

Getting Serious

for Janet Pilkington

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Hi Janet

Your footprint answers have placed you in the analytical, calculator quadrant of learning. This means that you like things to make sense and you enjoy tackling complex problems. You are organised and reflective.

Strengths: Being theoretical usually means that you approach new learning logically, this means that you will often try rationally to get to the root of a problem and fit new data into your plan. You are inquisitive and have a questioning approach.

Areas to develop: Work on your imaginative thinking skills, personal reflection, showing your feelings and getting along with others. Also learn to take criticism in a positive way.

Problem solving skills: Being supportive and analytical, your best strategy will be to make sure that you have a clear purpose and then work logically to a conclusion. Remember to ask for supporting information if you need it. One strategy which may help is to speak your ideas into a recorder and then play it back later to check for mistakes.

What stresses you out: Poor standards; you often see people wasting time and handing in sloppy work; be true to your own standards and abilities. Ask for clear guidelines but don't be afraid to take a chance now and again, for true creativity involves risk!

Anti-stress strategy: Learn to relax and not be too picky. Accept that your best can be good enough. Take more notice of how people feel and have confidence in your own abilities. As examinations approach and choices need to be made, you have to become more involved. Spend time thinking about your strengths and weaknesses; research subjects and careers which interest you. This will help to make your choices smarter. As well as knowing your academic strengths, understanding your style is very important.

Make good use of all the resources that are available; ask someone that you trust e.g. parents, tutors, teachers and your friends for advice and any practical help you need, particularly if something is causing you stress. Asking for help shows maturity and improves your chances of success.

What you have to offer: You should be recognised for your ability to design, build and monitor systems to quality standards of the highest order. Secondly, your natural tact, sincerity and ability to deliver technical solutions will be of great value.

