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| **Mnemonic** | **Meaning** | **Helper Questions** |
| **S** | **Substitute**Substitutions is a trial‐and‐error method where youcan try things out, see if it works, then trysomething different.   | **• What can I substitute?****• Who can I substitute?****• Who else?****What other place?****• What other time, routine, or process?** |
| **C** | **Combine** **Combining involves** synthesis, the process ofcombining previous ideas or things together tocreate something new. | **Combine what?****• Combine ideas?****• Combine purposes?****• Combine materials?****• Can anything be blended or ensemble?** |
| **A** | **Adapt** Think about what is already known about theproblem and how others are solving it. Becomeaware of the process others are using. | **How is the problem currently solved?****• How can it be made more****accommodating?****• How can it be more compatible?****• How can it be more consistent?** |
| **M** | **M Modify (also,****Magnify or Minify)**When you modify and alter something, you reflecton what is needed to support and make it better,greater, simpler, or even more complex.  Magnifying will concentrate on making thingsbigger, thicker, stronger, or more intense.  Minifying will concentrate on makings lighter,slower, less frequent, or reduced in some capacity. | **How can this be altered for the better?****• What can I modify?****• Modify color?****• Modify shape?****• Change motion or sound?****• Change size, form, or taste?** |
| **P** | **Put to other uses** Consider ways that the target can be used otherthan originally intended.   | **What else can this be used?****• What are those uses?****• Who else could use it?****• How would they use it?** |
| **E** | **E Eliminate (also,****Elaborate)**To remove or omit part or all of a particular quality.If using elaborate, to add more details. |  |
| **R** | **Reverse (also, Rearrange)****When using reverse, focus on the opposite or****contrary meaning. When using rearrange, consider****how the change of order or sequence would affect****the target or challenge** | **What other arrangements might be****better?****• What would happen if I flipped the order?****• Rearranged the sequence, layout, or****pattern?****• Turned it over or backwards?** |

SCAMPER is an acronym for a method of problem solving, brainstorming and promoting lateral thought. It stands for substitute; combine; adapt; modify; put to other uses or change of themes, eliminate; and rearrange. The SCAMPER technique proves effective in literary comprehension and analysis. The most fundamental aspects of a story reflected in the SCAMPER method of brainstorming are characters, plot and setting.

Find a work of literature that interests you and read it critically.

* + 2

Determine which aspects of the literature are substitutable. Choose one and substitute it for the same aspect in either reality or another fictitious story. If setting was chosen, choose another setting for the story to take place in. Reflect on the effects of this change on other aspects of the story.

* + 3

Decide which parts of the story could be combined with parts of another story. Merge them into one hypothetical story and observe the changes.

* + 4

Brainstorm on which aspects, other than the characters, of the story you wish to alter. Choose one or more and alter them. If plot was chosen, alter a specific event in the story. Contemplate how the characters would react to these changes.

* + 5

Consider how a particular aspect of the story would change if one or more of the other aspects were to be modified.

* + 6

Ask yourself how you could change the theme of the story. See how this change would affect the plot, characters and setting of the story.

* + 7

Eliminate an aspect of the story. If you choose a character, determine how the plot would change with her absence. If you choose to eliminate a specific part of the setting, such as a house or a city, determine how the plot or the characters would change with this removal.

* + 8

Observe the plot of the story as a timeline. Rearrange the order of different events in the plot and consider the impact this would have.