

Self-knowledge: start with you



Personality

1

Start with why

Getting to the core of why you make the choices you make, or what motivates and drives you is essential to figuring out how to describe them.



The '5 Why's' method can help you get to the core of your decision making and passions.

2

Competent

You could start by asking people around you what they think your strengths and weaknesses are. This will give you a better idea of who you are.



Skills endorsements on your LinkedIn profile show what others think of you!

3

21st Century skilled

Not everything can be learned from studying. 'Soft skills' and '21st Century Skills' are in demand because they make you a more diverse employee with good social and technical skills.

Here is a list of some of the soft skills that are considered to be of high value. We have also included an overview of the 21st Century Skills. This does not mean you have to possess all the skills mentioned below to be a great job candidate. Some of these skills may require specific talents, and yet others can be trained. See which of these skills you feel fit your personality and use them to describe why you are a great candidate for the job.

Soft Skills



Empathise



Leadership



Negotiating



Time management



Presenting



Flexibility



Building relationships



Problem Solving

21st Century Skills



Social intelligence



New media literacy



Giving meaning



Transdisciplinary thinking



Innovating



Design mentality



Cross-cultural competence



Cognitive management



Mathematical skills



Virtual collaboration



4

Self assessment

If you really want to delve deeper into yourself, you can do a self-assessment. There are plenty of toolkits online to get you started.

S

situation

T

task

A

action

R

result

The STAR method is a handy way to figure out how you perform in certain situations. It involves describing Situation, Task, Action and Result.

Next up: professional you!



What do you want in a career?

1

Interests

Finding a job that fits your interests is key to enjoying what you do. Try to define your interests.

Interests

Examining your interests gives you a good idea of what you like doing, maybe even professionally. There are a few ways to pinpoint your interests and apply them to your job search. If you google 'self-assessment tools', this will get you on the right track, but here is a quick overview.

- Working out how to get things done efficiently
- Producing designs from my own ideas
- Managing a team of people
- Working out problems
- Working with people
- Getting the details right
- To be different
- Exploring new ideas for research and purposes
- Helping people learn new skills
- Gathering information
- Learning new things
- Using my imagination in my work
- Organizing things, people and events
- Providing care for people in some way
- Making decisions
- Carrying out research projects
- Questioning established theories
- Taking calculated risks
- Analyzing statistical data
- Working outside in the fresh air
- Listening to people's problems
- Analyzing a company's annual accounts
- Selling something I have created
- Writing letters, reports and articles



1

Your dream job

Now that you know which skills you possess and what your interests are, you may want to compile a list of the top 10 companies you'd like to work for. Don't be afraid to dream big, but try to consider companies that fit your personality.

2

Looking up?

Would you prefer a formal or informal work environment? Would you prefer to work in a 'flat' organization or in one with more hierarchy?

Generally speaking, the bigger the company the more hierarchical it is.



brainstorm about
 your ideal job

There are lots of
 websites available to
 match our personality
 with companies