

# GENERATING TOOLS

## *Attribute Listing*

This tool helps you look at new possibilities for an element (an object, task, creation, or procedure) by first identifying the main attributes (characteristics or qualities) of the element and then exploring way to change, modify, improve or enhance those attributes.

### Uses:

- ✦ When the group has generated one or more options that seem interesting but are not “just right”
- ✦ When an object, task, creation, or procedure might be broken down into several ‘stand-alone’ parts elements, or characteristics, each of which might be modified or changed
- ✦ To make a complex task more manageable by breaking it down into parts that can be changed or modified independent of the other parts
- ✦ To produce variations or modifications of an option in a systematic way that retains some of the essential qualities yet stretches it in a new direction
- ✦ To improve an existing product by enhancing individual features of it

### Possible Applications:

- ✦ Improve or enhance an existing object, task, element, creation, or procedure
- ✦ Exploring properties of materials that are available for use in construction of props, costumes, scenery, or that might be provided in *Instant Challenges*
- ✦ Determine characteristics of characters in the team’s play such as size, appearance, voice, walk, motivations, etc.
- ✦ Figure out ways to enhance or improve the plot of the story by breaking it into parts and examining each part separately

### Steps:

1. State the element (object, task, creation or procedure). Ask “What are the main parts of this \_\_\_? If we were to break it down into its main components what would they be?” List each of the major attributes.
2. Select any one of the attributes and ask “How might we change, modify, improve, or enhance this attribute? What different forms might it take? How might it look, sound, work, or act differently?” List several possible modifications for the attribute and record them.
3. Repeat step 2 for all or several attributes
4. Examine the lists of possible modifications. Look for alternatives that might enhance the original concept. Consider possible combinations of these alternatives. Record the ones that look most promising.
5. Focus down to the one or more changes, modifications, improvements or enhancements that provide you with an object, task, element, creation or procedure that is ‘just right’ for you.

# Attribute Listing Sample Worksheet

1. State the Element (Object, Task, Creation, or Procedure) that you would like to change, modify, improve, or enhance:

*In what ways might we improve or enhance our vehicle?*

2. List its attributes and some ways each attribute might be changed or modified.

Attributes	Possible Changes or Modifications
Steering wheel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Could be covered in the same fabric as driver's costume ✓</li> <li>➤ Could be in an unusual shape</li> </ul>
Wheels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Could decorate the spokes</li> <li>➤ Could paint the wheels to match the costumes</li> <li>➤ Could design a hubcap that goes with our theme ✓</li> </ul>
Seat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Could be made to recline</li> <li>➤ Could have seat warmers</li> <li>➤ Could be covered with the same fabric as costumes ✓</li> </ul>
Inside vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Could hook up a stereo system ✓</li> <li>➤ Could have air freshener hanging from roof ✓</li> <li>➤ Could have cup holders ✓</li> </ul>
Outside Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Could be painted with our team logo</li> <li>➤ Could have racing stickers all around it</li> <li>➤ Could be painted to match the costume fabric ✓</li> </ul>

3. Put a ✓ next to changes or modifications that look promising.

4. Focus on one or more changes or modifications that you would make to your original Element. Keep in mind that you may combine two or more of the items. Record your choice(s) here:

- ✚ We will cover the steering wheel and seat with our costume fabric and paint
- ✚ We will design hubcaps that match our theme.
- ✚ We will hook up a stereo system, have air freshener, and cup holders in inside.
- ✚ We will paint the outside to match our costume fabric.

### Debrief:

**How is the element (object, task, creation, or procedure) improved using this Tool?**

- ✚ Nobody's vehicle will be as cool as ours!!!!