

4.2 Supports and barriers: a feasible help plan

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 24 marks

KEY WORDS barrier 障碍 • support 支持

Objective

Identify the actual barrier to a task, choose relevant support and make a plan that can be checked. This is original fictional GAC032-aligned practice. It does not diagnose a learner or promise admission to a course.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Key knowledge: match help to the task

A **barrier** 障碍 is something that makes a particular action harder. “I am hopeless” names no action and gives a helper nothing to change. “I cannot access the application form during my study time” identifies a task and condition. Check what is known before deciding why the problem exists.

Support 支持 is a resource or action that helps address the barrier. A friendly person is not automatically the right adviser for every question. Match the help to the need, check availability and ask a specific question. Protect private information: share only what the helper needs, and do not ask someone to write a supposedly personal statement for you.

■ Source A: Chen’s application task

Chen has four weeks to complete a fictional course application. It requires a personal statement and a project example. He has a suitable club project, but his first statement gives only broad adjectives. He can study on Monday and Thursday from 18:00 to 19:00. His home connection regularly fails during these hours. He has not checked whether the form can be saved partway through. His bus leaves school at 16:20, so staying late needs an agreed travel arrangement. No such arrangement has yet been made.

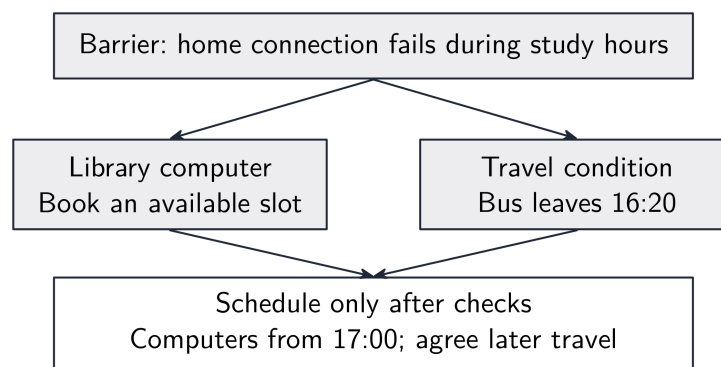
Chen says, “I cannot apply because I am bad at writing.” He has successfully explained his club role in a short classroom paragraph. He does not yet know which details the new statement needs. A relative offers to send a finished statement for him to copy. Chen has not accepted the offer.

■ Source B: available support

The school adviser can discuss course questions on Tuesday from 15:30 to 16:00, by appointment. The library has computers and a stable connection from 17:00 on weekdays; availability must be booked. The writing tutor offers a Thursday lunchtime review of a student's own outline, but does not write the statement. A classmate can check whether project dates and Chen's role are clear. The classmate is not authorised to confirm entry requirements. All these arrangements are fictional details for this task, not offers from a real institution.

■ Worked example: one barrier needs a relevant check

Known: the home connection fails during Chen's study hours; library access exists, but a stay after 16:20 has no travel agreement. The problem is access under current conditions, not a proven inability to apply.



A feasible next action is to check whether a computer can be booked from 17:00, whether later travel can be agreed, and whether the form can save progress. The computers become available after Chen's 16:20 bus leaves. "Use the library every evening" ignores this conflict. A plan must include the conditions that make its action possible.

2 Practice

2.1 Identify TWO separate task barriers in Source A without using a permanent label about Chen. [2]

2.2 Match the question about entry requirements and the need to improve an outline to the appropriate people in Source B. Give ONE match for each need. [2]

2.3 Explain why using the library after school is a possible support, but not yet a complete plan. Include one benefit and TWO conditions that still require checking. [3]

2.4 Chen proposes copying his relative's finished statement. Explain why this is unsuitable and give TWO acceptable ways the relative could help while the statement remains Chen's own. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Produce a three-step help plan for the first week. For EACH step, name a specific action and explain how its timing or responsibility addresses a recorded barrier. Do not assume an appointment, computer or travel arrangement is already approved. [6]
