



SHARPER
THINKING

1

THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

USING MYSTERY SOLVING
TECHNIQUES TO NAVIGATE
LIFE'S CHALLENGES

DAN FURZE

THE COMPLETE STUDY GUIDE

Sharpen Your Observation, Logic, and Curiosity

A practical companion to help you apply
detective thinking to everyday life.

Explore each chapter's key ideas, reflection prompts, and
exercises to sharpen your observation, reasoning, and adaptability.

HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM THIS GUIDE

This study guide gives you short, practical ways to apply skills from each chapter in your own life as you listen to or read through the book.

Read or listen to one chapter at a time
Complete the exercises immediately after
Reflect honestly – there are no perfect answers
Revisit sections over time as your thinking evolves
Focus on consistency, not speed

You can complete this guide:

Alongside the Audiobook
While reading the Kindle edition
or as a standalone reflection tool



Read on Kindle



Listen on Audible

THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

1. OBSERVATION

Seeing Beyond the Obvious

Choose one new environment each day for a week.
Record 10 things you notice – colours, patterns, movements.

Watch a short scene in a film with the sound off
and describe what's really happening.

 *How does slowing down change what you perceive?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

2. LOGICAL REASONING

Connecting the Dots

Break a current problem into facts, assumptions, and unknowns.

Draw a quick logic tree showing possible causes and outcomes.

 *What assumptions did you uncover or disprove?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

3. QUESTIONING

The Power of Curiosity

Use the “5 W’s + 1 H” on a recent challenge
(Who, What, Where, When, Why, How).

Turn one closed question you’d normally ask into an
open one and note the difference in response.

 *Which type of question gives you more insight – and why?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

4. PATTERN RECOGNITION

Identifying Trends and Anomalies

Track a daily habit or emotion for a week;
plot it and look for patterns.

Compare two similar situations that had
different outcomes — what changed?

 *How can seeing patterns earlier help you adapt faster?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

5. EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Understanding Motives and Emotions

In your next conversation, notice tone, pauses, and body language.

Journal a situation where emotion clouded logic;
how would empathy have changed it?

 *What clues tell you how someone feels rather than what they say?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

6. ADAPTABILITY

Thinking on Your Feet

Rehearse quick decisions: give yourself 60 seconds to choose between two options and explain why.

Try doing something routine in a completely new way today.

 *What helps you stay flexible instead of reactive?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

7. COLLABORATION

Working with Others to Solve Problems

Brainstorm a solution with someone who thinks differently from you.

In your next team discussion, summarise another person's point before sharing your own.

 *How does shared perspective sharpen your own thinking?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE

FINAL TAKEAWAYS

Integrate the seven detective skills as one toolkit.

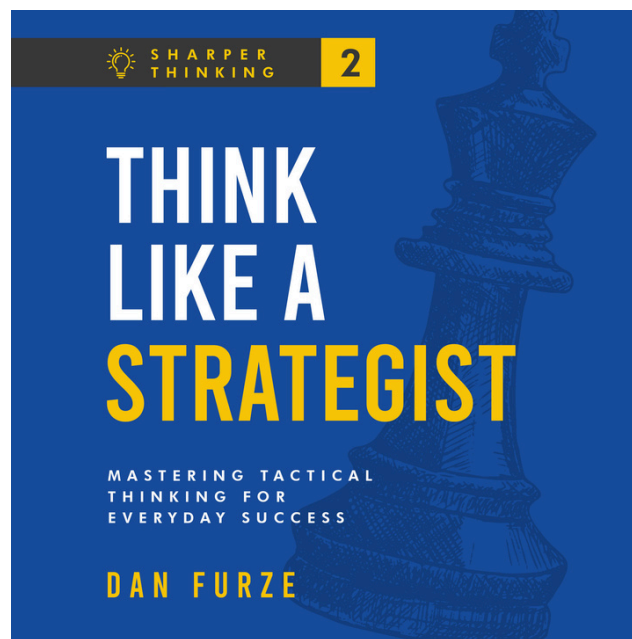
Keep practicing a little each day — awareness
compounds like interest.

Every challenge hides a clue.

Look closer, think sharper, and stay curious.



CONTINUE YOUR SHARPER THINKING JOURNEY



Next recommended read: Think Like a Strategist
See the bigger picture. Plan ahead. Win the long game.



Read on Kindle



Listen on Audible

OR GO DEEPER WITH THE FULL COLLECTION



Sharper Thinking books 1-4

Sharpen your mind. Strengthen your decisions. Shape your future.



Read on Kindle



Listen on Audible