Figure 2. Critical questions – a linear model

**DESCRIPTION**

- WHAT? What is this about?
  - What is the context / situation?
  - What is the main point / problem / topic to be explored?
- WHERE? Where does it take place?
- WHO? Who is this by?
  - Who is involved?
  - Who is affected?
  - Who might be interested?
- WHEN? When does this occur?
  - How did this occur?
  - How does it work – in theory? – in practice / context?
  - How does one factor affect another? Or,
    - How do the parts fit into the whole?

**ANALYSIS**

- HOW? Why did this occur?
  - Why was that done?
- WHY? Why this argument / theory / suggestion / solution?
  - Why not something else?
  - What if this were wrong?
  - What are the alternatives?
  - What if there were a problem?
    - What if this or that factor were – added? – removed? – altered?

**WHAT IF?**

- What does this mean?
  - Why is this significant?
  - Is this convincing? Why / why not?
  - What are the implications?
  - Is it successful?
  - How does it meet the criteria?
  - Is it transferable?

**Evaluation**

- WHAT NEXT? How and where else can it be applied?
  - What can be learnt from it?
  - What needs doing now?
  - Implications
  - Solutions
  - Conclusions
  - Recommendations

Link: https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/1/1710/Critical_Thinking.pdf