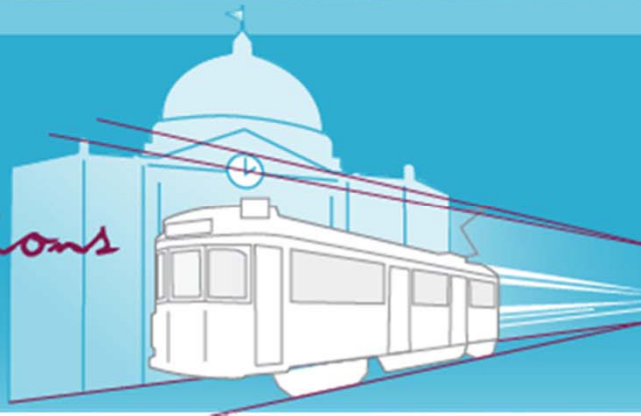


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VALUATION OF BLOCK TEACHING IN POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

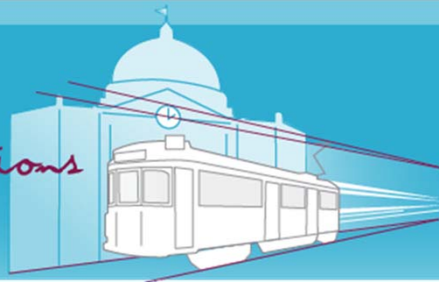
Himendra Ratnayake (MBA)

General Manager-(Ops)

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How many of you been to

Auckland ?

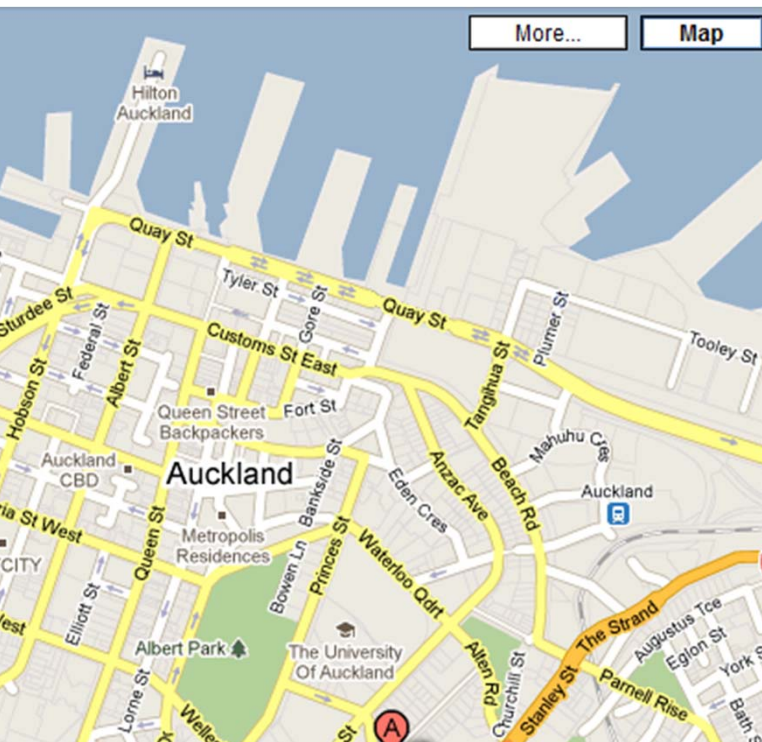
- Commercial Capital
- Population 1.5 Million
- Auckland CBD 3 Sq Km





How many of you been to

The University of Auckland ?



- Located Centrally
- Largest University in NZ.
- Students 35, 0000
- Staff 7500





How many of you been to

Business School ?





What do we cover today ?

The University of Auckland Business School

Block Teaching Methods Introduction

Market Survey & Literature Research

MBA programme of the Michigan School of Business [5]

MBA programme offered at the Boston University [8],

Advantages of Block Courses: Grant (2001) [1]

Kate Beattie (1997) [6] *“the introduction of flexible delivery methods often acts as a catalyst for redesigning”*.

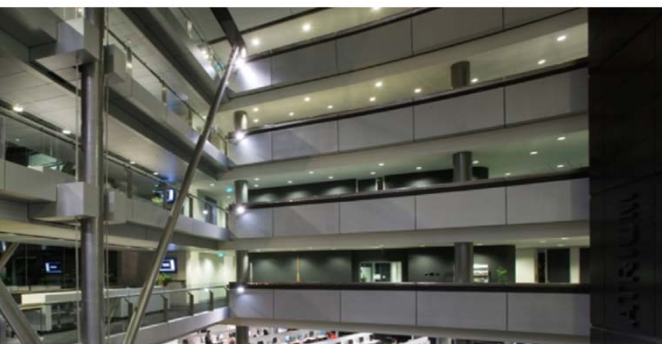
Student Survey, University of Auckland Business School

Report & Conclusion

University of Auckland Business School



- **State of the art Teaching Facilities**
- **Students = 6,000 any given time.**
- **Large open plan areas for study**
- **Staff = 400 + Industry professionals**
- **New Building 75,000 sqm**
- **Great facilities.**



University of Auckland Business School



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University of Auckland Business School



The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business

le Crown Accreditations)



EQUIS - the European Quality Improvement System

University of Auckland Business School

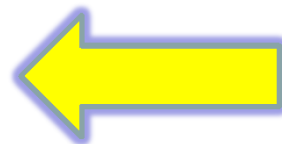


Graduate Teaching & Research (Academic)

- Ph D Programme
- Masters Programme

Post Graduate Professional focus

- MBA Programme
- Diploma Programme



GRADUATE SCHOOL



'GSE' offers a range of PG Diploma / MBA & Masters

- Mature Students
- Class Time (5.30 – 9.30pm)
- Week Nights (Mon - Thu)

All courses are part time.

Target Market

- Young Executives (28 Y - 38 Y)
- Looking for Career Advancement

Attributes

- Ambitious
- Very Busy life style



GRADUATE SCHOOL



Recently introduced few block courses.

Why ?

Full time Job

Family (one or two children)

Part time study



Objectives



❑ The aim of this project was to analyse

- efficiency and
- effectiveness of block courses

❑ This was done in three stages.

- Market Survey
- Literature Survey
- Student Survey



BLOCK TEACHING



- ❑ Traditional weeknights: (3 hrs Teaching / night)
- ❑ **Block Teaching : Wide variety of time schedules**
 - ❑ One full day
 - ❑ Weekend
 - ❑ Consecutive 3 days
 - ❑ Residential 10 days
- ❑ **One Block Teaching Session**
 - ❑ Combine few subjects
 - ❑ One subject teach for longer hours



- ❑ **Becoming increasingly popular in postgraduate studies**

MARKET ANALYSIS



Michigan School of Business Model

Introductory
10 Day
workshop

- Monthly full Weekend Classes

Semester
two 10 day
workshop

- Monthly full Weekend Classes

MARKET ANALYSIS



Boston Business Model

Introductory
one week
residential

- Full day
Fri & Sat
Fortnightly

Semester
two
one week

- Full day
Fri & Sat
Fortnightly

LITERATURE RESEARCH



□ ***“Advantages of Block Courses”***: Grant (2001) [1]

- Increase more working relationships
- Encourage 100% attendance
- Provide more timely feedback
- Enhances Skill development

Efficiency

□ ***Introduction of flexible delivery methods often acts as a catalyst for redesigning”*** : Kate Beattie (1997) [6]

Main attraction of the above programme is its flexible nature, used as marketing tool. Though there is limited flexibility during workshop periods, students get an opportunity to select their own time to complete course requirements between workshops.

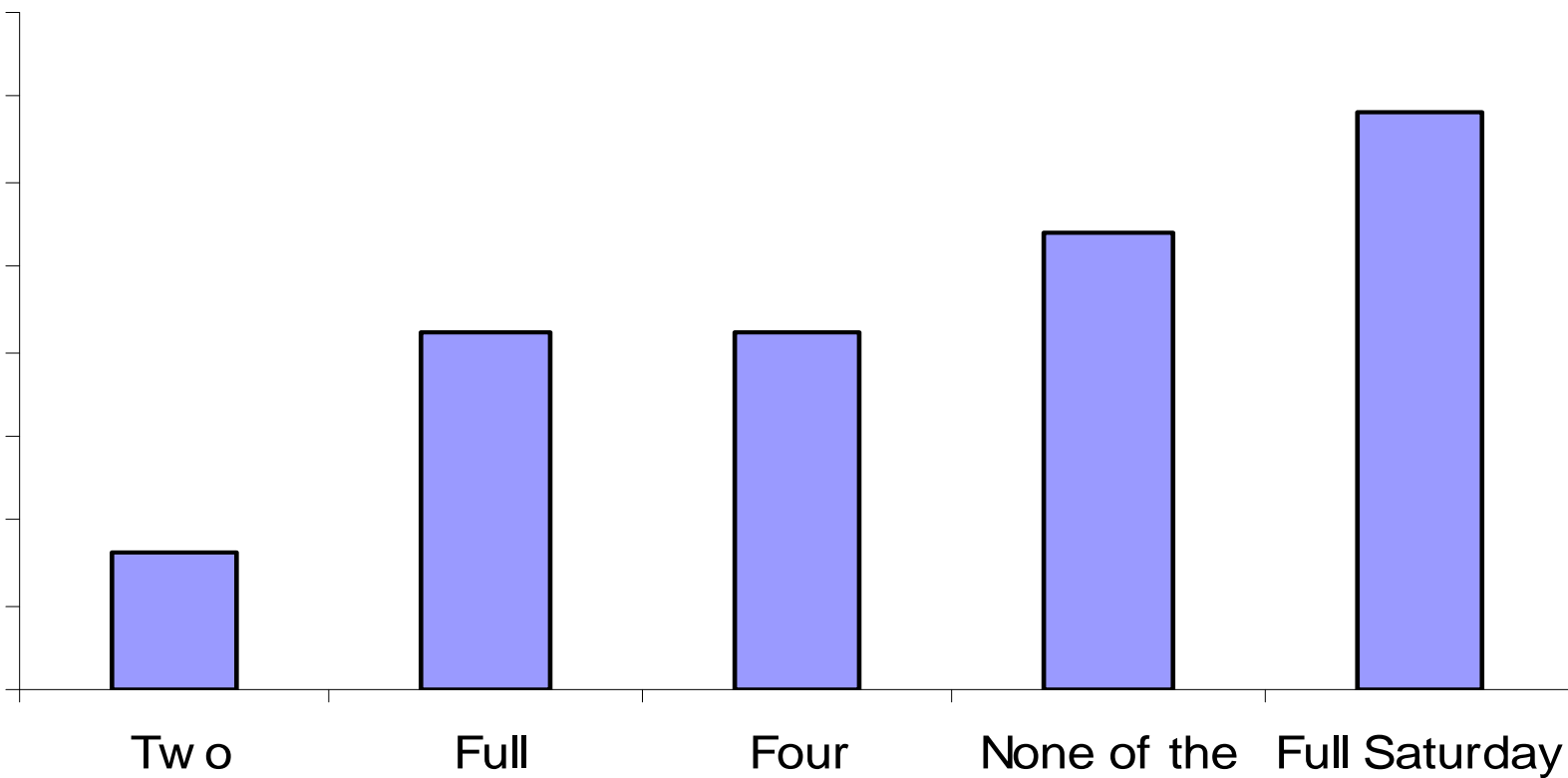
Effectiveness

STUDENT SURVEY

University of Auckland, GSE



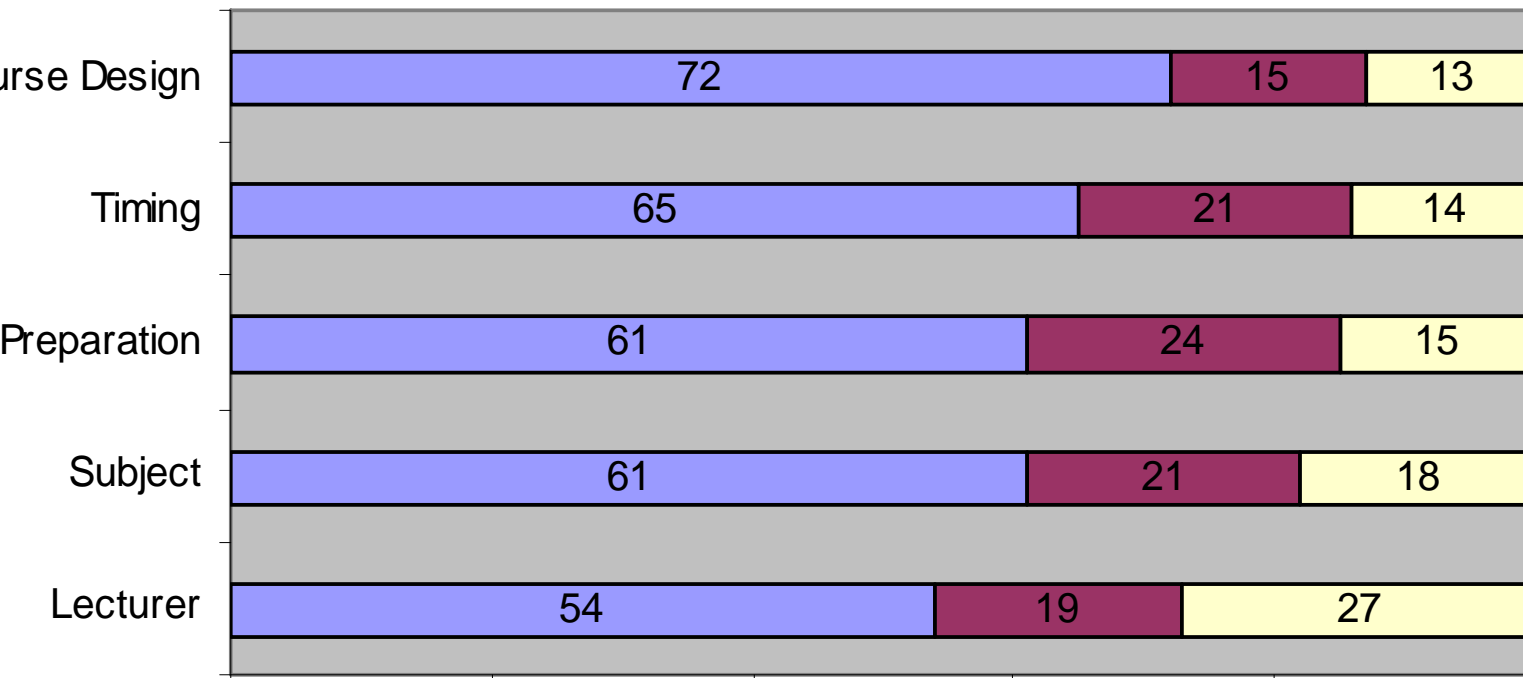
What type of block course would you select ?



at ?

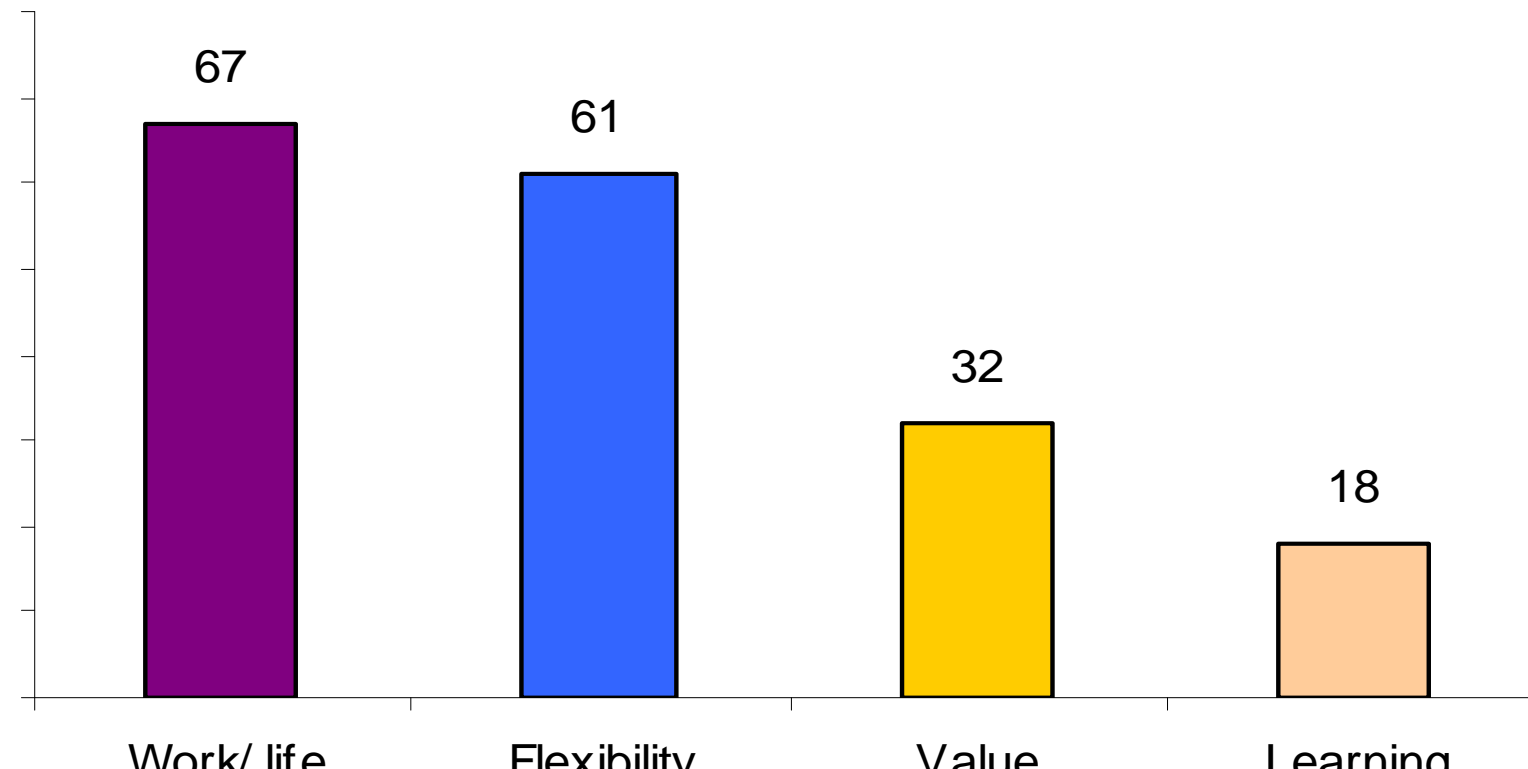
What is more important in block courses

- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree



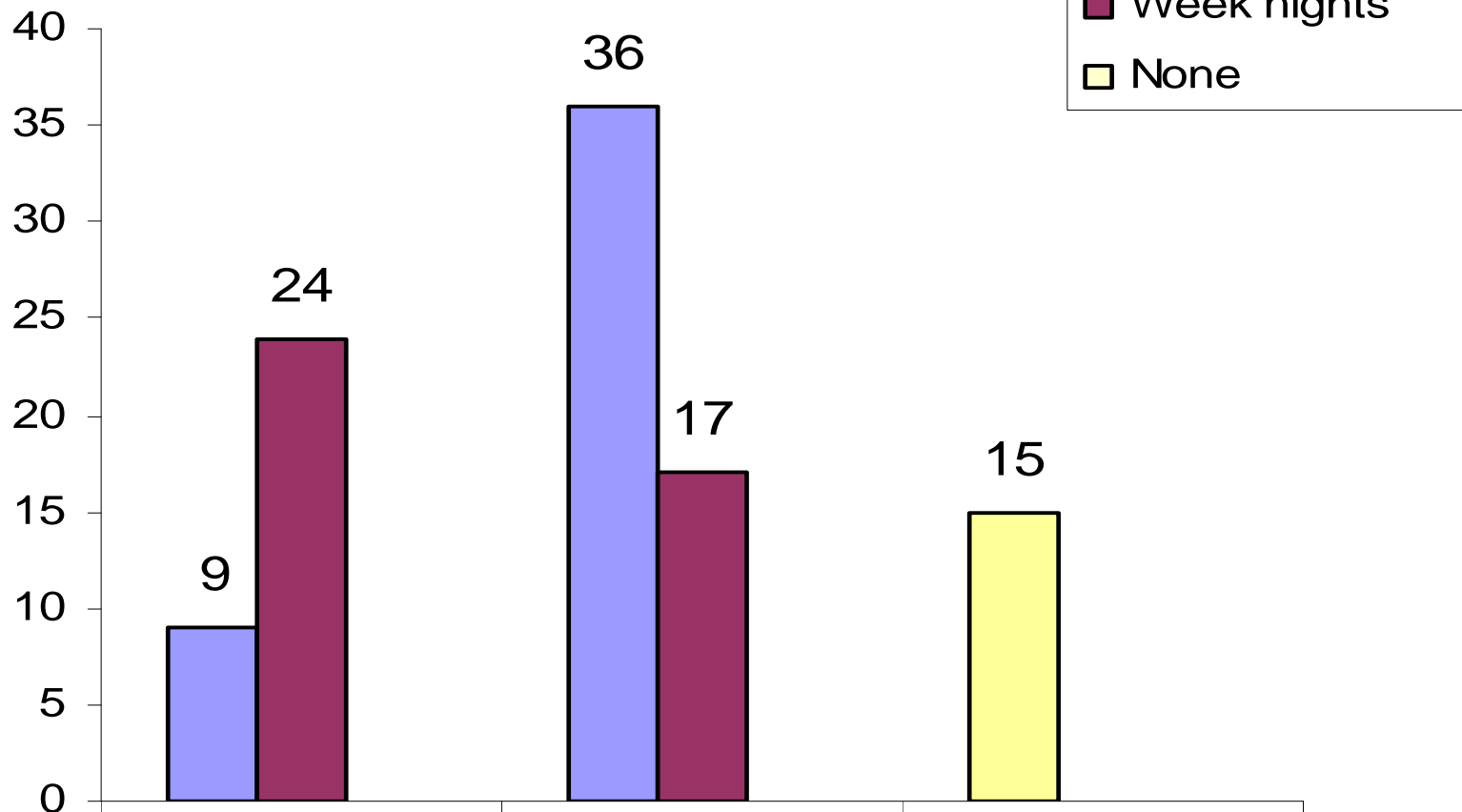
y ?

How important are these attributes for Block Courses ?



v ?

Attractiveness



RT / CONCLUSION



Students prefer to have at least one block course

The most preferred type of block course was a
four-day course which would run for 4 consecutive
days to complete the course.

Students believe that block courses are suitable
for some subjects.

Work/life balance and flexibility are key attributes
that increase the attractiveness of block courses

REPORT / CONCLUSION



Students believed very strongly that all subjects cannot be taught in block courses.

Block course design and teaching methods can affect block courses more adversely than weeknights.

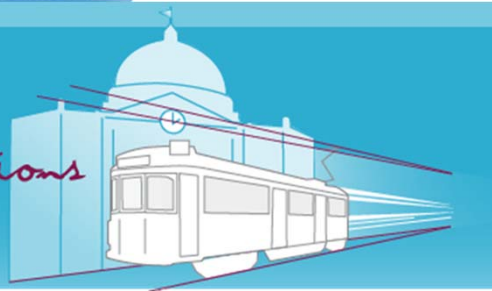
Block courses should not be taught in block format until the evidence is established.

75% would select a block course if an option is given.

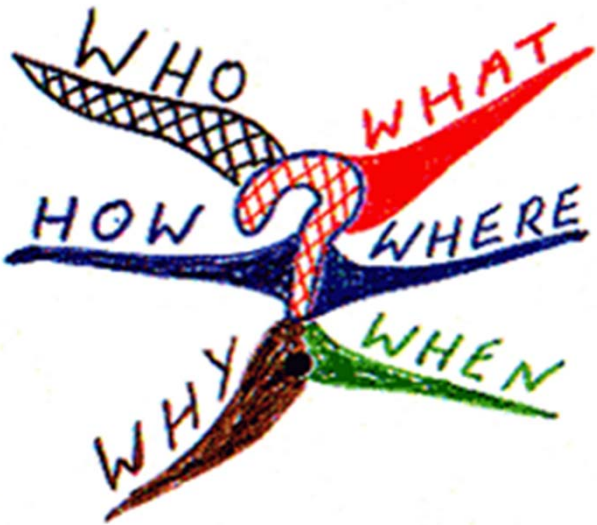
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Questions

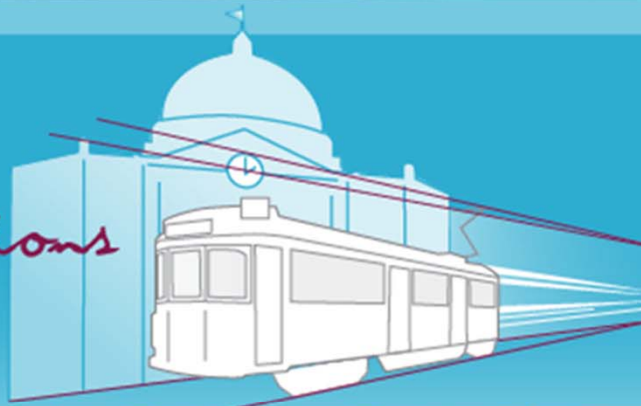


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HANK YOU !

