SUPERCHARGE YOUR COGNITION

HOW TO COMPOSE A SUCCESSFUL CRITICAL COMMENTARY

(Anatol Rapoport)

- 1. You should attempt to re-express your target's position so clearly, vividly, and fairly that your target says, "Thanks, I wish I'd thought of putting it that way."
- You should list any points of agreement (especially if they are not 2. matters of general or widespread agreement).
- 3. You should mention anything you have learned from your target.
- Only then are you permitted to say so much as a word of rebuttal 4. or criticism.



HOW TO DETECT BULLSHIT

HOW TO TELL IF SOMEONE TRULY KNOWS THEIR STUFF (Richard Feynman)

- 1. Ask intelligent questions—that is, penetrating, interested, honest, frank, direct questions on the subject, and no trick questions.
- If they really know their stuff then they quickly get stuck. 2.
- 3. If they have answers to everything, they are bullshitting.



Upon encountering a piece of information, in any form, ask:

- 1. Who is telling me this?
- 2. How does he or she know it?
- 3. What is he or she trying to sell me?



HOW TO LOOK FOR IDEAS TO INSPIRE YOUR CREATIVITY (David Bawden)

> 1. Do interdisciplinary work. 2. Look at peripheral topics. 3. Engage with speculative ideas. 4. Explore exceptions and inconsistencies.



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