PUTTING THINGS INTO PERSPECTIVE

TASK: Teach your element the importance of putting things into perspective

CONDITIONS: Discussion – Question based

STANDARDS: Understand the importance of putting things into perspective

REFERENCE(S): https://www.sft.army.mil
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What is putting things into perspective?
(Ask Soldiers what they think a Thinking Trap is?) Then Discuss the definition.

**Definition:** The goal of Put It In Perspective is to lower anxiety so that you can accurately assess the situation and deal with it. It is **not** to pretend “all is well,” to deny real problems, or to take away anxiety completely.
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To Put It In Perspective

1. Describe the Activating Event

2. Capture Worst Case thoughts

3. Generate Best Case thoughts

4. Identify Most Likely outcomes

5. Develop a plan for dealing with Most Likely outcomes
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Key Principles

**Catastrophizing depletes energy:** Catastrophizing depletes energy, stops problem solving, and generates unhelpful anxiety.

**Order matters:** Stop Catastrophizing by capturing the Worst, then generating the Best—both of which help you to focus on the Most Likely.

**Develop a plan:** Once you are focused on the Most Likely, create a plan for dealing with the situation.

**Optimism:** Optimism is a primary target of PIIP.