

Interests

There are a lot of interest inventories on the market that can tell you about your personality, interests, and career paths, but none of them can measure what you have not been exposed to and often times, we answer questions based on what we want the outcome to be. While many of these tests are helpful as you get to know yourself, this simple list of questions may be yet another approach to help you get ideas of what you are interested in.

1. What was your dream job when you were a kid?
2. What do you decorate with or collect?
3. What would you do if you won the lotto and never had to work for money again?
4. If you had to donate \$1M to a cause what would it be?
5. What do you spend extra money on or save money for?
6. What is on your bucket list of things to do?
7. What do you watch on TV?
8. What do you read for fun or where would I find you at Barnes and Noble?
9. What causes you to loose track of time and you find yourself staying up late doing? What could you be locked away with for weeks and still be entertained?
10. What things do you Google the most or what is in your internet browsing history?
11. What do you love so much you would do for free 40 hours a week?

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12. started a business what would it be?

13. If you were 18 again, what would you do?

14. If you could live anywhere in the world where would you go?

15. What is your ideal life like when you are 70 and in good health?

16. What do you want your obituary to say?

17. What are 5 things that annoy the heck out of you and make you mad?

18. If you had to write a book what would it be about?

19. If you had a vanity plate, what would it say?

20. If you were stranded on a desert island and you had food, water, and shelter, what other two things would you bring with you?

21. If you were a fictional character, who would you be and why?

22. If you were an animal, what type would you be and why?

23. If your house was to catch on fire, and you had 5 minutes to save anything regardless of if you could realistically get it out, what 5 things would you save?

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24. What are your realistic monetary needs, i.e. what is the least you can make? Do you need benefits?
25. What do you find yourself getting into fights with people about or arguing about until you are blue in the face? i.e. what are you banned from talking about at family gatherings?
26. If you put a bumper sticker on your car, what would it say?
27. If you were allowed a single pair of clothes to wear for the rest of your life, what would it be and why?
28. Do you cry more over people or animals?
29. If you had to give a 20 minute speech without any notice, to 1,000 people, what topic would you choose?
30. What single word describes you best?

Now go back through your answers and see what themes emerge. If your current educational or career plans do not include any of these themes, your goal is to find a way to incorporate them. You may not want to work full time doing some of the things that emerged, but rather in an environment where others there share the same interest, the products you work with are related to that interest, or you have an opportunity to be in that environment from time to time.