What career would you like?

Most people, sooner or later, need a job – after all, bills have to be paid. Considering that it is usually the better part of one's life-time that is spent at work, it really makes a difference if you like your job. What about a career in science? Would that suit you?

Let's make a simple experiment. Below you will find two questions that are typically asked in a job interview:

1) What do you expect from your work?; and 2) what can you bring to the team and organisation you want to work for? Make your choice, and then let's see what scientists say about their career: what it takes to be a scientist and what a career in science can offer you.

1 What do you expect from your career?

What would you like to do and what is important to you? In the list below, please indicate what you expect from your career. When you have marked all relevant aspects of your career, please go over the list again and choose the **3 aspects** that are the most important to you. Mark them, e.g. by circling them or with a second cross.

1)___ Challenging tasks

2)___ Continuously learning something new

3)___ High salary

4)___ For my job to be well-reputed and for me to be recognised as a good employee

5)___ Flexibility in organizing your work and working hours

6)___ Making a difference, contributing to society

7)___ Time for family and friends

8)___ I want a precise idea of what needs to be done

9)___ Travelling the world

10)__ A fast career path to more responsibility and a higher salary

11)__ A relaxed working atmosphere

12)__ Save the world – or, at least, make it a better place

13)__ Freedom to realize my ideas

14)__ Job stability and security

15)__ Work stops when I leave the office

2 What can you offer?

What are you good at? What describes you well? Please mark your strengths below, then go over it again and mark your **3 main strengths** with a second cross (or circle them).

1)___ Creativity

2)___ Patience and persistence

3)___ Maths skills

4)___ English skills

5)___ Taking initiative

6)___ Time management and setting priorities

7)___ Teamwork

8)___ Taking responsibility

9)___ Taking risk

10)__ Self-motivation

11)__ Analytical skills and fast perception

12)__ Open-mindedness

13)__ Critical thinking

14)__ Communication skills (writing, presentation, ..)

15)__ Passion

16)__ Working independently

17)__ International mobility

18)__ Curiosity and playfulness

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3 For the statistics...

Please write here the numbers of the 3 answers you have chosen above as the most important for you:

1) "What do I expect?" ___, ___, ___ | 2) "What can I offer?" ___, ___, ___ | I am a woman/man.

4 Let's count and see ...

... if there is any scientific evidence that men and women have different career expectations and abilities. Cut off the bottom of this sheet and give it to your teacher. Your teacher will then read out the numbers and you can count how often each answer was chosen by women and men, respectively.

Question 1 "What do you expect from your career?"

	women	men		women	men		women	men
1			6			11		
2			7			12		
3			8			13		
4			9			14		
5			10			15		

Question 2 "What can you offer?"

	women	men		women	men		women	men
1			7			13		
2			8			14		
3			9			15		
4			10			16		
5			11			17		
6			12			18		