Your Ideal (and Not So Ideal) Job

Think of your ideal workday. Don’t think of a specific job as much as the kinds of activities in which you would be involved, the kind of place where you would work, the type of people with whom you would work, what your supervisor (if any) would be like, how you would spend your time, your hours, and the skills you would use. In the following spaces list as many factors as you can that would make up your ideal workday.

1. My ideal work environment would be:

2. The type of responsibilities I would enjoy are:

3. The type of people with whom I would like to work are:

4. The structure of my ideal workday would be:

5. The skills I would most like to use are:

6. Other aspects of my ideal workday are:

Now think of a workday that you absolutely would not want. What skills, activities, people, and situations would you want to avoid? Write as many of these as you can in the following spaces.

1. Places that I would not want to work are:

2. Types of work I would dislike are:

3. Types of people I want to avoid are:

4. The type of workday I would dislike is:

5. Skills I don’t want to use are:
6. Other things I want to avoid are:
Describe the type of organization that you would like to work for. What characteristics and what purpose would the organization have? How would it be managed? List your responses in the following spaces.

1. Size and structure of the organization:

2. Purpose of the organization:

3. Management style of the organization:

4. Other characteristics I want to explore:

Think of an organization that you would not want to work for. What would be some of the characteristics of this organization? List them in the following spaces.

1. Types of organization I want to avoid:

2. Purposes I don’t agree with:

3. Management styles I don’t want:

4. Other characteristics I want to avoid:

Now look back at your responses to the four previous questions. What conclusions can you draw from your responses? What careers might provide you with your ideal workday? What careers should you avoid? What organizations appeal to you and what organizations turn you off? Write your conclusions in the following spaces.

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