

## Teaching notes

**Audience:** Year 9 students.

**Context:** A lesson on students' career aspirations, in line with the government's focus on NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training).

**Learning objectives:**

- Consider my strengths and weaknesses in relation to my future career.
- Set myself two career goals to achieve by a month from now.

Students analyse their personal attributes and skills. The intention is to help students consider their strengths and weaknesses when choosing their careers, options and wider future paths. They can record their learning outcomes on the sheet provided.

**Resources:**

- internet access in class
- PowerPoint, downloadable from [www.teachitcitizenship.co.uk](http://www.teachitcitizenship.co.uk) (search for 22669)
- learning outcomes sheet (p.3 below)
- completed learning outcomes sheet as an example (p.4 below).

### Slide 1 - Settler and learning objectives

Display this slide on the board whilst taking the register.

### Slide 2 - National Careers Advice Service

Students research the answers to the questions via the 'Young People' tab of the National Careers Advice Service website:

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/youngpeople/Pages/YoungpeopleRealLifestories.aspx>

### Slide 3 - NEET

The questions can be answered in writing or orally in small groups.

NEET = Not in Education, Employment or Training.

### Slide 4 - Personal qualities

Hand out the learning outcomes sheet (from p.3 below) and ask students to fill in the relevant section for each of slides 4-7.

For those who need prompting on personal qualities, encourage them to consider: sports commitments; supporting family members; membership of clubs/organisations (School Council, Scouts, Mosque, etc.); achievement in other lessons; competitions entered; countries visited ...

### Slide 5 - Skills

All the skills listed could be relevant to some jobs! Point out that some are likely to be relevant to a wide range of workplaces (e.g. 'getting on with people' or 'learning from my mistakes').

### Slide 6 - Proving your qualities and skills

Ask students to write the beginnings and endings of their four chosen statements in their books.

Highlight the need to be specific. For example, 'I help my mum at home' is not adequate. 'I helped my mum distribute 2,000 flyers last month for her personal trainer business' provides the appropriate level of detail.

### Slide 7 - Something to improve on / achieve

Prompt questions could include:

1. What negative words have teachers used to describe your personality? For example, these might include: late; forgetful; disorganised; impatient ...
2. What negative words have your friends/family/boyfriend/girlfriend used to describe your personality?
3. Other than what you have seen online etc., do you have any personal experience of the industry/industries you might like to work in? For example, if you want to be a politician, have you ever written to your MP?
4. What have you done so far to make sure that you will stand out from other people your age applying for the same courses/jobs in the future?

**Learning outcomes**

<p><b>Qualities:</b></p> <p>1. ....</p> <p>2. ....</p> <p>3. ....</p> <p>4. ....</p> <p>5. ....</p> <p>6. ....</p>	<p><b>Skills:</b></p> <p>1. ....</p> <p>2. ....</p> <p>3. ....</p> <p>4. ....</p> <p>5. ....</p> <p>6. ....</p>
<p><b>Something to improve on / achieve:</b></p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	
<p><b>Difficulties to overcome:</b></p> <p>1. ....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>2. ....</p> <p>.....</p>	
<p><b>Actions to take in the next month:</b></p> <p>1. ....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>2. ....</p> <p>.....</p>	
<p><b>People/organisations who could help me (and how):</b></p> <p>1. ....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>2. ....</p> <p>.....</p>	

**Learning outcomes - example**

<p><b>Qualities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>approachable</i></li> <li>2. <i>logical</i></li> <li>3. <i>loyal</i></li> <li>4. <i>physically fit</i></li> <li>5. <i>punctual</i></li> <li>6. <i>trustworthy</i></li> </ol>	<p><b>Skills:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>working with numbers</i></li> <li>2. <i>using technology</i></li> <li>3. <i>playing sports</i></li> <li>4. <i>following instructions</i></li> <li>5. <i>remaining positive when things go wrong</i></li> <li>6. ....</li> </ol>
<p><b>Something to improve on / achieve:</b></p> <p><i>I want to be an engineer, but I need to do better in Maths.</i></p> <p>.....</p>	
<p><b>Difficulties to overcome:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>I don't put much effort into Maths homework.</i></li> <li>.....</li> <li>2. <i>I don't know anyone who's an engineer, so I can't think of anyone in the industry to talk to e.g. during the school holidays.</i></li> </ol>	
<p><b>Actions to take in the next month:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Ask my stepdad to write a note to my Maths teacher tonight, asking for evidence of all the Maths homework I'm set.</i></li> <li>2. <i>Ring the National Careers Advice Service and get their advice on how I could get hands-on experience of what local engineers do.</i></li> </ol>	
<p><b>People/organisations who could help me (and how):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>My stepdad.</i></li> <li><i>(See above.)</i></li> <li>2. <i>The National Careers Advice Service.</i></li> <li><i>(See above.)</i></li> </ol>	