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With all the careers out there to consider, how do you know which one's best for you?

Your career preference is likely to change over time, but there are ways you can match your interests and work style with various kinds of careers.

R.I.A.S.E.C. career quiz

“R” SECTION

- Repair a car
- Do woodworking
- Refinish furniture
- Explore a forest
- Arrest lawbreakers
- Plant a garden
- Build furniture
- Run a race
- Drive a truck

“I” SECTION

- Study causes of disease
- Do a science project
- Study human anatomy
- Study insects
- Research solutions to environmental problems
- Collect minerals and rocks
- Study the solar system
- Do math problems
- Talk to a scientist
- Study plants

“A” SECTION

- Sing before the public
- Design clothing
- Decorate a home or office
- Direct a play
- Write a story or play
- Design a poster
- Create a sculpture
- Arrange flowers
- Make videos
- Act in a performance

“S” SECTION

- Teach children
- Care for a sick person
- Teach a friend
- Interview clients
- Help a person overcome difficulties
- Be a hospital volunteer
- Help a charity
- Make people laugh
- Babysit

“E” SECTION

- Sell cars
- Make a speech
- Be the boss of other workers
- Start a club
- Save money
- Sell things
- Lead a meeting
- Take charge of a project
- Sell magazines door to door

“C” SECTION

- Keep detailed records
- Operate business machines
- Organize a work area
- Take telephone messages
- Attend to details
- Balance a budget
- Use a word processor
- Proofread a document
- Create a filing system

Source: *The Career Interest Program*,
Prentice-Hall, Inc. © 2001

NOW, GO BACK TO THE SECTIONS. ADD UP HOW MANY BOXES YOU CHECKED IN EACH SECTION AND FILL IN THE TOTALS FOR EACH IN THE SPACE PROVIDED.

Totals:

R ___ I ___ A ___ S ___ E ___ C ___

UNDERSTANDING THE LETTERS

Each of these letters represents an interest category. You will typically find that occupations that match your interests will be more satisfying and rewarding for you than occupations that don't meet your interests. The columns where you have the most check marks show where your interests are strongest. Listed below are the descriptions of each interest type.

R People with “Realistic” interests enjoy work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions. They like dealing with plants, animals, and real-world materials, like wood, tools and machinery. They enjoy outdoor work. Typically, people with realistic interests do not like occupations that mainly involve paperwork or working closely with others. *Sample occupations include mechanic, chef, engineer and police officer.*

I People with “Investigative” interests enjoy work activities that have to do with ideas and thinking more than with physical activity. They like to search for facts and figure out problems mentally rather than persuade or lead people. *Sample occupations include psychologist, pharmacist, computer programmer and doctor.*

A People with “Artistic” interests enjoy work activities that deal with the artistic side of things, such as forms, designs and patterns. They like self-expression in their work. They prefer settings where work can be done without following a clear set of rules. *Sample occupations include musician, art teacher, reporter, interior designer and lawyer.*

S People with “Social” interests enjoy work activities that assist others and promote learning and personal development. They prefer to communicate more than to work with objects, machines or data. They like to teach, give advice, help or otherwise be of service to people. *Sample occupations include social worker, counselor, occupational therapist and school administrator.*

E People with “Enterprising” interests enjoy work activities that have to do with starting up and carrying out projects, especially business ventures. They like persuading and leading people and making decisions. They like taking risks for profit. These people prefer action rather than thought. *Sample occupations include sales person, public relations specialist, business owner and travel agent.*

C People with “Conventional” interests enjoy work activities that follow set procedures and routines. They prefer working with data and detail more than with ideas. They prefer work in which there are precise standards rather than work in which you have to judge things by yourself. These people like working where the lines of authority are clear. *Sample occupations include accountant, secretary, dental assistant and math teacher.*



WHAT'S NEXT?

Interest assessments are not designed to tell you exactly what job is right for you. Rather, they are great for getting you to think about work interests. Take the time to look at two or three sections where you had high scores. Try combining results of other assessments with this one. There are many possibilities out there!

There are many career assessment tools and resources available through your Community College Career Services. To learn more about the strategies available to you, free of charge, for reaching your career goals call:

Glendale Community College Career Services: 623.845.3283 or www.gccaz.edu/career

Mesa Community College Career & Re-Entry Services: 480.461.7430 or www.mc.maricopa.edu/career

Phoenix College Career Services: 602.285.7420 or www.pc.maricopa.edu/careerservices