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Lesson 7: Developing and Empowering People
3/5/2007

Class Summary:

This class, led by Mithun, was a good change of pace as we discussed the temperament personality results from the online quiz. The room was split into four sections representative of the four personality types- Artisans, Guardians, Idealists, and Realists. We then formed groups based on our quiz results, and discussed our similarities. I fell in the Guardian category, which has the highest frequency in today's population, especially when it comes to engineers. Only Mithun identified himself as an Idealist, although some of the Realists expressed idealist viewpoints.

Response:

It was interesting to see the similarities within the Guardian group when it came to things like organization, timeliness, and mediator skills. While we all shared these characteristics, I still identified with many of the traits of an Idealist, as I can sometimes be very future-oriented (particularly right now). This, however, is not necessarily a bad thing, as it is good to have a mixture of positive qualities from the respective categories in order to be a successful leader in the future. Overall, however, the party scenario made it clear that I am Guardian- beer pong is my forte.

Analysis:

I took the comprehensive personality test, which breaks people down into one of sixteen categories, a few years ago. I ended up as an ISTJ, which falls under the Guardian type. Basically, this is saying that I rely predominantly on introverted sensing, and secondarily on extroverted intuition. This is a good mixture for my line of work as a construction manager, but I need to exercise my extraverted skills more in order to be as successful as I hope to be. Regardless, I am confident in my personality type with respect to my profession as my college career winds down. My Keirsey Temperament essay will focus on the issues that may arise during a future project as a result of conflicting personality types and managerial style.

Sound-bite:

"It is necessary to understand other personalities' strengths and weaknesses as much as it is to understand your own."

