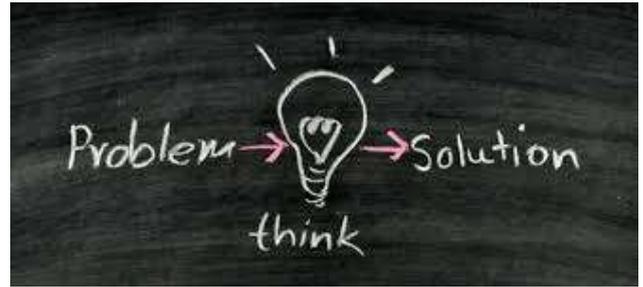


# PROBLEM vs ISSUE vs TROUBLE

**PROBLEM** – ALWAYS HAS A SOLUTION ; IT IS SOLVABLE.

- I have a **problem** with my phone.
- There is a **problem** with the internet speed.
- Every **problem** has a solution.
- Children with learning difficulties find mathematical **problems** impossible.
- We couldn't solve the **problem** of getting across London in less than two hours.



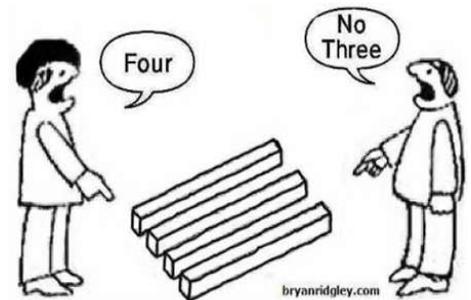
**TROUBLE** – CONNECTED TO NEGATIVE FEELINGS ; WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN.

- I'm late. I'm in deep **trouble**.
- If you have **trouble** understanding the report , give me a call.
- This kid is a **trouble** maker.
- Why are you crying? What's **troubling** you?
- It **troubles** me that I haven't heard from him for five weeks.



**ISSUE** - DISAGREEMENT ; MAKING SOME DIFFICULT DECISIONS , THINGS THAT ARE DEBATABLE.

- She has **issues** with everyone. (disagreement / being a difficult person)
- The **issue** with our deal is the cost. (debatable / disagreement)
- There are many political **issues** in many countries. (disagreements / debatable things)



## IDIOMS

### PROBLEM

To have a problem with someone or something . to find something or someone annoying or offensive:

- I have a **real problem with** people who use their mobile phones on the train.
- She can smoke - I don't **have a problem with** that.

### TROUBLE

Take the trouble to do sth / take the trouble of doing sth / go to the trouble to do sth/of doing sth

- Why should I **take the trouble of** helping him when he does not utilise , or care for , anybody's help?
- He **takes much too trouble to** coach the dull students.
- I really don't want to **go to the trouble to** cook.

### ISSUE

To take issue with someone or something: to disagree strongly with someone or something:

- I **take issue with** parents who push their children too hard.
- I have to **take issue with** that statement.

At issue : most important in what is being discussed. (sobre el tapete)

- The point **at issue** is what is best for the child. (tema a debatir / tema que nos ocupa)

To force the issue : to force a decision, discussion, or confrontation regarding a particular matter at hand.

- I'm sorry to **force the issue**, but I must have an answer today.
- For months my boss has been dragging his feet about increasing my pay, so tomorrow I'm finally going to **force the issue with him**.