Analysis Questions - <u>Before</u> we know if training is the answer

| | Needs assessment – Is there a gap? | Business analysis – What is the effect of the gap on the business? | Needs/influence analysis – What is the root cause of the gap (& can training solve it)? |
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| For requester | Why are you requesting this training? Why now? What specific skills, attitudes, or behaviors would you like participants to walk away with? What gap are you noticing? What might result if we don't conduct the training? Who is displaying the gap? | What goals is the organization trying to achieve? How does this training support your business priorities? How does this training support your organization mission/vision/values? How is this training rated on your list of priorities? What metrics should improve with this training? How significant is the gap? | Why is there a gap? What does an "expert" in this area do that others don't? To what do you attribute this gap? Are there any other things going on in the organization that could be contributing to the gap you've noticed? What previous attempts have been made to address the issue? |
| For manager of target audience | What do you want/need people to be doing that they aren't currently doing? What results do you want to see change? What level of performance do you want to see in this skill? Give me examples of what an "expert" person can do in this area? | Why do you need them to do the behavior you just indicated? On a scale from 0 (not a problem) to 10 (critical issue), where does this issue fall? | What do you think is keeping them from doing that behavior now? What can the top employee do that the average employee can't? To what do you attribute this gap? |
| For members of target audience ("stars" and those who are struggling) | Are you doing this behavior? Do you know how to do this behavior? | What is the impact of your work on the customer/organization? What is the result of not doing this behavior? How does it affect your performance, career, other? | What might be stopping you from doing it? Are there consequences for doing or not doing this behavior? How are you evaluated? What would you need to do more of to get a perfect evaluation? How motivated are you to use this knowledge/skill? Why? |

Additional sources:

- Customer data
- Profit / loss data
- Turnover/attendance records
- Promotion statistics
- Percentage of internal hires
- Satisfaction surveys
- Market and competitor comparison research

After we know if training is the answer, ask the requester some logistical questions:

- Who will be my subject matter experts, reviewers, trainers?
- What is your budget for this training?
- How many people need to be trained?
- Is training for intact teams?
- Where are the participants located?
- What languages does this need to be available in?

- What learning platforms/media are available?
- Are you aware of any key business activities that may impact the target audience in the proposed training timeframe?
- How soon will they be using these KSAs?
- What platforms for informal follow-up or blended training are available?

- How important is standardization of the content?
- How dynamic is the content?
- Are the target audience's supervisors on board?
- How can you be a champion for this training?
- What baseline data can you help me to get?

| After we know if training is the answer: | Performer / learner analysis – Everything I can find out about audience | Performance / task analysis – Everything I can find out about the job / task required |
|--|---|--|
| For requester | Who are our learners? Previous experience in this area? Previous training on this, or related, topic? How long ago? How did it go? Receptivity to training in general? How receptive/motivated might they be to learn this topic specifically? What resistance from learners should I expect? Do they have the pre-requisite skills needed? | What performance is needed for the organization to reach its goals? What tasks must be completed and how? What KSAs (knowledge, skills, attitudes) do learners need to display? To what degree do they need to display these skills? How often will the employee perform these skills after training? How will the employee be evaluated in this area? What supports for them doing this work are there back on-the-job? |
| For manager of target audience | Are there any issues on the team / between learners I will need to be aware of? What's the environment they work in like? Under what conditions will they be performing these tasks back on-the-job? How tech savvy are they? What languages must the training be available in? What's the level of experience in the role/at the organization for your team members? | What does the employee need to do on a daily basis? What do they only do occasionally? In what sequence should these tasks be performed? Under what conditions will they be performing these tasks back on-the-job? What are the barriers/challenges they face in performing these tasks? How does the job fit with your organizational goals/business plan? How do the skills learned in training fit in? What are busiest/least busy times of day/days of week/times of year? |

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| After we know if training is the answer: | Performer / learner analysis – Everything I can find out about audience | Performance / task analysis – Everything I can find out about the job / task required |
|---|--|---|
| For members of target audience (stars, underperformers, and average performers) | What amount of autonomy do you have at work? How high-pressured is your job? How happy are you with your job? Are rules / policies / instructions clear? How are working conditions / compensation? What support will you need after training to ensure the skills transfer? What will get in the way of your performing this new behavior/task onthe-job? | What are your roles and responsibilities? What resources are available to you to do your job? What are the most important reasons for you to learn this skill / get this training? What level of knowledge do you need in this area? What will get in the way of your participation in this training? What work situations are hardest for you to handle? What are we forgetting? |
| For past trainers / facilitators | What was the format of prior training on this topic? What format do you recommend for this group? How has training been received? What resistance to training exists? What aspects of training most successfully transferred back to the job? What problems are there with the current training, if any? | |
| Additional sources | Performance review data Union grievances HR complaints | Job descriptions Job handbooks Orientation materials On-the-job observations Organizational expectations / policies |