When you’re in an airplane looking down, you can see much more of the landscape than if you were on the ground. This is much like strategic and analytical thinking, which allows you to think from “higher up”. This kind of thinking is about having a long-term vision of what you want to achieve, and the ability to examine all that needs to happen in order to put your plan into action. Entrepreneurs need these skills to see the bigger picture. Entrepreneurs are not just focused on today, but instead they have a vision of the future and know what steps they need to take to make their vision a reality.

In order to be strategic you need to be analytical. What does that mean? Well, when you analyze a problem or a situation, you look deeper. You look more closely at the details, and you look at all sides. You question everything—especially if others say something can’t be done!

**Ways to develop your strategic and analytical skills:**

**Be a collector**—Collect ideas, stories, samples, people, and insights. This is the best way to generate new ideas.

**Set goals**—Successful strategic thinking involves goal setting, and a commitment to achieve the goals you’ve set out for yourself.

**Think big**—Set aside time where you can brainstorm a vision for the future and the goals that will get you there.

**Be an organizer**—After you’ve collected ideas, insights, etc. you must also be an organizer of the information. Create a website or a blog to store your thoughts as well as develop new ones.

**Be open**—Keep your mind open and aware of new directions to take your business or new opportunities.

**Make connections**—connect with other people who can help you to achieve your goals.

**Go to the Member Supplement:**

- **Goal setting (Levels 1-3)**

**Go to the Resources Area:**

- **Games**

To sharpen the strategic and analytical parts of your brain, do puzzles and play games such as:

- chess
- Sudoku
- Rubik’s Cube
- problem-solving word games
- card / video games that require strategy
- strategy-based board games