

Characteristics of Creative People

SURVEY

Read the following statements and rate accordingly:

Highly creative individuals may:	Always like me	Mostly like me	Sometimes like me	Never like me
display a great deal of curiosity about many things				
constantly ask questions about anything and everything				
have broad interests in many unrelated areas				
may devise collections based on unusual things and interests				
generate a large number of ideas or solutions to problems and questions				
often offer unusual, unique or clever responses				
be uninhibited in expressions of opinion; are sometimes radical and spirited in disagreement				
be unusually tenacious or persistent – fixating on an idea or project				
be willing to take risks; are often described as 'high risk taker', adventurous or speculative				
display a good deal of intellectual playfulness; may frequently be caught fantasizing, day dreaming or imagining				
manipulate ideas by easily changing, elaborating, adapting, improving or modifying the original idea or the ideas of others				
display keen sense of humour and see humour in situations that may not appear to be humorous to others. Sometimes their humour may appear bizarre, inappropriate and irreverent to others				
be unusually aware of his or her impulses and are more open to the irrational within themselves				
freely display opposite gender characteristics – freer expression of feminine interests in males, greater than usual amount of independence on females				
exhibit heightened emotional sensitivity. May be very sensitive to beauty and visibly moved by aesthetic experiences				
be frequently perceived as nonconforming.				

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Highly creative individuals may:	Always like me	Mostly like me	Sometimes like me	Never like me
accept disordered or chaotic environments or situations				
not be interested in details				
be described by others as individualistic and do not fear being classified as 'different'				
criticise constructively and are unwilling to accept authoritarian pronouncements without overly critical self-examination				
have a high tolerance for complexity, disorganisation, and asymmetry. They enjoy the challenge of struggling through chaos and moving towards a resolution and synthesis				
value good questions because they lead to discoveries and creative solutions and good answers				
have a strong tendency to think in opposites or contraries. They often think in opposites or contraries, metaphors and analogies and challenge assumptions as a matter of course.				
be willing to accept failure as a part of the creative quest. They exhibit the ability to learn from their failures. By working at the edge of their competence, where the possibility of failure lurks, mental risk takers are more likely to produce creative results.				
scrutinise and judge their projects and actively seek criticism, but often discount the opinions of those who disagree with them				
be intrinsically motivated - their catalysts being the enjoyment, satisfaction and the challenge of the work itself.				
be more concerned with meanings and implications than with facts and small details				
sustain high energy levels and focus this energy during intense work periods				
live with anxiety and pay the potential costs of doing so				

It is not the intention of this survey to give any definitive answers regarding creative ability. Having completed it, please consider the following:

What is your immediate response to your survey results?

Were you surprised by anything in the survey? If YES explain what and why.

Are there any actions you need to take flowing from the results of the survey?

What are the "pay-offs" you get from being the creative person you are?

What are the "costs" you pay for being the creative person you are?

What habits / behaviours do you need to change to minimise or eliminate the "costs" you pay for being the creative person you are?

Transfer the most important habits that you need to change to the worksheet that follows and commit to changing them.

We would love to hear from you. Email wayne@future-edge.co.nz.

Developing creativity success habits

Copy as many worksheets as required

HABIT THAT IS HOLDING ME BACK

Unproductive habit:

Consequences:

HABIT THAT WOULD MOVE ME FORWARD

Desired new habit:

Consequences:

KICK-START ACTIONS

1.

2.

3.

START DATE:

AFFIRMATION / RESOURCES TO SUPPORT MY NEW HABIT