

## PEOPLE, DATA, THINGS, IDEAS ACTIVITY

### INTERESTS

Interests are the things you enjoy doing. Your likes and dislikes in your work and hobbies will help you plan for careers that best match you. The more interest you have in your work, the happier you will be on the job.

The following interest inventory activity will help you organize your likes and dislikes into four categories: people, data, things, or ideas.

**Directions:** In each section (A–D), answer every question with a check in the “Yes” or “No” box. When you have answered all the questions, total all the “Yes” answers for each section and fill in the blanks at the bottom of the page.

<b>A. People</b>	
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>
Entertain a child	
Listen to a friend’s personal problems	
Teach someone how to do something	
Help someone who is sick	
Lead a group or club activity	
Work with the public	
Run for an office	
Sell a product	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

<b>B. Data</b>	
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>
Research a topic of interest to you	
Be a treasurer of a club	
Do scientific experiments	
Work with numbers/statistics	
Figure a car’s gas mileage	
Balance a bank statement	
Write a computer program	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

<b>C. Things</b>	
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>
Bake a cake	
Repair cars/machinery	
Sew or make crafts	
Build something from wood	
Operate a cash register or calculator	
Do landscaping/lawn care	
Operate a camera or video equipment	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

<b>D. Ideas</b>	
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>
Decorate a room	
Write a poem or story	
Publish a school yearbook or newspaper	
Write lyrics or a rap	
Paint, draw, or watercolor	
Play a musical instrument	
Invent a new product	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

My highest section is \_\_\_\_\_.

My next highest section is \_\_\_\_\_.

PEOPLE, DATA, THINGS, IDEAS ACTIVITY (Cont.)

**SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

Jobs require different skills and abilities. You may not have all the skills or abilities necessary for many occupations, but you do have the ability to learn new skills.

**Directions:** In each section (A–D), place a check mark next to the skills you currently have. Then go back and place a check mark next to the skills you may not have yet, but feel you could learn with little difficulty. Total the checks in each section and fill in the blanks at the bottom of the page.

<b>A. People</b>	
Do you have the ability/aptitude for:	<b>Yes</b>
Teaching	
Supervising	
Caring for others	
Host or hosting	
Presiding over meetings	
Leading others	
Listening and counseling	
Selling goods or services	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

<b>B. Data</b>	
Do you have the ability/aptitude for:	<b>Yes</b>
Accounting & record keeping	
Statistical work	
Research	
Testing products or ideas	
Investigating problems	
Computer programming	
Performing scientific experiments	
Collecting information	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

<b>C. Things</b>	
Do you have the ability/aptitude for:	<b>Yes</b>
Repairing things	
Operating machinery	
Assembling parts	
Using tools	
Cooking or baking	
Operating a sewing machine	
Woodworking	
Construction work	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

<b>D. Ideas</b>	
Do you have the ability/aptitude for:	<b>Yes</b>
Writing stories or poems	
Composing music	
Designing new products	
Drawing	
Inventing new products	
Acting or singing	
Playing a musical instrument	
Organizing new clubs or activities	
<b>Total Yes</b>	

My highest section is \_\_\_\_\_.

My next highest section is \_\_\_\_\_.

PEOPLE, DATA, THINGS, IDEAS ACTIVITY (Cont.)

**PERSONALITY/TEMPERAMENT**

Your personality is a combination of your emotional and behavioral characteristics that make you different from others. Personality influences your thoughts, feelings, and behavior with different people and in different situations. Different careers relate to different personality traits, also known as temperaments. For example, an outgoing, friendly person who enjoys meeting and talking to people all day would be suited for jobs in sales, customer service, or public relations. That is why it is important to consider your personality when choosing careers.

Directions: Think about your personality when you answer the following questions. In which situations would you prefer to spend the most of your work day doing?

<b>A. People</b>		
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Entertain a child		
Listen to a friend’s personal problems		
Teach someone how to do something		
Help someone who is sick		
Lead a group or club activity		
Work with the public		
Run for an office		
Sell a product		
<b>Total Yes</b>		

<b>B. Data</b>		
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Research a topic of interest to you		
Be a treasurer of a club		
Do scientific experiments		
Work with numbers/statistics		
Figure a car’s gas mileage		
Balance a bank statement		
Write a computer program		
<b>Total Yes</b>		

<b>C. Things</b>		
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Bake a cake		
Repair cars/machinery		
Sew or make crafts		
Build something from wood		
Operate a cash register or calculator		
Do landscaping/lawn care		
Operate a camera or video equipment		
<b>Total Yes</b>		

<b>D. Ideas</b>		
Do you like to:	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Decorate a room		
Write a poem or story		
Publish a school yearbook or newspaper		
Write lyrics or a rap		
Paint, draw, or watercolor		
Play a musical instrument		
Invent a new product		
<b>Total Yes</b>		

My highest section is \_\_\_\_\_ .

My next highest section is \_\_\_\_\_ .

## PEOPLE, DATA, THINGS, IDEAS ACTIVITY (Cont.)

### WORK VALUES

Job satisfaction comes from having a job that meets your expectations and satisfies your need for employment. The list below includes a number of things people want or "value" in their job. Not all these values are met each day. However, choosing an occupation that allows most of your work values to be present is important.

**Directions:** Think about what you want from an occupation. From the list below:

1. Check the values that are MOST important to you.
2. Add any work values not mentioned that are also important to you.
3. Rewrite the list from 1-10. Put what you value most as #1, and proceed down the list to what you value the least, or what is not important to you, at the bottom of the list.

### JOB VALUES

- \_\_\_ 1. Adventure - working in a job that requires taking risks
- \_\_\_ 2. Prestige - having an important position
- \_\_\_ 3. Creativity - finding new ways to do things
- \_\_\_ 4. Helping others - assisting and caring for other people
- \_\_\_ 5. High earnings - being well paid for the standard of living you want
- \_\_\_ 6. Variety of duties - having several different things to do
- \_\_\_ 7. Independence - deciding how to do your work
- \_\_\_ 8. Exercising leadership - being able to direct and influence others
- \_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

Prioritize your list: From the values listed above, write what is most important to you on Line 1 and continue down to what is least important to you on Line 10.

- \_\_\_ 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

PEOPLE, DATA, THINGS, IDEAS ACTIVITY (Cont.)

**RELATED SCHOOL SUBJECTS**

**Directions:** What are your best and favorite subjects in school? If you like a subject and do well in it, it may be a good hint about a career or career cluster for you.

<b>If you enjoy the following school subjects:</b>	<b>AND like working with:</b>	<b>You may consider the following occupations:</b>
Language Arts, English, Speech, Debate, Foreign Language, Journalism	People	Lawyer, Minister, Teacher’s Assistant, Librarian, Legal Assistant, Receptionist, Secretary
Math, Algebra, Geometry, Tech./ Business Math, Trigonometry, Calculus, Computer Science	Data	Accountant, Computer Programmer, Architect, Bookkeeper, Engineer, Electrician
Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy, Earth Science, Health Occupations	People/Data	Nurse, Chemist, Lab. Tech, Medical Assistant, Physician, Physical Therapist
Social Studies, ELP, U.S. History, World Civilization, Law and Justice, Sociology, Psychology	People	Teacher, Counselor, Police Officer, Social Worker, Lawyer
Art, Commercial Art, Chorus, Band, Orchestra, Drama	Ideas	Interior Designer, Recreation Worker, Commercial Artist, Actor, Actress, Musician
Typing, Keyboarding, Accounting, Business Law, Recordkeeping, Speed Writing, Business Management	Data	Bookkeeper, Accountant, Secretary, Reservation Agent, Legal Assistant
Computer Applications Drafting, Architecture, Graphics, Carpentry, Wood Tech, Auto Mechanics, Electronics, TV and Radio	Things/Data	Surveyor, Electronics Technician, Architect, Mechanic, Machinist, Carpenter, Printer
Marketing, Merchandising, Advertising, Sales	People	Sales Representative, Buyer, Cashier, Purchasing Agent, Shipping and Receiving Clerk

PEOPLE, DATA, THINGS, IDEAS ACTIVITY (Cont.)

**SELF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

**Directions:** Use the information from the Work Values Activity to answer the following questions about yourself.

1. INTEREST INVENTORY: My interests are mainly centered around:

\_\_\_ people                      \_\_\_ data                      \_\_\_ things                      \_\_\_ ideas

2. SKILLS AND ABILITIES CHECKLIST: My skills are mainly centered around:

\_\_\_ people                      \_\_\_ data                      \_\_\_ things                      \_\_\_ ideas

3. From my TEMPERAMENT/PERSONALITY CHECKLIST, I think of myself as being a ..... type of person

\_\_\_ people                      \_\_\_ data                      \_\_\_ things                      \_\_\_ ideas

4. TOTAL:

\_\_\_ people                      \_\_\_ data                      \_\_\_ things                      \_\_\_ ideas

5. My top three WORK VALUES are:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

6. My best and/or favorite SCHOOL SUBJECTS are:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Career or career clusters that seem to match my characteristics at this time are  
(see the Career Briefs section of *Career Choices in NC*):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_