

**TABLE 13.1****IDEAL Problem-Solving Method**

<b>STEP</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
I—Identify the problem.	Identify the initial state, goals, and constraints.
D—Define goals and represent the problem.	Determine how best to ask the question or consider the problem.
E—Explore possible solutions.	Identify possible options and strategies that might be used to solve the problem. Do not yet evaluate those strategies.
A—Anticipate outcomes and act.	Consider consequences of possible strategies and choose a strategy.
L—Look back and learn.	Determine how well that strategy worked and consider how to approach similar problems in the future.

SOURCE: Bransford &amp; Stein, 1993.