

## Developing Your Strength

# Maximizer

The genius of your Maximizer talent starts with what you can see in people. You can see the strengths and talents, the potentials and the capabilities, and you can see the emerging abilities within people even before they can see them. But this is only the beginning of the genius of your Maximizer talent. You can literally see what people could be like if they were to fully develop and maximize the talents, potential and emerging abilities within them. This results in you having an incredible impact in the lives of others. As you hold up pictures and mirrors of what you see in others, you help them form new concepts of themselves that build hope and motivation to achieve and be what they have the capacity to be. Moreover, you are a great “coach” in moving people to their greatest potential and in moving people into roles where their potential can be lived out.

Adapted from “The Genius and Beauty found within The Clifton StrengthsFinder Themes of Talent,” by Edward C. Anderson

## Applying Maximizer Talents in Careers

- Talk to your career counselor about the career planning process. You will value their wisdom and expertise as you make decisions.
- Interview people who are currently among the "best of the best" in jobs that interest you. Ask them what they find most rewarding about their work. Shadow them to see what they really do day in and day out. Notice the talents, knowledge, and skills that excellence in those roles requires.
- You are someone for whom "talent talk" comes naturally — it's the way you see the world as you capitalize on your own and others' talents. Environments that encourage "best practices" and in which you can work collaboratively with others to continually improve the organization will allow your Maximizer talents to flourish.
- Choose a workplace that is known for being among the best in its field. Workplaces with lesser standards probably would frustrate you.
- Find work in which you can help others see their talents and how their talents make a difference.
- Interview business leaders and athletic or executive coaches, and ask what they find most rewarding about their work. Find out how they bring out the best in others.

Adapted from StrengthsQuest website: [www.strengthsquest.com](http://www.strengthsquest.com)

## Career Plan of Action:

# **Applying Maximizer Talents in Academics**

## **General Academic Life**

- Consider specialized programs that allow you to refine your talents.
- Find mentors — and be one.
- Study success. Find out what made famous scientists, historic figures, and great innovators successful. The greatest outcome of college can be your insights into what makes people, societies, cultures, and groups successful.
- Select a transfer college or university that offers leadership opportunities in which you can maximize the talents of others.

## **Study Techniques**

- Read wherever you feel most comfortable — the library, the coffee shop, or home.
- Discover your best way to learn, and stick to it.
- Determine ways to manage any weaknesses in your study habits.
- Study the most of what you do the best.

## **Relationships**

- Make a point of helping your friends use their greatest talents to the fullest.
- Help your friends recognize the talents and strengths in others.
- Associate with people who appreciate your talents as well as their own.
- Meet regularly with mentors and role models for insight, advice, and inspiration.

## **Class Selection**

- Pick elective courses that will provide opportunities to develop new strengths and hone your existing strengths.
- Choose your major on the basis of your greatest talents and your personal mission. In what area of study do you have the greatest potential for strengths?
- Seek classes taught by professors whose teaching styles best match the way you learn.

## **Extracurricular Activities**

- Find an internship or a job in which you can apply your greatest talents and your existing strengths.
- Involve yourself in mentoring or tutoring.
- Join organizations that have missions related to development.

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## **Academic Plan of Action:**
