

Using Your Strengths to Achieve Success: Command

You have a presence. You take control of a situation and make decisions. Your talent is valuable because it helps you positively impact other people. You can help people and entire organizations get through difficult times and make substantive changes in the midst of chaos.



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Applying to Academics

General Academic Life

- Ask probing and pointed questions during discussions and lectures by professors. Realize that your questioning mind accelerates your learning.
- Take charge of your college education. Play the lead role in shaping your degree or certification plan. Refuse to leave these decisions to an advisor.
- Challenge facts presented in textbooks, the media, and class presentations. Critique your instructors and classmates. Search for the truth.

Study Techniques

- Use your command talents to clarify rather than intimidate. Understand that some clear-thinking individuals may become flustered under pressure.
- Give your instructors feedback about what you most enjoy and benefit from in their classes.

Relationships

- Assume the leadership role in groups, especially when you have knowledge, skills, expertise, and experience others lack.

Extracurricular Activities

- Gravitate to organizations in which you can envision yourself being a key decision maker.
- Realize you threaten some people with your forceful style.
- Opt to participate in activities where you must persuade people to embrace your ideas, plans, solutions, or philosophies.

Applying to Major/Career Path

- Leverage your persuasiveness when choosing a career. Talk to people in fields such as law, sales, politics, or theatre about how they use their persuasive talents to succeed.

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Apply to Job Search

In the Job Search

- Your command helps you take charge of the job search and assume accountability for your actions.
- Search for careers that provide leadership positions and a chance to use your diplomatic skills. Avoid careers where you are expected to only be a follower.
- Tips: Form a team of people who appreciate your leadership as you all search for jobs. Be open to other people's suggestions and advice for your job search; their ideas may help along the way.

In the Interview

- You can highlight strong management skills and how they can help unify a team and overcome obstacles.
- In the job interviews you have a straight forward answer and you are not afraid of addressing your thoughts.



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- Tips: Be sure to use your ability to use powerful and inspirational words in your interviews. Ask about opportunities for formal and informal leadership opportunities.

Apply to Careers

In the New Position

- Your command may be received as a bull in a china shop. Harness your need to lead in the beginning. Find a mentor with a similar personality who can offer advice about when you can let your strength shine.
- Remember that you are new to this team and your turn to lead will come soon enough. In the meantime, learn as much as you can about the organizational culture and mission of your company/organization.