

Career Counselling

By Andy Heath



1.

“Welcome to your first day of uni
and thanks for attending
this compulsory workshop.

Now please quiet down
while I facilitate discussion.

“Basically *I* have the best job in the world:
to help *you* find *your* dream job.

Imagine your life is a track:
where will your train stop?

Imagine your life is a rack:
when will your sinews pop?

“Now,

“Here is a questionnaire,
scaled from one to five.

You may shade the lozenge beneath one number per question
with the 2B pencils provided.

There are no wrong answers,
so think carefully.

Do not stray beyond the borders of the lozenge.”

*You enjoy exploring unrealistic yet intriguing ideas
and have constructed a cold fusion cell in your shed.*

*If your friend is sad about something, your first response
is to question the semantic ontology of "happiness."*

*At parties and similar events, you can usually be found
in the kitchen, drunker than other people on booze they brought.*

Congratulations, you are an ENTj/Pisces: The Commander!

Have you considered working as a livestock auctioneer, a chat show host,
or selling brushes door-to-door?

2.

After graduation,
take one bag and a good friend
to a sprawl of no fewer than six million people.
You may have to fly.

Huddle in a brick terrace
or a menhir of cement
with weirdoes, users, welfare abusers.

Work in a shop or bar with people whose lives started far from your own.

Walk a tightrope of depression and elation
drawn taut over a canyon of addiction,
till you set foot upon yourself.*

* NB we are unable to accept responsibility for those who die in the fury of trying.

Image: "[graduation caps](#)" (CC BY 2.0) by [j.o.h.n. walker](#)