatives, quality and interpretation of information, effects of alternatives, priorities and values of the decision maker and others, and so on. Temporal uncertainties relate to conditions that will become known in the future (e.g., experts will find the answer, information will become available, or effects will be knowable).

3 Perspectives can relate to any type of grouping that is meaningful to the problem, such as categories of people, cultures, societies, roles, races, genders, hierarchies, theories, concepts, ideas, beliefs, attitudes, physical locations, time, disciplines, values, emotions, and so on.

4 Assumptions are hypotheses, suppositions, conjectures, assertions, presumptions, beliefs, or premises that are taken for granted or that lie behind an argument. Assumptions are made because of uncertainties; the "truth" cannot be known or proven. Some assumptions are better than others. Better assumptions are more reasonable, logical, comprehensive, plausible, likely, rational, impartial, objective, justified, credible, and/or believable.

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