Secondary Interest Inventory

for Identifying Strengths and Interests

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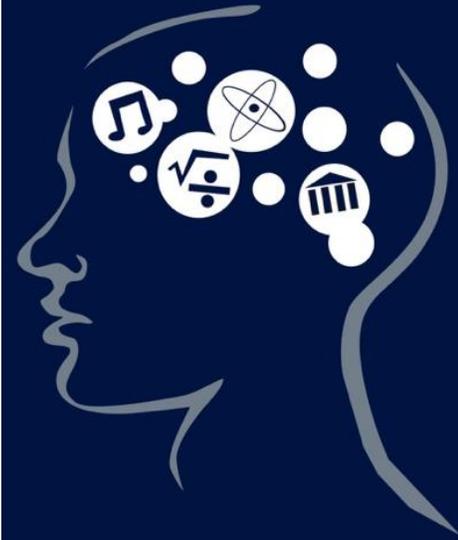   *Thomas P. Hebert, Ph.D.*
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Basic Biographic Questions

1. Currently, what are your three favorite subjects?

2. Currently, what are your favorite topics to study?

3. Do you currently belong to any clubs/organizations in school? (explain/describe)

4. Do you currently belong to any clubs/organizations out of school? (explain/describe)

5. Do you currently play any sports or belong to a sports team? (explain/describe)

6. What are your favorite traditions, holidays, or celebrations?

7. Do you belong to any political action/involvement groups?

Top 3–5

1. The Science Department is hosting a science summit with guest speakers who are experts in their fields of study. What are the top 3–5 presentations you would like to attend? Rank your choices 1, 2, or 3 in order of preference.

_____ Health and Medicine

_____ Vaccinations and Epidemics

_____ Nutrition and Exercise

_____ Reproduction and Sexuality

_____ Space Exploration/Astronomy

_____ Mechanical Engineering – Automobiles

_____ Mechanical Engineering – Weaponry

_____ The Science of Cosmetics

_____ Solar, Mechanical, Wind, and Fossil Fuel Energies

_____ Genetic Engineering

_____ Endangered Species

_____ Forensic Science/Medicine

_____ Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

_____ Farming and Agriculture

_____ Genetically Modified Foods

_____ Weather Patterns and Natural Disasters

_____ Environmental Issues – Pollution

_____ Environmental Issues – Global Warming and Climate Change

2. You have an opportunity to contribute to an online newspaper. Every day, people from all over the world will submit articles to be posted for followers and subscribers. What column would you like to be write?
Rank your choices 1, 2, or 3 in order of preference.

____ Cooking and Baking   ____ Celebrity Gossip Columns

____ Restaurant Reviews   ____ Book Reviews

____ Nutrition   ____ Crosswords, Sudoku, Math Puzzles

____ Travel   ____ Interior Design/Décor

____ Fashion   ____ TV/Movie Reviews

____ Local Politics   ____ Music/Concert Review

____ National Politics   ____ Cartoons/Jokes

____ International Politics   ____ Technology

____ Science and Medicine   ____ Cars/Motorcycles/Automobiles

3. You have been asked to participate in the production of a major film. You can decide both what the film is about and your role in the production of the film.

a. What type of film would this be? List your top 3 choices for the type of film.

☐ Documentary   ☐ Science Fiction/Fantasy

☐ Musical   ☐ Comedy

☐ Biography   ☐ Romantic Comedy

☐ Mystery/Detective   ☐ Drama

☐ Horror   ☐ Intended for Teenagers

☐ Animated (Pixar, Cartoon, CG)   ☐ War-Related (Anti-War) Drama

☐ Superhero   ☐ Action-Packed

☐ Crime/Gang Drama   ☐ Zombie

b. What role do you want in completing the film?

- [ ] Director
- [ ] Screen Writer
- [ ] Script/Set Supervisor
- [ ] Food and Beverage Supplier
- [ ] Costume/Make Up Artist
- [ ] Set Design
- [ ] Set Construction
- [ ] Lighting Specialist
- [ ] Casting Director

- [ ] Camera Operator
- [ ] Sound Effects
- [ ] Special Effects (CG)
- [ ] Stage Manger
- [ ] Stage Crew
- [ ] Lead Actor
- [ ] Extra
- [ ] Stunt Person
- [ ] Location Scout

4. Being a teenager is tricky as you face a lot of issues that you don't always have time to explore or discuss.

a. What social issues would you like to be able to learn more about? Select your top 3–5 options, ranking your choices 1, 2, or 3 in order of preference.

- ____ Human Trafficking
- ____ Immigration/Asylum Seekers, Refugees
- ____ Public Health Care
- ____ Tuition-Free College/University
- ____ Plastic Consumption and Waste
- ____ Gun Violence (Domestic, School Shootings)
- ____ Terrorism
- ____ Legalized Marijuana
- ____ Voter Restriction
- ____ HIV/AIDS
- ____ Access to Clean Drinking Water
- ____ Prison Industrial Complex Mass Incarceration

- ____ LGBTQ Rights, Issues, and Identity
- ____ Rights, Issues, and Identity about Disabilities
- ____ Mental Health Rights, Issues, and Identity
- ____ Race, Racism, Stereotypes, and Ethnocentrism
- ____ Poverty, Wage Gaps, and Income Inequality
- ____ Environmental Sustainability
- ____ Vegetarianism/Veganism
- ____ Access to Health Care/Clinics
- ____ Abortion/Reproductive Rights Bullying (Cyber Bullying In-School Bullying)

b. What issues, if any, would you like to pursue in community-action groups?

- [ ] Human Trafficking
- [ ] Immigration/Asylum Seekers, Refugees
- [ ] Public Health Care
- [ ] Tuition-Free College/University
- [ ] Gun Violence (Domestic, School Shootings)
- [ ] Terrorism
- [ ] Legalized Marijuana
- [ ] Voter Restriction
- [ ] HIV/AIDS
- [ ] Access to Clean Drinking Water
- [ ] Prison Industrial Complex Mass Incarceration
- [ ] Abortion/Reproductive Rights

- [ ] Bullying (Cyber Bullying In-School Bullying)
- [ ] LGBTQ Rights, Issues, and Identity
- [ ] Handicapped Rights, Issues, and Identity
- [ ] Plastic Consumption and Waste
- [ ] Mental Health Rights, Issues, and Identity
- [ ] Race, Racism, Stereotypes, and Ethnocentrism
- [ ] Poverty, Wage Gaps, and Income Inequality
- [ ] Environmental Sustainability
- [ ] Vegetarianism/Veganism
- [ ] Access to Health Care/Clinics

Open Ended (List)

1. You've been asked to organize an afterschool event for other high school students. You have an unlimited budget and very few requirements. However, you have to arrange 3 guest appearances. Who are your top 3 presenters/speakers/performers? What do they do/what are they known for?

a.

b.

c.

2. You are only allowed to take 5 pictures on your next trip/vacation. What are they of? Why?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

3. Our school is putting together a time capsule to be opened in 200 years. The time capsule will teach future generations what it was like to be alive right now. What 3 personal possessions do you include in your time capsule that represent who you are?

a.

b.

c.

4. A mentorship program is being arranged at your school to allow you to work with a person in the community that is a professional in an occupation/job you may be interested in. What are 3 occupations that you would like to explore with a mentor?

a.

b.

c.

5. What are your 3 favorite books? Briefly explain what these books are about.

   a.

   b.

   c.

6. What social media websites do you use?

   a.

   b.

   c.

7. What are the top 3 blogs/websites (that are not social media related) do you spend the most free time using?

   a.

   b.

   c.

8. What are your 3 TV favorite shows/series?

   a.

   b.

   c.

9. What are your 3 favorite movies?

   a.

   b.

   c.

10. What are your 3 favorite weekend activities (even if you do not do these regularly)? Or, on your weekends what do you wish you had more time to do?

   a.

   b.

   c.

Open Ended (Explain)

1. You are tired of all the course offerings at your school. Your principal has asked for student input to identify new course selections/offerings.

   a. You can develop and design the perfect course for people who have similar interests as you. What would the course be called? What is taught in this class?

   b. You can modify a class that already exists. What class would you change? What do you change about it?

2. You're a photographer creating a "themed" Instagram page. What is the theme of the account?

3. If you could have dinner with any 2 people you admire – past or present, alive or dead – who would it be? Why did you choose these people? What one question would you ask?

Person a.

Question:

Person b.

Question:

4. If given the opportunity to FaceTime/Skype/Video Chat with anybody alive today for one hour, who would you connect with? Why?

5. If you were to host a TED Talks, what would your presentation be about?

6. If you were to create/edit one Wikipedia entry, what would it be about?

7. Imagine it is possible to learn a foreign language instantly. What top 2 languages would you like to instantly be able to speak? Why?

Activity	I ALREADY Do This		I Do NOT Do This	
	I would like to learn more about this	I'm okay with my knowledge on this topic	I would be interested in trying this	I am not interested in trying this
Submitting an original written work for publication	☐	☐	☐	☐
Writing a fan-fiction on a blog	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creating a video/computer game	☐	☐	☐	☐
Repairing a car, stereo, or household appliance	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creating an electric tool or machine	☐	☐	☐	☐
Being a professional/popular Instagram photographer	☐	☐	☐	☐
Joining an astronomy or night time observation club	☐	☐	☐	☐
Studying and/or investing in the stock market	☐	☐	☐	☐
Starting/joining a band or musical group	☐	☐	☐	☐
Joining a theatrical group	☐	☐	☐	☐
Starting a business	☐	☐	☐	☐
Painting, sketching, or drawing people, places, and objects	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creating ceramics (by hand or wheel)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Designing tattoos	☐	☐	☐	☐
Working on a political campaign	☐	☐	☐	☐

Activity	I ALREADY Do This		I Do NOT Do This	
	I would like to learn more about this	I'm okay with my knowledge on this topic	I would be interested in trying this	I am not interested in trying this
Creating/designing clothing, jewelry, or cosmetics	☐	☐	☐	☐
Designing furniture/interior decorating	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creating handicrafts from metals, fabrics, beads, leathers, etc.	☐	☐	☐	☐
Designing and/or constructing buildings	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cultivating an organic garden or farm	☐	☐	☐	☐
Volunteering at a charitable organization	☐	☐	☐	☐
Building or designing a vehicle (model aircraft, rocket, hot air balloon, go-cart)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Designing a physical fitness routine/ program for yourself or others	☐	☐	☐	☐
Learning another language	☐	☐	☐	☐
Learning to code	☐	☐	☐	☐
Programming a computer	☐	☐	☐	☐
Learning to play an instrument	☐	☐	☐	☐