

How to develop a successful career

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1. The importance of unleashing your passion

As a human being, there is no better feeling than to serve others through your passion. According to

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, the highest level of human need is self-actualization, the ability to be aware of who you are, what your full potential is. This is also called your passion, and you may be able to use it to serve others.

When you discover and unleash your passion, it will help you and also everyone and everything around you. You are able to live in peace with everyone and everything. When that happens you create meaning, purpose, joy, fulfillment, and happiness into your life, which leads to fulfilling your human needs by reaching your full potential.

In this world, every person and thing has its own purpose, and it is important for each person and thing to fulfill their purpose. If not, the world will be off-

balance. There are many jobs that need to be done in the

world, but if everyone was to do the same job the world could not be peaceful. The main reason why every person is born with different strengths and talents is so each of us can do a different job. If the world only needed one job, everyone would have the same strengths and talents.

When you are not focusing on your passion, you are depriving the world and everyone in it of your services. For example, if your life's purpose was to become a doctor to cure cancer but you are not fulfilling your purpose, then you would be depriving people from being cured of cancer. If other people tried to cure cancer when they did not have the skills and talents that you do, they would create more problems. It does not matter how hard other people try to fulfill your passion. They would never become successful. In order for everyone to get the best services, each person needs to stay focused on their passion. That is why it is your duty to unleash and stay focused on your passion.

2. Why we fail to find our passion

The main reason why many of us fail to find our passion is because we are influenced by external factors. **The first influence comes from our family.** Sometimes we might already know what our passion is, but if our family does not support and believe in us we will start to doubt ourselves. As human beings, we need our family's approval. If our family does not approve of our dream, we might believe that we should not continue to pursue our dream.

As a young child, when you were growing up you may have heard the saying, “your family knows what is best and always looks out for you because they love you.” That may be true, but when it comes to your passion, no one will understand your passion as clearly as you do, If your family does not understand your passion, they cannot support you. Since you have put your trust in your family

since the time you were born, and you believe that they know what is best for you, it may have blinded you from seeing your passion clearly. This may have prevented you from following it.

The second influence comes from other people's successes. Sometimes, when you see others who have meaningful careers, you may also want to develop the same kind of life purpose for yourself. However, it does not matter how hard you try to become successful, like the others. You will not become successful because you do not have the same strengths and talents as they do. If you want to develop the same kind of meaning and purpose in your life, you must discover and follow your own passion. The main reason why other people's lives seem wonderful is because they are focusing on their passion. And you can do the same thing! Even though you might not accomplish the same things as other people when you focus on your

passion, you will still be able to reach the same level of greatness, success, and happiness as them.

The third influence is a lack of understanding of yourself. When you do not understand who you are as a person, such as your strengths and talents, you cannot discover your passion. As a result, you will settle for less or rely on other people and things to help you discover your passion. However, when you do that, you will fail to find your passion.

3. Give yourself permission

Giving yourself permission means you believe in yourself, and you believe that you can become successful. Even though you might not see the complete path to becoming successful, you need to believe in yourself and get started. The path to becoming successful

will become clearer as you take action steps to get there. It is like running a marathon. At the beginning you cannot see the finish line, but as you get closer to the finish line you can see it clearer and clearer. It is the same with your passion. Even though you might not know how your passion will manifest at the beginning, it will become clearer as you take action step to grow it.

When you give yourself permission, you are opening a door for your strengths and talents to grow.

For example, in order for someone to enter into your home, you first have to give them permission by opening the door for them. When you say “yes, I can become successful,” you can begin to see the path a little bit clearer and take the right action steps to grow your strengths and talents.

However, when you say “no, I cannot be successful” to yourself, your mind will shut down and it would be difficult for it to find ways to grow your strengths and talents.

Do not make excuses or find reasons on why you cannot do this or that. The more you make excuses the more you close the door to your passion. Whenever you come up with an excuse or a reason, you put a brick in front of your passion door. The more excuses you come up with, the more bricks will be in front of your passion door. Soon, it would become very difficult for you to see your passion because there are so many bricks blocking the doorway to your passion.

4. It is never too late

No matter how old you are or where you are at in life, it is never too late to start discovering your passion and to begin a new career. **You can become successful at any age because of the unlimited knowledge that is available to you, which make it a lot easier to become successful than in past decades.**

In addition, the fulfillment, joy, sense of purpose and happiness that you will experience from discovering and making your passion a reality are worth waiting to discover. **Your passion is one of the greatest feelings and the best experiences you can ever have in life.**

Yes, it might be difficult to start over, but do not use the excuse of being too old or it being too late to start something new. You would rather start over and enjoy your life than keep on going down the wrong path that brings you suffering. You might only have 30 more years of your life left, but you would rather spend your last 30 years finding out what interests and motivates you than doing something that you already know that will make you unhappy.

There was an article in a newspaper about an old man who did not discover his passion until he reached the age of 80. The old man was so happy that he had

discovered his passion because he enjoyed every moment of his life afterward. Remember, there is no time frame or age limit on being happy!

5. Pay attention to the details in your life

One way to discover what you feel passionate about is to pay attention to the details in your life. For example, which areas of your life are you most successful in? Which areas in your life do you do well in? Which areas of your life are you most satisfied with? For example, do you do well in your health, family, friendships, relationship, or something else?

Once you identify the area that you are most successful in, write down everything you think you would need to do to become successful in that area. For example, if you are most successful in your physical health, write

down what would you need to do to stay physically healthy, such as eating, exercising and sleeping. Or, when it comes to your family, what would you need to do to have the best family relationships?

Then, take one step further and see which specific aspect of your most successful life area you most successful with. For example, if you are good at taking care of your physical health, then which component are you best at? Is it your eating choices and habits, exercising, or your sleeping habit? **The more you narrow down your success topic or niche, the easier it will be to identify your passion.**

6. Situations that bother you and care

Pay attention to how you react to certain situations that bother you, for example is when someone does

something wrong and then you want to give them advice on how to correct it. If you are passionate about the environment and you see someone throw litter on the sidewalk, you will get frustrated and want to tell them right away that they should not litter. You know and understand that having a clean environment is important for your health and happiness. You believe that everyone should do their part in keeping the environment clean. When it comes to your own life, you do not litter. Also, you are willing to pick up other people's litter because you want to make sure the environment is clean and safe for everyone.

Each of us has something that we pay closely attention to that others do not. Even though another person may not care about that issue, you will still try your best to do it correctly because that is what your heart and soul are telling you to do. **When it comes to your passion, small things matter to you because you know and understand that they could make a big difference.** Only

with passion would you would take action, because you really care about it.

7. What get you emotional?

Another way to help discover your passion is to pay attention to things and situations that make you feel emotional. **An emotional response is a sign that you care.** When you hear or read stories that make you feel emotions and you want to do something to improve the situation, which could be a sign of your passion.

In this case, it is important for you to allow your emotions to come out. Do not be afraid to show your emotions. We have grown up in a society that tells us that expressing our emotions is a sign of weakness, but that is not true. **Your emotions are the expression of who you**

are and what you care about. If you do not allow your emotions to manifest, you will have a difficult time

8. What life experience has changed your life?

In our lives each of us will go through some kind of suffering, and that suffering plays a huge part in our passion. For example, one person could suffer from a family problem, and others could suffer from financial or health problems. It is very helpful to examine your life up until now and see what you have experienced that has changed your life for the better. For example, if you suffer from a family problem and overcame it, and become a happier person afterward, then you have a talent for solving family problems. You would not have overcome your family problems if you did not have the talent and strength within you. Most importantly, your attitude has shifted from negative to positive. Your life experience does not

have to be a big or extraordinary, but think of something that has made a positive impact on your life.

In life, people want to learn from other peoples' experiences, and to learn from others who have gone through tough situations. **Your stories can become an inspiration for others to believe in themselves, and to believe that they can overcome the same tough situation as you have.**

9. Who inspire and motivate you in life?

Another way to discover your passion is to pay attention to the people who inspire you to become a better person. For example, when you see someone who inspires you, you also want to do similar things as they do to make a difference in the world. Every time you see them, you want to take action and to make a difference. **It could**

be people who you know in your personal life, or people who you read about in books, or people you hear and see in audios or videos.

After you discover people who inspire you, see what they do that are similar to your strengths and talents. We tend to admire people who have similar strengths and talents as us. For example, if you see a health expert who you admire and want to become like them, what strengths and talents do you have that are similar to theirs? Ask yourself what similar things can you do, like them, that fit your own strengths, talents, and personality.

10. Pay attention to your hobbies

Your hobby could also be your passion if you give it enough attention. Passion originates from enjoyment. Your passion could be a hobby with less

excitement and motivation at the beginning. However, as you focus and work on your hobby, and as it gets stronger daily, it could turn into your passion.

However, if your enjoyment level decreases over time, then that activity might not be your passion. **If you are passionate about something, you will gain more energy, motivation, enjoyment and enthusiasm about that activity as you engage in it over time.**

11. What do you enjoy learning?

Pay attention to what you enjoy learning to help you improve your life. Since your passion starts with you, pay attention to what you like to learn to help you to become a better person. Your passion is who you are, and you apply it to what you want to do for, or with, others.

Since your passion is about helping others and making a difference in society and the world, pay attention to social issues that you enjoy reading and learning about.

You might also find out that the more you learn about an issue, the more passionate you become.

It could be the simplest and smallest things. You might think it is small at the moment because you have not thought about how to grow it, but as you focus and grow your passion it will become a big thing that you can turn it into your career.

Pay attention to what you learn at school, especially in English or other classes where you have to write papers on social issues, and see what your passion might be.

12. Discover your passion style

Your passion style is the way you want to share what you are passionate about. For example, do you want to share your topic in a big group of people or small group? Are you more comfortable sharing your topic in person with one person at a time, or in an online setting?

It is important to discover the right style and work environment for your passion. If you work in the wrong environment, it could be more difficult for your passion to grow.

One of the best ways to discover your style is through taking personality tests. Personality tests will show you what kind of working environment and style you are most suited to. One popular personality test is the C. Jung and Briggs Myers 16-Personalities test. If you take this you will discover if you have a Extravert or Introvert,

Sensing or Intuiting, Thinking or Feeling, or Judging or Perceiving type of personality.

There are many personality tests. It is a good idea to take at least three different tests on different days and at different times because your mood will affect how you choose the answers. For example, when you are in a good mood your answers will be different compared to when you are in a negative mood. When you get the same or similar test results from three tests, you have found your personality type.

You can do a simple online search for personality tests, and there will be plenty for you to choose from. You can also read the book called *Please Understand Me* by David Keirsey to help you understand more about the different personality types and their behaviors.

Caution: Do not get discouraged if you feel that a result from a personality test is the opposite of what you think is

your correct personality type. As a human being, there are a lot of things that we do not know about ourselves. When you discover something different about yourself, it does not mean it is wrong, only that just learned something new about yourself. If you receive an unexpected personality assessment, take a moment and think about it.

13. Discover your passion population

Your population is the age group, nationality, or gender that you want to share your passion with. For example, do you want to work with infants, children, teenagers, young adults, adults or seniors? Do you want to work with females, males, or both? Do you want to work with disabled or not disable people? Do you want to work with veterans or non-veterans? Do you want to work with people who have drug or alcohol problems or no drug and

alcohol problems? The list is endless, and it is important to make sure you choose the right population.

Like the style and environment for your passion, if you work with the wrong population you will also deprive your passion from growing. For example, if you have the knowledge and talent to help children but you work with seniors, it will be difficult for you to share your passion because you do not have the skills needed to work with seniors. Each population needs you to share your passion in a different way.

Here are some questions to ask yourself to help you identify your population:

- Which population allows you to express your passion the easiest?
- Which population do you like to be with the most?

- Which population will you have the most fun with when you share your passion?
- Which population will give you the most respect?
- Which population will see you as a role model?
- Which population would benefit the most from your passion?
- Which population will use your knowledge the quickest?

14. Learn as you go

One successful way to discover your passion is to learn as you go. Whatever strengths and talents you think you have right now, go ahead and apply them immediately to see if they are your passion or not. Sometimes, when you first learn something, it might seem great and you might

think it is your passion—until you take action and figure out that it is not your passion after all.

When you take action, you will discover which strength or talent fits with your passion and then see where you can grow and adjust from there. Sometimes you might have to develop your strengths and talents just a little bit, or sometimes you might have to change completely to discover your passion. The most important thing is to take action in order for you to know what you are passionate about. **The more you apply yourself the more you will understand your strengths and talents.** This will help you go to the core of them to discover your passion.

In addition, sometimes you might know what your passion is but you may doubt yourself because your passion might be weak at the moment or you may just have discovered it. In this case, when you take action by

applying your strengths and talents, the stronger they become the stronger your passion will also become, helping you build your self-belief.

15. Types of jobs

There are many ways that you can apply your strengths, talents, and passion, and you want to know which methods allow them to grow the fastest. For example, you can share your passion through writing books, recording videos, holding workshops, conducting training and seminars, providing one-on-one coaching, or hold focus or support groups, etc. **In this case, you have to discover which ways are the easiest and quickest for you to apply your strengths and talents and give you the best result in your career.**

Each method requires a somewhat different type of mindset and skillset, so it is important to see which method suits you best. For example, if you are a very social person, you might be better at providing workshops or training as compared to providing one-on-one coaching, where you need more interpersonal skills. Or if you are a good writer, then you might enjoy becoming an author and writing books for most of your career. It is best to discover the best two methods for you, and use them to apply your strengths, talents and passion. **You can apply your strengths and talents in all directions, but your two best ways should be used the most often, in 80% of your career activities.**

If you are not sure which two ways are best for you, apply all of them to see which methods are the best and most successful for you.

16. Unlimited possibilities

Sometimes your passion could be the weirdest or the most unfamiliar thing you could ever imagine. Perhaps you could be one of those people who have an uncommon strength, talent, or passion that you are not aware of.

If you have trouble knowing or unleashing your passion, then it might be that you are one of those people with an uncommon passion, and that is okay. Sometimes that is even a better, because when you find out what your passion is, you will have fewer competitors as not many people would take that same career path. This means that more people would come to you for help. That is why it is important for you to be as different and unique as possible; if you have a passion and a career that is similar to others, you need to separate yourself from your competitors.

To help you find your passion, try to read new things, go to different places, talk to different people,

and expand your circle of influence. The more you are exposed to different things and people, the more opportunities you will have to help you discover your passion.

You may be surprised by the kind of passion you discover; it might be something that you have never known about. It may be that you have only been exposed to certain common careers in society, so you have been forced to pursue them. However, the world offers us unlimited possibilities. **In order to discover those unlimited possibilities, you might have to step outside of the norms of society.**

17. Passion checklist

Do you want to know if your current career is your passion or not? This checklist will help you to find out. Answer yes or no to each question.

- **Is it easy and natural for you to do this kind of work?**
- Does your enjoyment get stronger each day?
- **Do you feel excited and energetic whenever you work or share your passion with others?**
- Does your passion help you and other people live better?
- **Do you have a desire to wake up early the next day and go to work using your passion?**
- Do you take often time to discover and learn new knowledge and skills related to your passion?

- **Are you easily able to answer questions about your passion?**
- Do you seek or watch for events or opportunities that are related to your passion?
- Do you feel that your contribution is well respected and appreciated?
- Do you feel proud when you share your passion?
- **Do you feel optimistic about your future?**
- Do you want to be the best at what you do?
- **Are you willing to share your product or service for free?**
- Does your passion come to your mind when you are bored?
- Is thinking about lunch or break times the last thing on your mind?
- Do you get bored when you work on your passion?

The more question you answered “yes”, the closer you are to working using your passion.

18. Passion leads to success

If you pay attention to or ask successful people why they are successful, one common answer many of them will give you is *because they enjoy what they are doing*. When you unleash your passion, your enjoyment level will be so incredible that it will help you to become successful.

Success requires daily work and discipline, and nothing will provide you with more motivation, discipline, and persistence than your passion.

In addition, being successful requires you to constantly learn new things. There will always be new ideas and information in the future that you will have to learn and master in order to keep up with your passion.

However, it would be difficult for you to invest your time in learning and improving on something if you do not enjoy it.

19. Passion and opportunities

As you keep growing your strengths and talents and discover your passion, the right opportunities will manifest for you. Sometimes, you will not need to do anything for opportunities to come to you. For example, when people see how passionate you are about what you are doing, they will present opportunities to you. **The more you work on in discovering and growing your strengths and talents, the faster the right opportunities will come to you.**

However, it will be difficult for you to recognize the right opportunities when you do not know what your strengths, talents, and passion are. It would also be difficult

for others to offer you the right opportunities when they are not clear about what your strengths, talents, and passion are. It would be like trying to get to a specific location without the address. Basically, you would be walking around aimlessly. Today, there are many opportunities out there. If you do not know what your passion is, you are more likely to accept the wrong opportunity. That is why there are many people who go from one job or career to another, but they never seem to find the right opportunity—because they do not know what their passion is. **It is important for you to know what your strengths, talents, and passion are before you go searching for opportunities.** You do not want to wander into the world aimlessly.

20. Passion is Energy

The more you focus and build your strengths, talents, and passion, the higher your energy and enthusiasm levels will be, and they will help you to work ever harder to become successful. And that is the best energy and motivation you can ever get—from your own strengths and talents, within you.

When you are motivated by your passion, nothing will stop you. **The clearer and stronger your passion is, the more you will be willing to do whatever it takes to get things done.** It will not matter how many degrees or how much training you have; they will never carry you as far as a strong passion for doing something. Success is based on constantly taking action, and nothing will motivate you to take action more than your passion. Passion will also help to unleash the knowledge and skills

that are hidden inside of you and help you become successful.

21. Passion is a lifestyle

Since your passion comes from within you, it must start with you. Since your passion is something that you have a great interest in and enjoy doing, you should be applying it in your life. **If you are not applying your passion in your life, then it is not your passion.**

You need to be a role model for others to follow. The best way for others to see and know how to apply something is through real examples, and the best examples will come from you.

You do not want to be the type of person who gives other people advice but does not take your own advice. This contradicts yourself, and your message to others and

the world. Whatever you want to help people with as your career, you must also apply it in your life.

Your career is an expression of who you are as a person. So when people see your career, they will know something about who you are as a person. In this case, you do not need to tell others what kind of person you are; they can just look at your passion and your career. And that is the most powerful way you can tell someone about yourself—through your actions and your career.

Many people would say that their career does not indicate who they are because their job or career does not match with who they are, and that is true. Today, many people fail to develop a career that matches their passion, and that is why their career is not who they are.

When you apply your passion in your life, you are also growing your passion because you are applying it on a daily basis. The more you apply your passion the stronger it

becomes, and this makes it easier for you to apply it and share with others.

22. Passion and failure

When you discover your passion it will be so powerful that you will be less afraid of failure. You will be more willing to take risks, to challenge yourself, and step outside of your comfort zone.

When something opens your heart up to the world and you know that your passion has a purpose to help you, others, and society, then small failures will just be tiny steps toward your main goal. You will realize that failure is just something you have to go through in order to become successful and to make your passion stronger.

In addition, to become successful it is important that you not to be afraid to fail because that is one of the best ways to learn and grow. **As you focus on growing your passion, the less you will be afraid of failure.**

23. Three types of education

You might already know that knowledge is powerful. **The more you know, the more tools and methods you have available to use and help you to become successful in your career and life.** There are three types of education that can help you to learn more.

The first type of education is formal education, where you earn a formal degree or certificate. This is a common method for individuals to gain knowledge.

The second type of education is informal education, where you can learn without a formal program, such as on-the-job experience.

The third type of education is self-education, where you learn on your own.

It is important that you pursue all three types of education because each offers different methods and techniques to help you be creative in coming up with different ways to apply your strengths, talents, and passion.

24. Personal development education

In life, we could spend thousands or even hundreds of thousands of dollars to get an academic education, but we might never think twice about personal development. We are often so focused on trying to get a good academic

education to maybe land a good job that we forget to learn to understand more about ourselves and to discover our strengths and talents. An academic education only teaches you about a certain topic such as math, science, computers, etc., but not about yourself or how to discover your strengths and talents.

Getting an academic education is good or even great, but getting the right academic education for you is what matters. Your academic education should fit with your interests, strengths, and talents and develop your passion. However, if you never really learn about yourself and how to unleash your strengths and talents, you might have trouble knowing what kind of academic education would fit with your passion.

A false belief that many people develop is that they already know who they are, such as their interests,

strengths, and talents, and that this knowledge will come automatically or naturally to them.

However, learning about yourself—including your interests, strengths and talents—is a learning process, like anything else. You have to know how to unleash your strengths and talents and how to look for them within yourself and in your life.

Personal development will help you to understand who you are as a person, such as your strengths and talents, and help you to choose the right academic education.

Personal development will also help you apply your strengths and talents successfully in your own career and life. For example, many of us might get the same academic education but each of us would apply the knowledge differently depending on our strengths, talents, and what our career is.

Since there is a limited amount of formal personal development classes, you may need to become a self-educator to learn more about yourself. Since you are a human being, it is good to start by understanding what human potential is. Learn how life works and the different things you would need to learn and do to help you to become a stronger and better person. The more you understand about human beings, the more you can understand about yourself as individual. This will help you to discover your passion to serve others.

25. Develop an entrepreneurial spirit

An entrepreneurial spirit will help you develop the right mindset and to turn your strengths, talents and passion into a successful career. It will also help you to discipline yourself in the business world.

Entrepreneurship education helps you to learn and understand the different traits of becoming a leader and what it takes to become successful in the business world.

Entrepreneurship education teaches you about creativity and innovation and helps you turn your strengths and talents into successful tangible products and services.

Entrepreneurship education will also help you understand the importance of persistence and self-confidence, helping you move forward when you face obstacles and challenges in the business world.

Most importantly, it will help you to understand that success requires hard work, discipline and determination.

Common traits of successful entrepreneur:

- Taking risks

- Self-confidence
- Seeking opportunities
- Being a lifetime learner
- Being persistent
- Having determination
- Self-belief
- And more

When you learn and understand what you need to learn to develop an entrepreneurial spirit, you can take the appropriate steps to learn the right traits and skills that will help you to become successful.

26. Take calculated risks

Taking calculated risks is one trait of successful entrepreneurs and helps you to learn how to turn your passion into a reality. Becoming successful will require you to do things that you have never done before, which means there is a chance that you could fail. That is why it is called taking risks.

Taking a calculated risk means that you plan out what you are going to do and that you think about all the roadblocks and obstacles that you might encounter. You assess how likely it is that each of these obstacles and roadblocks will happen. Some might be very likely, and others very unlikely. Is there anything you can do to stop an obstacle or roadblock from occurring? Then, come up with solutions for them if they do happen. The better you plan, the greater the chance you will become successful.

Even if there is a chance that you could fail, it is important to take a calculated risk because if it is successful it could change your whole career. You do not want to regret not taking the risk. If you fail, you can always start over or even try something different. Whether you fail or have success, you will know that you took a risk and found out what would happen; you will not have any thoughts of “what if I had done it?” When you have a “what if?” inside your head, it could cause you to doubt yourself and increase your stress. That would make it more difficult for you to stay focused on your passion.

27. Increase your creativity

In order for you to be motivated in your career, you will need to know how to turn your strengths and talents into ideas, products and services. One way to accomplish

this is to become more creative. **Everyone can be creative. Creativity is about doing things in different ways.** The more creative you become, the more often you can make with different tools and discover new knowledge and skills to help you create products and services as part of your passion. There are five ways you can increase your creativity.

First, learn new things. When you learn different things, your mind is exposed to different knowledge, tools and skills and uses them in different ways to add to your strengths and talents.

Second, spend time with different types of people. When you are around different types of people, you will learn different things from them, which means you will have a better chance to find different ways to apply your passion.

Third, do different activities. When you try out different activities they will require you to learn new knowledge and skills, which means you will have more knowledge and skills to apply your strengths and talents.

Fourth, be in environments and settings that allow you to think in your own way and to grow and apply your own strengths and talents.

Fifth, be around people who motivate and inspire you. These people will encourage you to do things that make you happy, things that mostly relate to your strengths and talents. This will make it easier for you to be creative compared to when you are not using your strengths and talents.

28. Act and behave like the person you want to become

Whoever you want to become, research that type of people and act and behave like them. When **you act and behave like them, you will soon become like them.** For example, if you want to become successful, research successful people who you admire and find out what their qualities and behaviors are and then try to duplicate them. What kind of things do they do daily? How do they dress? What do they eat? How do they talk? How do they behave?

Write down a list of their qualities and character traits and begin behaving like them. You can start out with the easiest one first. For example, if it is easiest for you to copy the way that person dresses, then begin by doing that. If that person dresses in a suit and tie, then you will also want to also dress in a suit and tie. However, this does not mean you have to dress in the same colors or outfits as the

other person. You just need to find a suit and tie that matches your personality. Or if that person dresses professionally, then you try to dress professionally in outfits that match your personality.

Another example would be the other person's eating habits. If that person is a healthy eater, then become a healthy eater yourself. However, you want to make sure you are becoming a healthy eater according to your own body and health issues. For example, if that person needs to eat dairy foods to become a healthy person, but you cannot, then you should not be eating dairy foods.

Or, if that person has self-confidence and you do not, you will need to work on your self-confidence. **As you acquire more of the traits and qualities of who you want to become, the faster you will become successful, just like them.**

29. Success and circle of influence

A successful circle of influence will motivate, inspire, and empower you to keep moving forward when you face obstacles and challenges in your career.

Sometimes you will need other people's motivation and inspiration to encourage you, especially at the beginning when your passion is not as strong and it might not provide you with enough motivation to keep on moving forward.

Your circle of influence is the people who you interact with on a regularly basis such as daily, weekly or monthly. However, the people that you see on a daily basis have the most influence on you. Make sure those people are positive and they motivate, inspire and empower you. If they do not, you need to step away from them and build a new circle of influence with people who will empower, motivate and inspire you.

Today, there are countless places and people who have the same aspirations as you do, and they have already accomplished what you want to do. They can motivate and inspire you. You just need to do some research and find those places and people, build connections and network with them, and increase your circle of influence. **The more people you meet, the bigger your circle of influence becomes, the more motivation and inspiration you will have to become successful in your career.** Even if you do not communicate with them directly, being around them once a week or once a month would be better than nothing because their energy and motivation will be transmitted to you.

30. Give up outside standards

In life, words and things mean something different to each person. Whatever you want to achieve depends on

your own definition. For example, if you want to become successful, it depends on your definition of success. When you use other people's definitions of success, it will be difficult for you to achieve because you are trying to achieve what someone else calls success, not what you think success is.

You have to give up these outside standards in order to figure out what success means to you. **It is important to stay focused on your own definition.** Even though each society has a standard for what success is, you do not have to follow that standard if you do not believe in it. It does not matter how many people have the same standard of success. If it does not fit in with your life, then you should not adopt it as yours own.

In this case, in everything you do for your career; make sure that you do it in your own way, in the way that fits who you are as a person. When you are

working toward your own standard of success, it will be easier and more enjoyable for you to accomplish your goals. Sometimes it might take you a while to reach your standard of success, but it will be a pleasant journey.

31. Stay focused on your purpose

On your journey to become successful, sometimes you will hit roadblocks and challenges that might be too big for you at that moment. You could feel overwhelmed, and then start to doubt yourself and want to quit. **Whenever you hit that difficult time, think back to your purpose or reason why you started your career in the first place.** In the beginning you had a very good reason or purpose; otherwise you would not have started on that path.

If you do not have a strong reason or purpose for your passion and career, this is the best time to take some

time and think about it. Figure out what you are passionate about, and your purpose is because your purpose is very important for overcoming your challenges and roadblocks.

Paste your purpose on a vision board to remind and empower you. You can write, draw, and paste words or pictures, or anything that helps to remind you of your purpose. Make sure your purpose is as clear as possible. The clearer your purpose is, the more energy, motivation, and focus you will have to face and overcome your challenges and roadblocks.

Reinforce your purpose often throughout the week to help build your energy and motivation. As your passion becomes stronger, once a while reinforces your purpose to remind yourself what your purpose truly is and also to make sure your actions match your purpose. You do not want to realize one day that you ended up doing things that do not align with your purpose, especially as you keep

on doing more things to grow your passion. It is possible to get sidetracked sometimes.

32. Believe in yourself

Since your passion comes from within you, you have to believe in yourself, and believe that you can become successful because you already have enough knowledge, strength, skill, and talent within you. The main reason why you might not believe that you have those strengths within you is because they might be weak at the moment if those strengths have never been used before.

To help you believe in yourself, the first thing to do is to learn about personal development. When you study personal development you will discover that everything that you need to become successful is already within you. **The more you know about the potential of a**

human being, the more you will believe in yourself.

There are many ways to learn about personal development. You can read books, magazines, journals, or even go online. You can attend workshops and seminars, listen to audios and watch videos about human potential or personal development. There are countless ways available today.

33. Have faith

Having faith is very important in helping you become successful in your career. **Without faith, dreams are not possible.** In addition, faith will help you to develop the patience you need to keep on moving forward when you face obstacles and challenges.

Understand that great things require time to grow. Without faith and patience, you cannot achieve them. For example, do you know that it takes at least four years for a

gardener to water and nourish a bamboo tree in order for him to see a result in the physical world? Even though the gardener does not see physical result during the first four years, it is still important for the gardener to have faith that the bamboo tree will grow into a strong and beautiful tree if it is watered and nourished. However, without faith, the gardener would stop nourishing the tree because he believes that the bamboo tree is not growing.

Your passion needs the same nourishment and discipline through the years before you will start to see the physical benefits of your work. **You must have faith in your daily actions because they will bring you massive benefits later on.** For example, after four years of watering the bamboo tree, the bamboo tree will suddenly grow and bloom very quickly in the physical world. It is the same with your passion. It could easily take two to three years of working on your passion before the physical benefit

develops, but when you start to see the physical benefit, it will grow quickly.

34. Never give up

In life you can never give up on yourself, especially on your passion, because that is your secret to living a fulfilling and happy life. In addition, if you do not fight for your passion, who will? Nothing and no one will come to your rescue. It is you who will make your passion possible.

You deserve to build the career and lifestyle that you want to have, so do not let anything or anyone stop you—not other people or things, roadblocks, setbacks, or failures. You have to be stronger than those things. It does not matter what happens or what you need to learn to overcome your struggles. You have the ability to become

successful. So never give up on yourself and what you want out of life because the process and the destination will be worth the time and journey.

One thing in life that is worth pursuing as long as it takes is to discover your passion and make a life out of it. The energy, motivation, inspiration, fulfillment, happiness, and purpose that are unleashed by your passion will be tremendous. Nothing can compare to your passion. If you can become successful in one thing in life, be successful in discovering your passion, and everything else will fall in order for you. Your passion will be the reason for everything else in your life.

35. About the author ---- Mykim Tran

Mykim Tran is a personal transformation expert, speaker, educator, life coach, and author. She seeks to help transform individuals to be the best version of themselves and in reaching their full potential. Mykim is a national best-selling author of *Self-Esteem Building: How to live your life as YOU* and other self-help books on life and happiness topics such as self-confidence, goal setting, stress management, health and wellness, and career development. Mykim is the founder and CEO of Wake-Up Foundation, a non-profit agency, in transforming individuals to become social change agents to promote stronger communities. Mykim is a certified Recovery Coach. She received her bachelor's degree in Media Communications from California State University of Sacramento, and her master's degree in Psychology at Walden University. She is currently a PhD student at

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