# Assignment: Systems Thinking

**Assessment Guidelines:** Refer to the Henley Student Handbook for a comprehensive set of assessment guidelines.

**Submission Due Date:** Refer to Handbook

**Instructions:**

* Respond to the assignment brief using the paper guidelines provided
* There is a page guideline of approximately 8-10 pages of content
* Font: Arial
* Font size: 12
* Spacing: 1,5
* Present your assignment as a **PDF** document

***Paper guidelines:***

*Your paper should consist of the following:*

* Cover Page - with your name and title of the paper
* Plagiarism Statement
* Table of Contents
* Answers to each question
* References, where applicable (use the method described in the Henley Referencing Guide)
* Appendices

**Assignment Brief:**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Identify an issue currently affecting your workplace.

**BODY**

1. Using a rich picture, explain what is happening with respect to this issue.
   * + 1. Engage with key stakeholders in the creation of the rich picture (create a table with elemts engaged)
       2. Explain the process you followed to create the rich picture
       3. Explain the insights you obtained through creating the rich picture (BMW is one part of a whole, explains systems)
2. Develop insights into the root-cause of the issue. 
   * + 1. Engage with key stakeholders to identify the root cause (consider using an Affinity Diagram to generate potential root causes)
       2. Conduct desktop research to further understand possible root causes
       3. Explain the process you followed to determine the root cause
       4. Explain the insights you obtained through identifying the root cause
3. Relate your findings of the rich picture and root cause analysis exercise back to the ‘events, pattern, structure, mental models’ framework

**CONCLUSION**

1. Provide a closing discussion on what insights the exercise has generated for you and how being a ‘systems thinker’ can support you in your role.

**The rubric that will be used:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Introduction and Rich Picture | | | |
| 0 - 7:   * Demonstrates little or no insight * The understanding is vague | 8-16 | 17-22 | 23 - 30:   * Suitably introduces the paper * An appropriate problem is selected * Provides a rich background and context-setting * Provides a rich ‘rich picture’ |
| Root Cause and Conclusion | | | |
| 0 – 7:   * Demonstrates little or no insight * The understanding is vague | 8-16 | 17-22 | 23 - 30:   * Appropriately identifies the root-cause * Provides rich insights into the root-cause process * Provides a rich conclusion |
| Validity: | | | |
| 0 - 7:   * Has limited understanding of the ‘events, patterns, structure, mental models’ framework * The chains of reasoning are not clear * The data is suspect and there is little evidence of validity * No stakeholders were engaged | 8-16 | 17-22 | 23 - 30:   * Appropriately integrates the ‘events, patterns, structure, mental models’ framework into the discussion * Documents clear and logical chains of reasoning * Based on credible data * Engaged with multiple stakeholders |
| Communication: | | | |
| 0 - 2: Poorly organized, communicated and referenced | 3-5 | 6-8 | 9 - 10: Well organized, communicated and referenced |
|  | Final Mark= | | |