

# Farm Business Management: The Fundamentals of Good Practice

## Chapter 11: Anticipation Skills

### Questions

1. Discuss the importance of a flow diagram in critical path planning. What does the critical path show?
2. How could a cropping farmer use critical path planning to improve her/his situation?

### Tasks

1. Carry out a SWOT analysis to cover the next 2 years of your life, and report its details to a mentor. Having considered your conclusions, will you make any changes to your life?
2. Explain to a third party the last situation you spent some time visualizing. What was the purpose of the visualization?
3. Describe what you think a dairy farm will look like in 20 years' time. How does this compare with a typical dairy farm from 5 years ago?
4. Use the futures approach to consider what you think the energy sector of the economy will look like in 20 years' time. Should you start making any changes to your life now?
5. Describe a recording system you would use when setting up an efficient 'planning, execution, control' system for a farm you are familiar with.
6. Set out the procedures you currently use to ensure you achieve efficient time management. Do you need to improve?
7. Can critical path planning help in deciding the start time of a project? And if so, for what reasons? Give examples.