

Futures Studies & Innovation Strategy

Master in Innovation and Research For Sustainability

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Assessment

1st Assessment Moment of the Curricular Unit (40% of the overall assessment)

This assessment involves an individual work (short essay) analyzing one of the texts from the list below. The essay should focus on a set of questions summarized by the acronym QARQA:

Q for Quote: Choose a quote from the text that is particularly relevant, symbolic, and will help you remember it in the future. Justify why this passage is significant. [If, in 5 years, you could only remember one passage from the text, which should it be and why?]

A for Argument: Identify the author's main argument and explain why they wrote this text. [What is the core idea of the text, and what are the underlying assumptions? Critique these assumptions and provide alternative perspectives if applicable.] Reflect on the argument's validity in contemporary foresight practices and provide real-world examples if possible.

R for Review: Offer your personal, critical review of the text, including a score from 0 to 20. [In addition to critiquing the text, propose improvements or argue how it might need to evolve to stay relevant in today's rapidly changing world.] Justify your score and the criteria used.

Q for Questions: Identify the questions the text raises for you. [If you could ask the author anything about the text, what would you ask and why?] Consider questions related to underlying assumptions or gaps in the text's logic. Additionally, if you could magically learn one piece of information related to the text, what would it be, and how does this derive from the text?

A for Articulations: Connect the text to other relevant texts, authors, disciplines, or ideas. [Incorporate insights from at least two other articles or papers (don't need to be academic or peer-reviewed sources) to support your connections. Explore how the text's ideas could apply to multiple disciplines and address future challenges or trends, such as the role of AI or sustainability in foresight.

1. Pierre Wack (1985) [Scenario Planning]
2. Michael Porter (1986) [Scenarios and Strategy]
3. Michel Godet (1982) [*La Prospective*]
4. Kees van der Heijden (1998) [Scenarios and Business Idea]

The work must not exceed 10 pages (letter size 11) and must be sent on a date to be defined by email to the course teacher (soeirocarvalho@iseg.ulisboa.pt).