



Explore Uni Career Conversations Year 9

Looking forward to seeing you and your Year 9 students at our Explore Uni day. In preparation, we've created career conversations that we recommend for students in Year 9 who are attending an Explore Uni day.

A career conversation can be 15-30 minutes (e.g. on the bus en-route to your Explore Uni day), or, you can do a full lesson (approx. 50 minutes) to explore the topic in more depth.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Explore Uni days aim to demystify tertiary study. Your Year 9 students will focus on the connection between jobs, learning and the values and goals they want in their future career.

Through interactions with tertiary students, presentations and immersion in the campus environment, your students will:

- become more aware of the existence, and purpose of, university and TAFE Institute
- become aware of the presence of QUT and TAFE in the Moreton Bay area and tertiary institutions across Queensland
- acquire a basic understanding of the wide range of fields of study and related careers available in the tertiary sector
- begin to acquire a belief that tertiary study is interesting, useful, and accessible to them in the future.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES – CAREER-RELATED VALUES

The learning objective of this career conversation is to identify the core values/goals that students may have and how career choices can influence fulfilment of these values.

Themes to be considered include:

- What are personal values?
- What are career related values?
- What types of values are linked to different occupations?
- How might personal values influence career choice?

PRE-VISIT

Career Conversation (15-30 minutes)

Ask students to think about things that give the greatest job satisfaction. Use the 'Values and Personality' worksheet (Worksheet 1 - Values and Personality) as a guide. Ask students to select their most important values (up to 10) and think about them at the Explore Uni visit.

At Explore Uni students will hear from staff and students who will talk about a range of careers – this will help them consider the values they have recorded and what links they have to different careers.

Ask students to consider:

- What values are important in particular careers? For example, if they wanted to help people what sort of careers might that include?
- How important are values in particular careers? For example, where would values like creativity and innovation be important?

At the Explore Uni visit students will:

- hear current university students talking about why they study and what their future goals are (and what they value)
- understand why identifying values might be important to future career choices
- undertake some hands on activities in different career areas that might trigger interest in different jobs/careers

Ask students to listen out for what values have led Student Ambassadors to consider their chosen study and career pathways.

Lesson Plan - The world of work (50 minutes)

Values are internal guiding principles or standards for how we want to live our lives. Values are not the same as goals, they help us to formulate concrete goals and action plans based on what we consider important.

Activity 1: Career-related values

Without looking at the worksheet, ask students if they can think about career-related values they would look for in a job or career. There are no right or wrong answers.

Now, ask the students to identify values from the career-related values list (Worksheet 3 – activity 1). This will help students to clarify career-related values.

Use worksheet 1 as a guide to help students prioritise their values.

- Ask students to consider the top 10 values from the list that they believe will give them the most job satisfaction. Ask students to rank them from 1 to 10 (1 being the most important).
- Ask the students to discuss in a group or as a class. They should listen out for discussions from Explore Uni Student Ambassadors about what values they have decided are important in their study and career goals.

Activity 2: My career biography

Worksheet 3 – 'My Career Biography' asks students to imagine they have lived their 'ideal' career and it is described in a biography.

What are some important personal characteristics to describe them in their biography? Use the list of personal characteristics (Worksheet 1) to list the top 10 personal characteristics important to them. Ask the class:

- Why are these important?
- Is there a relationship between their career-related values and personal characteristics?
- What jobs or careers might require the values and personal characteristics the students have prioritised?

POST-VISIT

Career Conversation (15-30 minutes)

The Explore Uni experience was a chance for students to consider their values and how these values relate to different careers. Ask students:

- What did they learn about career values today?
- What are the main values related to the careers they are interested in?
- Has their view of what is important changed?

Students may now consider the type of person they are and how their personality might relate to different careers. Using the list of personal characteristics list (worksheet 1) ask students to consider:

- Which words best describe their personality?
- What job/s might match these personal characteristics?

Students could try the 'What colour is your career' personality test (worksheet 2 - activity 1) to identify personality characteristics.

Ask students to consider:

- What colour/career personality has been revealed?
- Is it accurate?
- Can you think of careers that describe each of the four colour categories?

Lesson Plan - The world of work (50 minutes)

There is a correlation between personality type and how these personality traits might lead to particular careers.

Ask the students to identify their personality type using a career interests quiz (worksheet 4). The quiz will allow students to answer questions about themselves – the type of person they think they are, the types of things they think they can do, and the types of things they might be interested in.

There are seven work type categories (worksheet 2 – activity 2):

- **Analytic or scientific**
- **Creative or artistic**
- **Helping or advising**
- **Nature or recreation**
- **Organising or clerical**
- **Persuading or service**
- **Practical or mechanical**

Ask the class:

- how does your personality type fit with these categories?
- How do these categories fit with current interests and preferred school subjects?
- list some potential jobs or careers that might suit your personality type

Resources

- MyFuture <https://myfuture.edu.au/career-insight/details?id=myths-and-tips-for-young-workers#/>



QUESTIONS?

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WORKSHEET 1 – VALUES AND PERSONALITY

CAREER-RELATED VALUES

Ability Use	Making use of personal skills, knowledge and abilities.
Achievement	Having a sense of accomplishment
Activity	Keeping active and busy
Advancement	Advancing to higher levels of seniority
Adventure	Venturing into unknown territory, taking risks, and not knowing the outcome
Affiliation	Being recognised as a member of a particular organisation
Artistic Creativity	Engaging in artistic or creative work
Autonomy/Independence	Having the freedom and discretion to make decisions and carry out tasks without significant direction or supervision.
Change	Having tasks, processes, responsibilities, or environments that frequently change
Competition	Competing against others for a desired goal/outcome
Creative Expression	Expressing thoughts, feelings, or ideas through art or other creative avenues
Creativity	Generating new, original, or innovative ideas, visions, programs, projects etc.
Ethical/Moral	Contributing to the principles and ideals I feel are very important
Excitement	Experiencing a high degree of stimulation or frequent novelty and drama
Exercise Competence	Demonstrating a high degree of skill, proficiency, ability, and knowledge
Fast Pace	Ongoing action, constant and hectic flow of work requiring speed and multi-tasking
Flexibility	Varying work days, times, and location to fit lifestyle
Free Expression	Expressing personal beliefs, opinions, and ideas
Friendships	Opportunities to develop close personal relationships with people within work
Helping Others	Helping people directly, either individually or in small groups
Helping Society	Contributing to the betterment of the world
High Earnings	Earning income considered high in comparison to that of the larger population
High-Pressure	Having constant and high demands, strict time constraints, and no margin for error
Influencing Others	Being in a position to influence or change attitudes or opinions of other people
Innovation	Developing and applying original, new, and important solutions
Intellectual	Being regarded as very well-informed and a strong theorist, or 'expert' in a given field
Knowledge	Engaging in the pursuit of knowledge, truth and understanding
Leadership	Taking a lead role where I am directly responsible for work done by others

Learning/Development	Engaging in ongoing learning and skill acquisition via experience or education.
Location	Living in a place of my choosing that is conducive to my lifestyle
Making Decisions	Having the power to make decisions and decide on courses of action
Peacefulness	Being in a quiet, peaceful and tranquil environment
Physical Comfort	Being in a physically comfortable environment
Physical Challenge	Using bodily strength, speed, dexterity, or agility
Power/Authority	Controlling, authorising, influencing others
Precision Work	Using care, accuracy, thoroughness, attention to detail, and exactness.
Problem-Solving	Solving complex questions and demanding tasks
Profit/Material Gain	Accumulating money or possessions through ownership, profit-sharing, commissions, merit pay increases etc
Public Service	Providing a service to the public community
Recognition	Getting positive feedback and being acknowledged and recognised by others
Responsibility	Being accountable, responsible, and in control of work and decisions
Safety	Feeling physically and psychologically safe
Security	Being confident and assured of maintaining employment and income
Social Contact	Having opportunities to meet other people
Social Justice	Promoting the rights and dignity of all human beings
Stability	Having an occupation, duties, tasks, and routines that are predictable
Status	Being in a position of high standing, being respected and highly regarded by others
Stimulation	Doing interesting and challenging things
Supportive Environment	Having supportive co-workers, supervisors, leaders, and managers.
Teamwork	Working with others as part of a team to achieve common goals
Time Freedom	Being able to work according to my own time schedule
Variety	Doing a range of different tasks or being in different locations.
Work Alone	Working by myself with minimal or no interference from others
Work On The Cutting Edge	Engaging in pioneering work in research and development, generating information and new ideas in the academic, scientific, or business community
Work-Life Balance	Having a balance between work, family, leisure, and other life roles

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WORKSHEET 1 – VALUES AND PERSONALITY

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Able, Accepting, Accomplished, Accountable, Accurate, Active, Adaptable, Adept, Admirable, Adventurous, Agreeable, Alert, Alive, Altruistic, Ambitious, Amusing, Analytical, Appreciative, Artistic, Assertive, Attentive, Authentic, Astute, Autonomous, Aware
Balanced, Benevolent, Big-hearted, Bold, Brave, Bright
Calm, Candid, Capable, Caring, Challenge-focused, Challenging, Charismatic, Charitable, Charming, Cheerful, Collaborative, Clear, Clever, Committed, Communicative, Community-focused, Compassionate, Competent, Competitive, Compliant, Composed, Concerned, Confident, Connected, Conscientious, Conservative, Considerate, Consistent, Constructive, Cooperative, Courageous, Courteous, Creative, Credible, Cultured, Curious
Daring, Decent, Decisive, Dedicated, Deep, Defiant, Democratic, Dependable, Determined, Devoted, Diligent, Diplomatic, Discerning, Disciplined, Down-to-earth, Dynamic
Eager, Earthy, Easygoing, Economical, Educated, Effective, Efficient, Eloquent, Emotionally-intelligent, Empathic, Empowering, Encouraging, Energetic, Enterprising, Enthusiastic, Equitable, Esteemed, Ethical, Exact, Expert, Expressive, Extroverted, Exuberant
Fair, Faithful, Fearless, Financially-secure, Firm, Fit, Flexible, Focused, Forgiving, Frank, Freedom-focused, Friendly, Fun
Generative, Generous, Gentle, Genuine, Giving, Good, Gracious, Grateful, Gregarious
Happy, Hardworking, Health-conscious, Healthy, Helpful, Honest, Honourable, Hopeful, Humble, Humorous
Imaginative, Impartial, Independent, Individual, Industrious, Influential, Inquisitive, Innovative, Insightful, Integrative, Intellectual, Intelligent, Intense, Interested, Intuitive, Insistent, Inventive, Involved
Jovial, Joyful, Just
Keen, Kind, Knowledgeable, Knowledge-seeking
Law-abiding, Leader, Learned, Level-headed, Listener, Lively, Logical, Loyal
Mature, Meek, Mindful, Modest, Moral, Motivated
Natural, Nature-loving, Neat, Nice, Nurturing
Obedient, Obstinate, Open-minded, Open, Opportunistic, Optimistic, Organised, Original, Outstanding
Particular, Passionate, Patient, Peaceful, Perceptive, Personable, Persevering, Philanthropic, Philosophical, Pioneering, Placid, Planful, Playful, Pleasant, Plucky, Poised, Polite, Positive, Powerful, Practical, Precise, Principled, Proactive, Problem-solver, Productive, Professional, Proficient, Progressive, Prudent, Physically-fit, Punctual
Questioning, Quick-witted, Quiet, Quirky
Rational, Rebellious, Realistic, Reasonable, Reassuring, Recognised, Refined, Relationship-focused, Reliable, Reserved, Resilient, Resourceful, Respected, Respectful, Responsible, Responsive, Revolutionary, Rich, Rigorous, Risk-taker
Safety-conscious, Scrupulous, Scholarly, Self-assured, Self-controlled, Self-directed, Selfless, Self-reliant, Self-starter, Sensible, Sensitive, Serene, Sharing, Sincere, Skillful, Sociable, Sophisticated, Spirited, Spiritual, Spontaneous, Stable, Steadfast, Stimulating, Straightforward, Strict, Strong, Successful, Supportive, Sympathetic, Systematic
Tactful, Talented, Team-focused, Thorough, Thoughtful, Thrifty, Tidy, Tolerant, Tough, Traditional, Tranquil, Transformative, Trusting, Trustworthy, Truthful,
Unafraid, Unassuming, Understanding, Unique, Unpretentious, Unselfish, Upright, Upstanding, Upwardly-mobile
Versatile, Vibrant, Virtuous, Vitalized
Warm, Wealthy, Well, Well-spoken, Willing, Wise, Witty, Wordsmith, Worldly
Youthful
Zany, Zealous

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WORKSHEET 2 – CAREER PERSONALITY TYPES

ACTIVITY 1: YOUR CAREER PERSONALITY

What colour is your career personality? Are you a thinker, always analysing, like a green? Do you prefer inspiring people and building their self-esteem, blue? Are you the responsible one who is always on time and keeping everyone else on time like a gold? Or do you thrive on entertaining and persuading people, like an orange? Can you name jobs or careers that would fit into each colour category?

GOLD: you value discipline, order, responsibility, rules, frugality and reliability. You highly regard tradition, dependability and organisations. You look for security, structure and responsibilities.

GREEN: you value logic, analysis, research, innovation, data/information and knowledge. You highly regard competence, progress and expertise. You look for perfection, intelligence and rational answers to difficult questions.

ORANGE: You value adventure, excitement, risk-taking, flexibility, action, fun and activities. You highly regard freedom and look for physical stimulation, challenge and competition.

BLUE: You value friendship, compassion, sharing and caring, counselling and communication. You highly regard compassion, integrity and authenticity. You look for harmony, affection and personal identity.

ACTIVITY 2: WORK TYPE CATEGORIES

Here are seven work type categories – how does your personality type fit with these categories? How do these categories fit with current interests and preferred school subjects?

- **Analytic or scientific:** These occupations involve working with ideas to investigate or seek solutions to scientific, technical, social or other issues. Activities include observing, researching, analysing and interpreting results. The ability to develop theories, apply logic and explore abstract ideas in a specialist area of knowledge is important.
- **Creative or artistic:** These occupations involve working with ideas to creatively express, present or perform them. An appreciation of design, style, form, beauty or related concepts used to develop or interpret an idea is important. Activities include writing, painting, singing, dancing, decorating, designing and performing.
- **Helping or advising:** These occupations involve working with people to help, inform, teach or treat them. Activities include discussing personal issues, listening to people's problems and providing advice, instruction, information or treatment to meet their needs.
- **Nature or recreation:** These occupations involve working with things in the natural world, such as conservation, handling animals, raising crops or livestock, or sport. Activities include growing and caring for living things, or an involvement with sport, leisure or the environment.
- **Organising or clerical:** These occupations involve working with data to order, process or retrieve facts and figures, or to develop or administer policies and procedures. Activities include organising, using or updating information (such as files or accounts), developing or following procedures or systems, and the planning, budgeting and staffing of an organisation.
- **Persuading or service:** These occupations involve working with people to sell to, influence, motivate, negotiate with or serve them. Activities include selling, promoting or providing goods or services, bargaining, or presenting a point of view.
- **Practical or mechanical:** These occupations involve working with things, using the hands, or special tools or equipment to make, fix, install or adjust them. Activities include practical and physical tasks, which may require an understanding of how equipment or machinery works.

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STUDENT WORKSHEET 3 – CAREER-RELATED VALUES

ACTIVITY 1 – CAREER-RELATED VALUES

Values are meaningful internal guiding principles or standards for how we want to live our lives. Our values help us to formulate concrete goals and action plans based on the things that are important to us. They are not the same as goals. They are the direction we want our lives to go in.

This activity will help you to start clarifying your career-related values. Not everyone has the same values and there are no “right or wrong” answers.

Think about the things that you deeply and truly care about, the type of person you want to be, the things that will be important and meaningful to you in your career, and the things that you want to work toward.

RESOURCES

- myfuture.edu.au/

MY TOP 10 CAREER VALUES

ACTIVITY 2 – YOUR CAREER BIOGRAPHY

The following activity – your Career Biography – is aimed at helping you to further explore your career-related values. Imagine that you are 80 years old and someone has written a biography about you and your career.

This biography is about your “ideal career” (e.g. the type of work you would ideally like to do, the occupation you would most like to work in, the key things you would like to achieve, and the qualifications and skills you would ideally like to have) and your “ideal self” – the person you most want to be, with all of the personal qualities that you strongly value.

Imagine that you had lived out your “ideal” career and it is described in your biography. Nothing held you back. You did all of the things you wanted to do and achieved all that you wanted to achieve. Write some notes about what that might look like.

Go through the Career Values list and write down the ones that are most important to you (the ones that you would not be willing to compromise).

MY CAREER BIOGRAPHY

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WORKSHEET 4 – CAREER INTEREST QUIZ

CAREER INTEREST QUIZ

1. Tick any of the activities that might be enjoyable or interesting to you. In general, ticking more activities provides more useful results.

Group 1
Typing reports or entering data
Leading group activities
Reading art and music magazines
Carpentry and other building projects
Using a chemistry set
Making new friends
Group 2
Keeping detailed records
Working on a sales campaign
Designing clothes
Decorating rooms
Doing puzzles or playing word games
Going to church
Group 3
Word processing
Talking to salespeople
Acting in or helping to put on a play
Working with animals
Advanced maths
Helping the elderly
Group 4
Working nine to five
Being elected class captain
Learning foreign languages
Cooking
Physics
Attending sports events

Group 5
Using a cash register
Talking to groups of people
Drawing or painting
Fixing cars
Astronomy
Belonging to a club
Group 6
Using office equipment
Buying clothes for a store
Writing stories or poetry
Fixing electrical appliances
Flying airplanes or learning about aircraft
Teaching children
Group 7
Filing letters and reports
Talking to people at a party
Going to concerts or listening to music
Wildlife biology
Creating a science project
Studying people in other countries
Group 8
Working with budgets or financial reports
Selling insurance
Playing music
Working on model kits or craft projects
Working in a laboratory
Helping people solve personal problems

2. Add up how many activities you picked in each Group and insert into the table below.

How many?		
1s	C	
2s	E	
3s	A	
4s	R	
5s	I	
6s	S	

3. What were the three letters with the highest scores? Add them to the table below.

Interest Code results	
1	
2	
3	

4. Match the letters in your interest code to the group descriptions below. For example if your top three interest codes are SAR, then this matches Social, Artistic and Realistic groups.

Realistic people have athletic or mechanical ability. They prefer to work with objects, machines, tools, plants or animals. They usually like to be outdoors. Sometimes these are referred to as Outdoor or Mechanical interests.
Investigative people like to observe, investigate, learn, analyse, evaluate or solve problems. Sometimes these are referred to as Scientific interests.
Artistic people have artistic, innovative or intuitive abilities. They usually like to work in an unstructured situation, using their imagination or creativity. Sometimes these are referred to as Creative interests
Social people like to work with people. They like to enlighten, inform, help, train, or cure them. They are usually skilled with words. Sometimes these are referred to as People Contact interests.
Enterprising people also like to work with people, but they like to influence, persuade or perform. They like to lead or manage for organisational goals or economic gain (to make money). Sometimes these are referred to as Business interests.
Conventional people like to work with data, have clerical or numerical ability and attend to detail. They usually enjoy following through on others' instructions. Sometimes these are referred to as Office interests

Resources

- MyFuture <https://myfuture.edu.au/career-insight/details?id=myths-and-tips-for-young-workers#/> students will need a log in to access this content

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