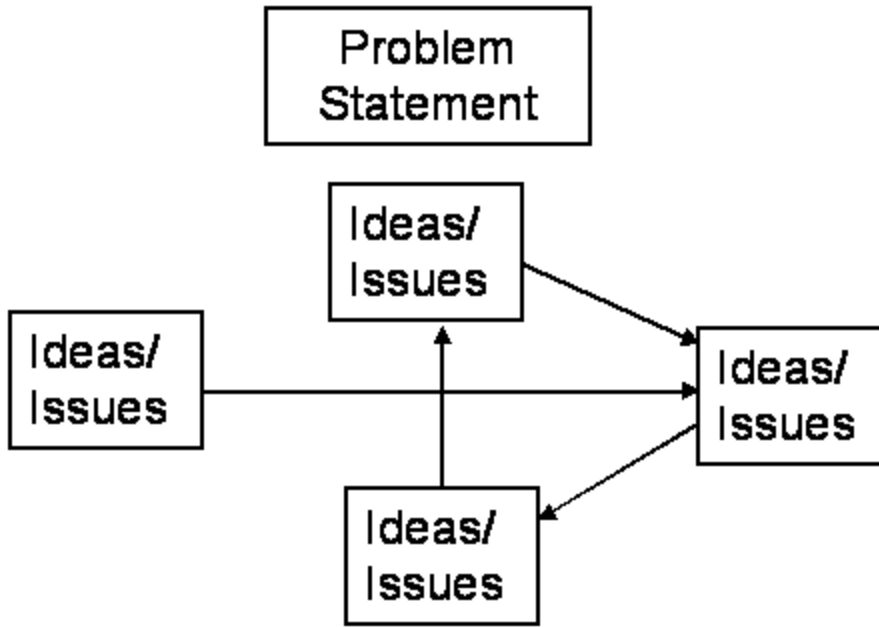# Interrelationship Digraph

The purpose of this protocol is used as a bridge to connect a fishbone diagram into a driver diagram outlining a Theory of Action.

Norms:
- **Avoid Solutionitis**… the goal is to understand the issue, not solve it (yet)
- **"Yes and"...** the goal is to generate lots of ideas, and not fixate on one
- **Embrace "definitely incomplete; possibly incorrect"**
- **Share the air**

1) Arrange the main root causes from your fishbone in a circle
   a) You may also choose to use the topics provided on the back of this sheet
   b) *Predict:* Which cause do you think is most important?

2) Starting with one cause, and for each pair of causes ask yourself:
   a) Is there a relationship between these two?
   b) If yes, which causes the other, the most? (draw an arrow from one to the other to show directionality).
      i) For example "does Social Anxiety about school cause a lack of motivation in school or visa versa?"
   c) You can decide there is not causal relationship, but you must pick a direction if you do see a relationship.

3) Repeat until you have established a relationship (or not) between all the topics

4) Tally arrows (out, in) for each cause; *the root causes with the most outgoing lines most impact the issue/problem.*
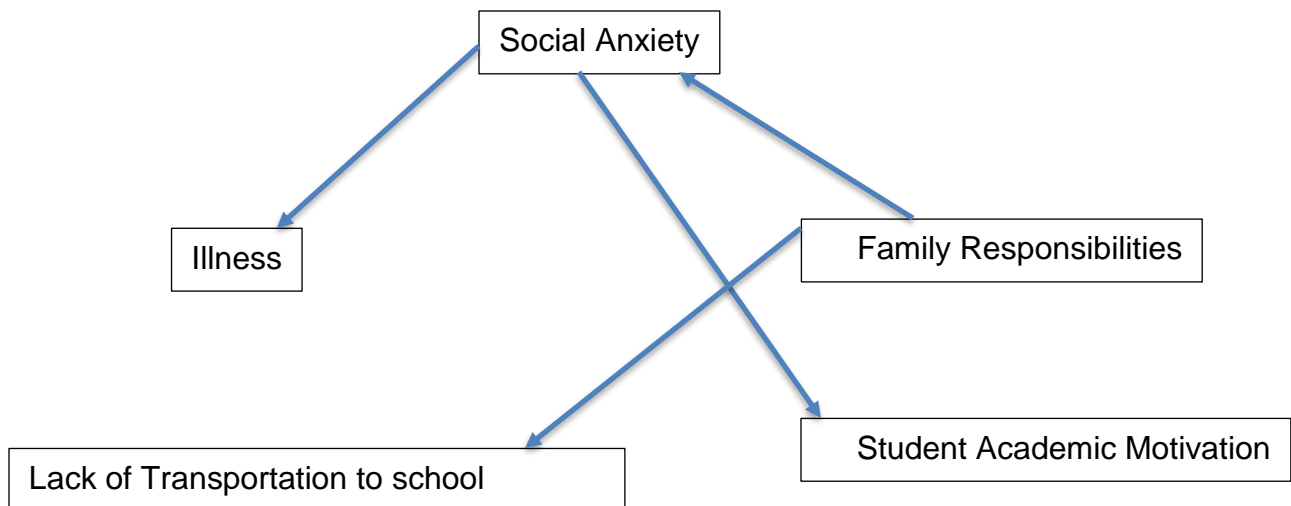
*Star the top 1-2
root causes!*

Interrelationship Digraph Example

Problem: Students are chronically absent from school

Social Anxiety

Illness

Family Responsibilities

Lack of Transportation to school

Student Academic Motivation

Prediction which will be the highest priority _____