IN THE LOOP OF A FLOURISHING CAREER

Chapter 10

Resource Pack

On the following pages you will find the exercises from Chapter 10 of the book In the Loop of a Flourishing Career by Katherine Street

Your Personal Perspective

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Before you have a live job to apply for prepare your response for your personal perspective (Step 2 in the YESMe). Start by gathering lots of job adverts, position descriptions, selection criteria or other documentation about jobs similar to the type you will apply for. Read through this documentation and pick out the key topics employers are looking for (some common ones are listed below). Separate out the top 10 topics employers in your field are looking for. Reflect on each topic using the following questions and make 5 dot points about your perspective on the topic. Turn these dot points into an opening paragraph.

TOPIC:	
What do you believe about	
this topic?	
What is your opinion of this	
topic?	
How does this topic align with	
your own values?	
How do you think this topic	
really adds value in the world	
(or your industry)?	
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What encourages you about	
this topic?	
What emerging trends are	
happening in this topic and	
what do you like about them?	

Common Topics:

Adaptability, analysis, achieve results, change, creativity, communication, confidentiality, conflict resolution, customer service, data, empathy, goal achievement, improvement, initiative, innovation, interpersonal, leadership, learning, liaise, make decisions, motivated, negotiating, network, organise, people management, persuading, planning, prioritise, problem solving, project management, responsibility, resource management, resilience, sensitivity, strategic thinking, systems, team work, technology, writing

The Employer Perspective

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When you have an application to write it can be useful to make some dot points about the needs the employer has in relation to each of the core topics (see some common ones below) they are asking you to address in their selection criteria. Why do they need the person in the role to be good at the topics they are asking about? Reflect on the following questions and consider the needs of management, customers and co-workers.

TOPIC:	
If this topic were not being	
done well what opportunities	
might be missed?	
What flow on implications	
might there be of this topic not	
being done well?	
How could real people get hurt	
if this topic is not done well?	
How could the reputation of	
the organisation be damaged?	
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Common Topics:

Adaptability, analysis, achieve results, change, creativity, communication, confidentiality, conflict resolution, customer service, data, empathy, goal achievement, improvement, initiative, innovation, interpersonal, leadership, learning, liaise, make decisions, motivated, negotiating, network, organise, people management, persuading, planning, prioritise, problem solving, project management, responsibility, resource management, resilience, sensitivity, strategic thinking, systems, team work, technology, writing

Write a Selection Criteria

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Use the following steps to write a first draft of a selection criterion.

Step l	What is the topic:
Step 2	What is Your Perspective on the topic?
Step 3	What is the Employer's Perspective on the topic? List 5 dot points:
Step 4	From your achievement list choose the best story for the topic:
	Context: Who, when, where, dilemma
	Action: What you did. How you did it. Why you did it that way.
	Result: Successes and/or learning
Step 5	The ideas, innovations and ways of supporting yourself that you will bring to the role
Step 6	Double check everything is covered.

Achievement Matching

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Take the Achievement List you developed previously and analyse each achievement for the capacity it has to be used as a story to illustrate your capacities against each topic an employer might be interested in. In the matrix below list the topics on the top axis and your achievements on the side axis. Tick the topic box that could be displayed through each achievement. Often achievements can be used for a number of topics.

ACHIEVEMENT	TOPIC						