

Perfect Fantasy

In a few words: *Your ideal, dream situation may often allow you to generate a solution which can have a similar effect but in a more practical, realistic way.*

This is an imagination-based strategy: These strategies require one to imagine elaborate, unrealistic states or to run extended mental scenarios. Fantasy strategies require one to conceive of states in which reality constraints have been dropped. When trying to reduce accident deaths, for example, an engineers' fantasy that columns simply disappeared when struck eventually translated into structures that break-away on impact (G. Smith, 1998).

By imagining an ideal situation or fantasy solution, one can often come up with a solution that can have a similar effect but in more practical, realistic way. It also sets a goal to aim for and one can then consider how far how closely a potential solution will meet the ideal.

Once the ideal solution has been conceived of, it can then be used to come up with ideas of how it, or part of it, can be achieved.

Some questions you might ask yourself might be:

- What would my perfect solution be?
- What effect would my ideal solution have?
- What if money/morals/laws did not matter at all?
- What would I do if I had unlimited power and resources?
- What would my ideal solution look like?

Once you have dreamed of your perfect solution, you must then look at how much of it can be put into practice and how you can achieve it. See what practical benefits you can get from the perfect solutions.

References

Gerald F. Smith, *Quality Problem Solving*, ASQ Quality Press, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1998, P120~139