



WFS Learning Section
Bulletin
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FUTUREtakes publishes the *WFS Learning Section Bulletin* by special arrangement with the World Future Society (WFS) Learning Section Steering Team. Issues of the *WFS Learning Section Bulletin* typically include foresight education exercises, an educator spotlight column, and synopses of the annual WFS Education Summit.

Futures Learning Tool

Visualize the Future!

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This is a simple but powerful first exercise to get learners focused on the future. It may be used any time in a learning experience to draw attention away from and beyond the present. Experience in teaching courses and modules on the future has indicated a tendency among learners to regress to the present throughout the course. In all fields of study, from time to time it is helpful to move learners beyond the present and refocus on the future. This little exercise can help participants start thinking "like futurists."

Instructions:

Using the information that you have gained in your course, module, or other learning experience, post to a listserv (or otherwise provide if in a live discussion) the following:

Part I

1. Add five years to today. Write a brief paragraph about a few things that might be happening that day.
2. Add ten years to today. Write the top news story for that day (assuming that there will be 'news!').
3. Now, reflecting on the material in this experience (brief statements), list the top 5-6 things that you learned from your course or module.
4. After you have posted your response, respond to or comment on another learner's posting. Your goal is to "add value" to the posting to enrich the learning experience of the readers.

Part II

5. To continue the activity and the flow of ideas, make an effort to post something new at least once per month.

To provide “global reach” to interested participants and their ideas, FUTUREtakes has agreed to publish selected discussion threads.

IF @ AACCC is pleased to offer additional learning tools that professional instructors have actually used in “real time” learning experiences. Tools from this growing list can be downloaded from <http://ola4.aacc.edu/soc/TeachingFuture/futuresexerciselsfaacc.htm>.