



## Identifying Team STYLE!

*Style is any talent, interest or activity that makes you unique and memorable! Officially, Style scores are based on "Elaboration of the problem solution."*

[Spontaneous Resources](#)

[Creativity Practice Activities](#)

### Suggested Materials:

string, tape, paper, crayons/markers, paper clips, scissors, and cardboard



Unit 8 of 8

Time	Activity
Info for Coaches	<p><b>What is Style?</b></p> <p>Style is any talent, interest or activity that makes you unique and memorable! Officially, Style scores are based on "Elaboration of the problem solution." Help your team find its "style" and then use it to make its problem solution uniquely memorable!</p> <p>STYLE is "That which is added to the problem's solution and relates to the theme of the problem or the solution but is not scored under the long-term problem." <b>50 Points</b></p> <p>Each long-term problem has 1-2 mandatory and 2-3 "Free choice of team" Style elements. In addition, the team must write a paragraph that explains how well the 4 style elements fit together and enhance the solution. Each part counts!</p> <p>Style is a place where the team can show the judges what they are particularly excited about or proud of. What makes this performance really shine? Style showcases your team's strengths and talents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> artistic design, music, songs, choreography</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> construction, creative use of materials</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> humor, rhyme</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> overall effect (theme)</li> </ul> <p>The paragraph is an opportunity to describe your style theme, why you chose it, and perhaps, point out props, actions, dialogue, or other elements which support the theme. The paragraph is an opportunity to point out the details that style judges may otherwise miss!</p>





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Time	Activity
5 min	<p><b>Verbal Hands-On Spontaneous:</b> <i>The Cat's Meow</i>            Omer's Pet Shop is holding a contest to find the hot new cat toy that all pet owners will want for their furry friends. You have been asked to create a toy idea and present it to the company's board of directors. Using only the provided materials, create a prototype of a new product. During your presentation, explain what it is, why it's the "hot new thing", etc.</p> <p>Your materials: string, tape, paper, crayons/markers, paper clips, scissors, and cardboard</p>
15 min	<p><b>Identify Potential Style Elements</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read the problem as a team.</li> <li>2. List all of the required scored elements. These elements cannot be scored under Style (unless you separate technical from creative)</li> <li>3. Identify required style elements and assign them as a task to a single team member or small group.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creativity of a costume</li> <li>○ Artistic quality of a prop</li> <li>○ Creative use of a material</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Identify elements that are extremely creative but are not being scored.</li> <li>5. Brainstorm things that will enhance the theme.... Consider them as a style element.</li> </ol>
5 min	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Teams can gain points for HOW they use their abilities to enhance the solution. Judges reward creativity above all else, so combine talent with a novel idea to produce a creative element or solution.</p> <p>Think about your "Cat's Meow" pitch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Did you use the crayons/markers to showcase your artistic skills?</li> <li>○ Did you use the crayons/markers in a way OTHER than drawing/coloring? Perhaps they are part of the solution?</li> <li>○ Chat with your teammate: Which do you think will score higher?</li> </ul>





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Info for Coaches	<p><b>Things to Keep in Mind</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying team members' interests and talents may spark discussion of unusual approaches - revealing the team's unique STYLE!</li> <li>Your goal is to evoke some sort of emotional response.</li> <li>Integrate the style elements into the long-term solution. They are not "add-ons."</li> <li>Every team member should have some say in, and a strong understanding of, what is included on the Style Form! Style Elements express a team's unique talents!</li> </ul>
5 min	<p><b>Follow-up Discussion</b></p> <p>Ask the team to reflect on the solutions to its <i>The Cat's Meow</i> challenge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Which solution do you remember most?</li> <li>What was it about that pitch that made you laugh / smile / remember?</li> <li>Why was this pitch more enjoyable than the others?</li> <li>How could you integrate more of your own personal style into your solution?</li> <li>How could you have made your own solution more interesting? What could others have done to improve theirs?</li> </ul>
15 min	<p><b>Brainstorm Style Elements</b></p> <p>Ask the team to reread the description of the required style elements in the long-term problem.</p> <p>Ask one team member to share one of the nominated style elements.</p> <p>Lead a brainstorming discussion of how the element can be made even better, or more effectively illustrate the team style.</p>
5 min	<p><b>Closing Discussion:</b></p> <p>Ask the team some follow-up questions to the style discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Do the selected style elements represent the team's best work?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Are there any elements of the long-term solution that deserve more attention, or could be added as a style element?</li> </ul> <p>Judges reward creativity above all else, so combine talent with a novel idea to produce a creative element or solution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Be clear, concise, specific, and creative.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Don't wait until the last minute!</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Every team member should have some say in, and a strong understanding of, what is included on the style form! Style elements express a team's unique talents!</li> </ul>

