

Applying Context Talents in Careers

- Talk to your mentor and to those in jobs that interest you. Ask them to tell you about their job searches. What led them to choose their particular careers?
- Read as much as you can about career planning, so you'll understand the process from beginning to end. That understanding of the total experience will give you the security to consider a variety of options.
- You recognize that past behavior is often the best predictor of future behavior. Spend some time thinking about your own past choices and how they might be connected to good possibilities for your future.
- Your Context talents are likely to flourish in environments that allow you to explore how things came to be the way they are.
- Collegial environments with strong traditions, rituals, and a sense of organizational history will often bring out your best efforts.
- Interview archeologists, historians, museum curators, humanities professors, or antique appraisers about their talents and what they love about their work.

Applying Context Talents in Academics

- Associate with individuals and groups that specialize in the study of specific events, personalities, and periods in history.
- Create a historical frame of reference for whatever you study. Research political, natural, military, and religious events of that period. Delve into the lives of contemporary leaders, scientists, artists, explorers, and philosophers.
- Supplement required reading for classes by locating other credible sources of information. Don't let your thinking be limited to the professor's syllabus.
- Understand that you are attracted to institutions of learning with a rich history and a long tradition.
- Seek opportunities to study with reputable, recognized, and knowledgeable historians who also are master teachers.
- Attend lecture series in which leading figures of your time speak about their experiences in global leadership, diplomacy, military affairs, business, science, or the arts. Prepare questions to pose during the Q&A sessions or book signings.

