What makes you employable?

Let's get started

with a warm-up

Discuss the questions below:

→ What does employability mean to you?

→ Which of the aspects given below are connected to employability in your opinion? Why and how?

specialist skills   **teamworking**   **personal brand**

attitude   **time management**   **languages**

ethical behaviour   **flexibility**   **troubleshooting**

communication

What is employability?

In a moment, you'll watch a video titled:

Do you think they will have a similar opinion to yours?

Watch the video to learn what employability means and discuss these questions:

1. To what extent do you agree with their views?
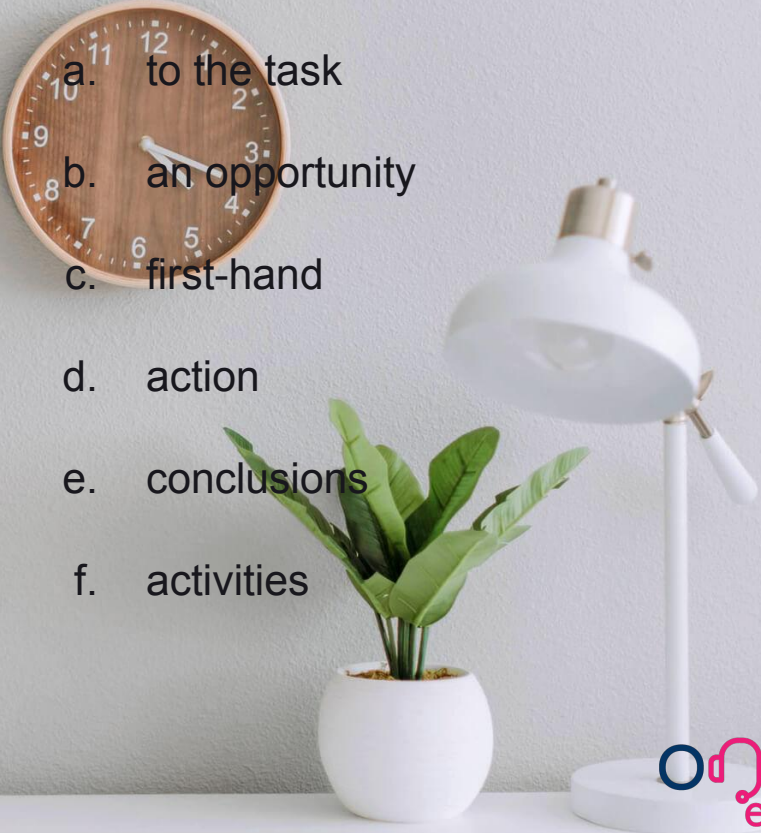2. How can we develop employability skills while still at school/university?

Let's learn some vocabulary

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Match words to create common phrases.

1. draw

2. commit oneself

3. extracurricular

4. take

5. grasp

6. experience (sth)

a. to the task

b. an opportunity

c. first-hand

d. action

e. conclusions

f. activities

Let's check the answers.

1. draw
2. commit oneself
3. extracurricular
4. take
5. grasp
6. experience (sth)

a. to the task
b. an opportunity
c. first-hand
d. action
e. conclusions
f. activities

Match the expressions to their meanings:

draw conclusions   commit oneself to the task   grasp an opportunity
take action   extracurricular activities   experience sth first-hand

MEANINGS:

A. to decide what to believe about something after you have considered the facts

B. to dedicate or devote oneself to something

C. to take advantage of something when it happens

D. to experience in a direct way by doing something yourself

E. things that you do at school or college that are not part of your course

F. to do something to achieve an aim or deal with a problem

Let's check your answers:

MEANINGS:

A.   to decide what to believe about something after you have considered the facts

draw conclusions

A.   to dedicate or devote oneself to something   **commit oneself to the task**

B.   to take advantage of something when it happens   **grasp an opportunity**

C.   to experience in a direct way by doing something yourself

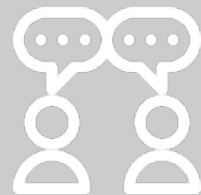**experience sth first-hand**

A.   things that you do at school or college that are not part of your course

extracurricular activities

A.   to do something to achieve an aim or deal with a problem   **take action**

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Let's discuss!

Discuss the questions below:

➔ What skills did you gain from your degree?

➔ What advice would you give to students about future employment?

➔ What are the most important skills people look for in an employee?

➔ What was your career plan once you finished university?

How do I develop my employability skills?

In a moment, you'll watch a video interview with Tony Walker, Deputy MD - Toyota, titled:

Compare his answers to the questions you've just answered.

**Watch the video and note down the answers to the four questions below.**

1. What skills did he gain from his degree?
2. What advice would he give to students about future employment?
3. What are the most important skills people look for in an employee?
4. What was his career plan once he finished university?

Let's check your answers.

1. What skills did he gain from his degree?
   - data analysis, making conclusions, leadership, being able to analyse
2. What advice would he give to students about future employment?
   - broaden perspectives, be on time, be able to work in teams and communicate well
3. What are the most important skills people look for in an employee?
   - discover facts, problem-solving skills, think logically, persevere and keep going, commitment to the company mission
4. What was his career plan once he finished university?
   - no plan after university
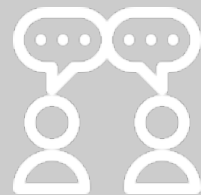
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It's debate time!

Extra task:
Top skills for the future workforce

Match the skills to their definitions below (Part 1/2):

sense-making   new-media literacy   cognitive load management
computational thinking   transdisciplinarity

1. Ability to critically assess and develop content that uses new media forms, and to leverage these media for persuasive communication …………………………………….

2. ability to translate vast amounts of data into abstract concepts and to understand database reasoning ……………………………………….

3. literacy in and ability to understand concepts across multiple disciplines ……………………………….

4. ability to determine the deeper meaning or significance of what is being expressed ……………………………….

5. ability to discriminate and filter information for importance, and to understand how to maximize cognitive functioning using a variety of tools and techniques ……………………………….

Let's check the answers.

sense-making   new-media literacy   cognitive load management
computational thinking   transdisciplinarity

1. Ability to critically assess and develop content that uses new media forms, and to leverage these media for persuasive communication …… **new-media literacy** ..
2. Ability to translate vast amounts of data into abstract concepts and to understand database reasoning …… **computational thinking**
3. Literacy in and ability to understand concepts across multiple disciplines **transdisciplinarity** ……
4. Ability to determine the deeper meaning or significance of what is being expressed …. **sense-making** ……
5. Ability to discriminate and filter information for importance, and to understand how to maximize cognitive functioning using a variety of tools and techniques **cognitive load management**
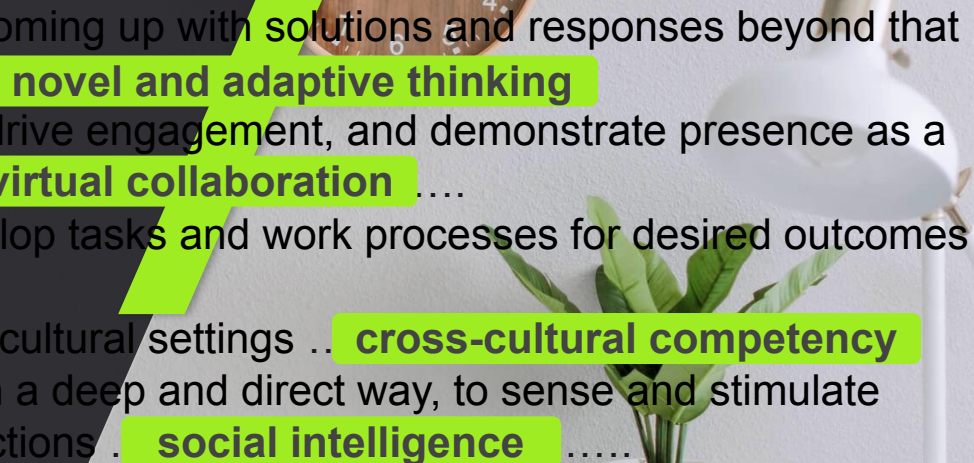
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Match the skills to their definitions below (Part 2/2):

design mindset   virtual collaboration   social intelligence cross-cultural competency   novel and adaptive thinking

6.   Proficiency at thinking and coming up with solutions and responses beyond that which is rote or rule-based …………………………………
7.   Ability to work productively, drive engagement, and demonstrate presence as a member of a virtual team ……………………………………
8.   Ability to represent and develop tasks and work processes for desired outcomes ……………………………………
9.   Ability to operate in different cultural settings …………………………………
10. Ability to connect to others in a deep and direct way, to sense and stimulate reactions and desired interactions …………………………………

Let's check the answers.

> design mindset   virtual collaboration   social intelligence cross-cultural competency   novel and adaptive thinking

6. Proficiency at thinking and coming up with solutions and responses beyond that which is rote or rule-based . **novel and adaptive thinking**
7. Ability to work productively, drive engagement, and demonstrate presence as a member of a virtual team . **virtual collaboration** ….
8. Ability to represent and develop tasks and work processes for desired outcomes **design mindset** ………
9. Ability to operate in different cultural settings .. **cross-cultural competency**
10. Ability to connect to others in a deep and direct way, to sense and stimulate reactions and desired interactions . **social intelligence** …..

Let's discuss!
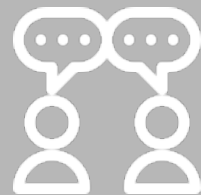
Discuss the questions below:

➔ Which of these skills do you have and which do you lack?

➔ Are these skills necessary for your profession?

➔ Why do you think these skills are called skills of future workforce?

➔ How can schools and workplaces help people gain these skills?

➔ What other skills of the future could you add to the list?

Discuss the questions below:

- Sense-making
- Trans-disciplinarity
- New media literacy
- Design mindset
- Cross cultural competency
- Novel and adaptive thinking
- Computational thinking
- Social intelligence
- Cognitive load management
- Virtual collaboration

➜ Which of these skills do you have and which do you lack?

➜ Are these skills necessary for your profession?

➜ Why do you think these skills are called skills of future workforce?

➜ How can schools and workplaces help people gain these skills?

➜ What other skills of the future could you add to the list?

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