21. Systems Activity: STQR

Successful project managers suggest you begin any huge project (like passing an A level) with an understanding of the following four things:

| Scope | Time |
|---|---|
| The complete size of the finished project. What exactly do you need to learn? | How long have you got to do it by? Can you break this down into mini-deadlines? |
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| Quality | Resource |
| What grade do you want? Have you any examples of work completed at this grade? Do you know students who have achieved it? | Who can help you? Teachers? Tutors? Textbooks? Websites? The college VLE? |
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The first is scope – the size of the project. This is crucial: how big is the job ahead of you? Surprisingly, lots of students never really get to grips with what they need to know.

Second is the time frame. You need to consider two things here: when is the deadline for the project, and how many hours will you need to complete it? Thinking in terms of hours will give you a much clearer idea when it comes to scheduling the project.

Third is quality. Not only do you have to consider the standards you want to achieve, but you also need to know the criteria you are working towards. What exactly do you have to do to meet the standards? Write these down in this box.

Finally, in the resources box list everything you will need to complete the project. This can also include people – for example, you might have to meet certain teachers.

Once you've completed the STQR, take a photo on your phone, so that you can review your progress.

Final Thoughts

| You might also find it useful to do a 2-4-8 activity in the time box. | |
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| What one action could you complete today to get your project started? | 1 |
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