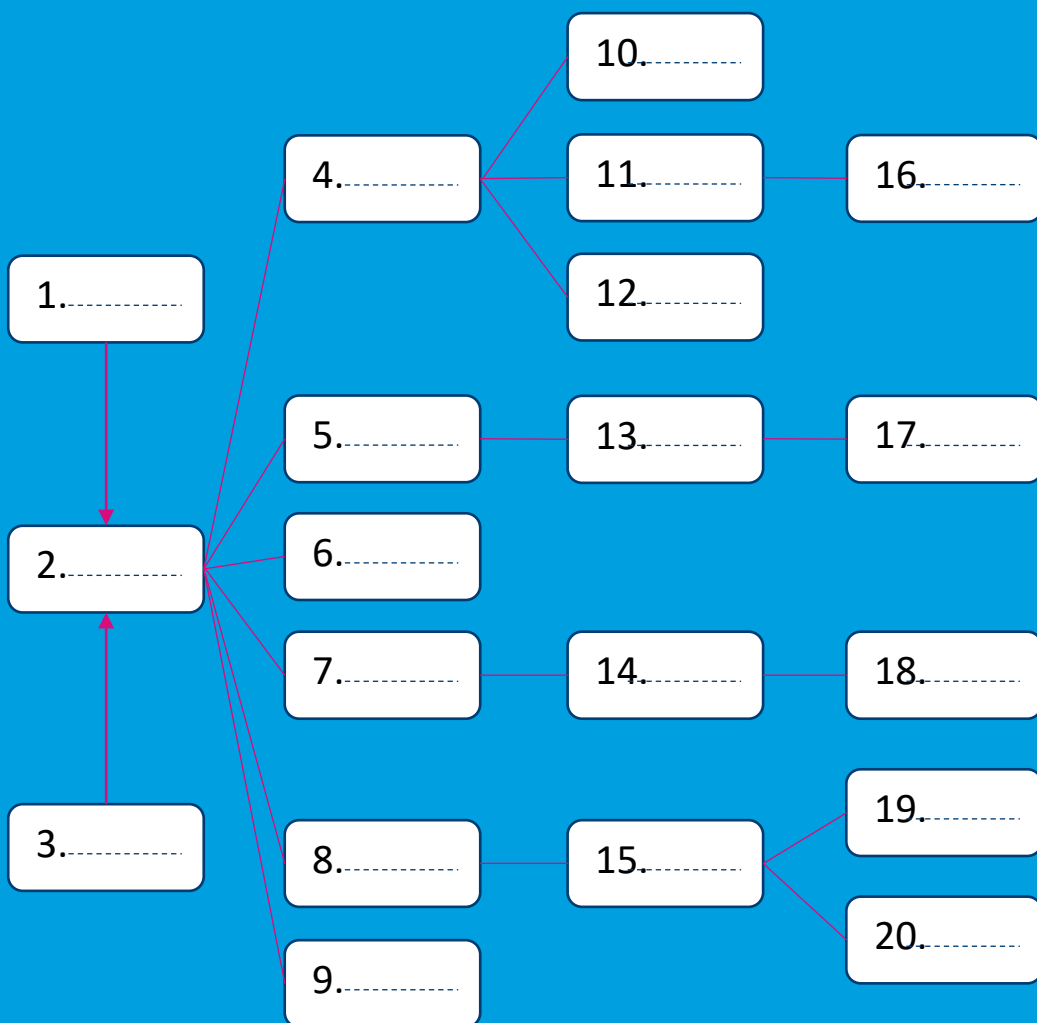


CASE ANALYSIS

STAGE 1: REVIEW THE SITUATION

CAUSAL CHAIN



HOW TO USE THIS TOOL

This tool will help you to complete the initial stage of your case analysis: Review the Situation.

Once you have compiled a list of the specific facts of the case, it is useful to **piece them together in a causal chain**. Your facts may be both conditions of cause and effect.

For example, a fact (1) may be at the root of a management problem (2) which, after producing a second problem (8), indirectly becomes the cause of a third problem (15) and finally leads to some serious consequences (19 and 20)...

Facts only acquire their full significance when **linked to one another in clear cause-and-effect relationships**. This is why it is so important to sketch out the causal chain for your case.

The causal chain should also serve as a warning. It provides proof that problematic contexts can be complicated and that facts may be simultaneously causes and effects. Only once the facts have been successfully transcribed into a causal chain do they acquire their core meaning, making it possible to clearly identify the problems that require careful analysis, i.e. the problems that generate serious consequences.

Be sure not to skip this important step!

Reference:

Déry, Pezet and Sardais, 2015. *Le management. Guide de l'étudiant*. Québec: JFD Éditions.