

Using Your Strengths to Achieve Success: Analytical

You search for reasons and causes. You have the ability to think about all the factors that might affect a situation. Your talent is valuable because it enables you to dig deep, find the root causes and effects, and then develop clear thoughts about what is true.

Applying to Academics

General Academic Life

- Examine data, collect facts, and read material for discussions. Anticipate problems. Ask questions to discover others' perspectives issues. Clarify your own position.
- Prove to your classmates that there is an equal and opposite reaction to every action.
- Read assignments before class. Find information to support or discount the position taken by the author of the textbook.

Study Techniques

- Draw "mind maps" to illustrate the placement of each element of a theory or aspect of a concept as well as a story plot. Investigate until you logically link facts or numerical data with results.
- Make sense of discussions. Write what you heard and said. Identify comments, conclusions, and arguments that lack supporting facts or data.

Relationships

- Identify your biases before taking sides on an issue. Evaluate your own thinking before challenging others' biases.

Extracurricular Activities

- Gravitate to organizations for their commitment to the use of logic and reason.
- Join the debate team. Delve deeply into the chosen topic. Fully research both sides of the issue. Prepare logical arguments from both perspectives. Continue to build both cases to clearly define strong positions.

Applying to Major/Career Path

- Talk to people who work in such fields as accounting, finance, sciences, forensics, computer technology, journalism, or other fields that involve data analysis or problem solving to find out what they enjoy most about their work.



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Apply to Job Search

In the Job Search

- Your analytical helps you carefully review job descriptions and investigate more information about the position before applying to make sure it is a rational choice worth pursuing. You are good thinking realistically about the job by asking strategic questions.
- Search for careers that require research, analysis, and data collection. You will excel in a career that emphasizes investigation and facts in decision making.
- Tips: It is important to listen to your ‘gut’ reaction and emotions to potential jobs; often those can be just as informative as facts and data.

In the Interview

- You can highlight your ability to see the big picture and how other factors may affect it.
- In the job interviews you are good at providing evidence of success, concrete examples, and results. You think through all interview questions and present a clear solution; you’re less emotional and stick with the facts.



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- Tips: Don’t get too lost in the facts and information that you forget to demonstrate your personable and engaging qualities.

Apply to Careers

In the New Position

- Your analytical side may tend to be perceived as somewhat aggressive. Instead, offer to use your talents to help others with a final edit before a big project is submitted, or to be a sounding board before decisions are put into action.
- Remember to think through the best delivery of a message for your new team. You want to be engaging as well as detailed. Point out the positive as well as the details of concern.