PREMORTEM

Imagine yourself at some time in the future, having failed to achieve a goal, and looking back at how you arrived at that destination.

1. Pick a goal you have or a specific decision you’re currently considering.

2. What is a reasonable time period for achieving the goal or having the decision play out?

   Imagine it’s just after that period of time and things haven’t worked out. Why?

3. List up to five reasons why this happened because of your decisions and execution.

4. List up to five reasons why this happened because of things outside of your control.

5. Did the premortem identify any obstacles you hadn’t identified before? (Circle one.)

   Yes / No

BACKCASTING

Imagine yourself at some time in the future, having succeeded at achieving a goal, and looking back at how you arrived at that destination.

Using the same goal or decision that you used for the premortem, imagine you have succeeded and ask yourself why that happened.

1. List up to five reasons why you succeeded because of your decisions and execution.

2. List up to five reasons why you succeeded because of things outside of your control.

Adapted from How to Decide by Annie Duke, 2020