

CliftonStrengths® for Students

Welcome to CliftonStrengths for Students, the report that guides you through your unique talents and how you can use those talents to succeed in your role.

We designed this report to make your days easier, bring clarity to your role as a student and help you thrive academically, socially and in your future career.

Use this report to learn about your results and better understand what you naturally do best as a student. Then, go implement the action items into your role responsibilities — starting today.

YOUR TOP FIVE THEMES

1. Deliberative

Stop, listen and assess before taking action.

2. Significance

Look for opportunities to do important work where you can help others raise the bar.

3. Learner

Use your passion for learning to add value to your own and others' lives.

4. Responsibility

Take ownership for the things that matter most to you.

5. Ideation

Refine your creativity to inspire and energize yourself and others.

Each Theme Fits Into a Leadership Domain

EXECUTING themes help you make things happen.

INFLUENCING themes help you take charge, speak up and make sure others are heard.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING themes help you build strong relationships that hold a team together.

STRATEGIC THINKING themes help you absorb and analyze information that informs better decisions.

Your Strongest Future Begins Here



- 1. Deliberative
- 2. Significance
- 3. Learner
- 4. Responsibility
- 5. Ideation

This time in your life is filled with choices, changes and challenges. Being a student requires so much of your time and energy — and no two students have the same experience, which means there must be more than one way to succeed. We know that the best way to build a foundation for success, both as a student and well into the future, is by using your strengths.

Your distinct CliftonStrengths profile sets you apart from every other student. Above is your talent DNA, shown in order based on your responses to the assessment.

Learn About Your Most Powerful Strengths

This report outlines how your natural strengths give you an advantage during your time as a student. But to fully understand your talent DNA, you must know that your top five themes — the ones that shine through in almost everything you do — are the *most powerful*. Take the time to learn more about them.

Discover Practical Ways to Apply Them

Incorporate your strengths into your day-to-day routine: from choosing your class schedule and creating study habits to investing in extracurricular activities and relationships with classmates.

Each theme page includes:

- How that theme contributes to your success
- How that theme could get in the way of your success
- Action items that you can implement immediately

Use Them

You have strengths that are already within you; it's your specific talents, along with how you use them, that gives you your power and edge over others. Regardless of what you're doing in academia and where you're going next, you'll need to truly use and develop your strengths to create long-term and sustainable success.



EXECUTING

1. Deliberative

You are best described by the serious care you take in making decisions or choices. You anticipate obstacles.

How This Theme Contributes to Your Success

You are very thorough and someone who takes their time. You do lots of research, even more than what's required, and find dependable and relevant resources to learn from. This helps you produce high-quality, outstanding work. Your classmates and teachers have come to depend on you for your exceptional thinking.

Outside of your own thoughts, you also help others thoroughly think through problems. You consider multiple angles and are confident once you arrive at your decision because you take the time you need to conclude or answer questions. You are a real asset in group projects that require in-depth thinking and problem-solving.

You ask powerful questions. You are naturally curious, whether you're in class, at a club meeting or doing an extracurricular activity. This is because you strongly desire to be conscientious in your thinking as you make your next move. Often, this diligence inspires others to ask good questions. And, at the very least, you help them consider questions they'd never thought of.

How This Theme Could Get in the Way of Your Success

- You won't always get the time you want to thoroughly consider your questions and research. In school, you might have competing priorities in classes, a heavy class load, multiple extracurricular activities or perhaps a job. And all of these things might frustrate you if you don't have adequate time to think.
- Other people might like to think as they go or take risks without weighing the consequences beforehand. This is not your style, and you may hesitate to follow a class leader or teacher who likes to speculate or works faster than you'd like. But this can frustrate others because it might feel like your unwillingness is disapproval of their methods or approaches to school.
- You may find it tough to complete quick problem-solving or critical-thinking activities. While you are usually an exceptionally analytical and logical thinker, you do not like time restrictions. High-pressure situations with little time may cause you to stop working. You might struggle with tests with short time limits and read-and-respond passages in class.

ACTION ITEMS

How to Apply Deliberative as a Student

This theme gives you an edge — here's how you can use it.

- ☐ **Set deadlines for decision-making.** Before starting a project or making a decision, set a goal for completing that project or making up your mind. Whether selecting a research topic, picking a job or major, or deciding between clubs, determine when you need to choose. This will help you prioritize your time as you gather information, analyze your options and weigh the risks.
- ☐ **Ask more questions out loud.** You ask excellent questions, but you always have more. To avoid monopolizing class discussion time or bringing too much attention to yourself, you might not ask some of your great questions out loud. But by asking questions aloud, your teachers will appreciate more of your thinking, and your classmates will learn from it when you do.
- ☐ **Create an organized approach to help you use your talents to complete work.** You want complexity, but you also have deadlines. Consider how you can balance timelines with your need for intense thinking. Upcoming deadline? How can you quickly gather and analyze information? Far-off deadline? How can you move from thinking to executing without procrastinating?
- ☐ **Communicate your thought process.** Share in detail the way you think, research and analyze risks with your teachers and classmates. Doing this creates an openness in those relationships so you can more readily ask for more time or information when you need it. Learn how others think too, especially how they make fast decisions.

Reflect to Plan for Action

Where do you need more time and questions answered before making a decision?

Whom can you partner with to help you speed up and prioritize your thinking?



INFLUENCING

2. Significance

You want to make a big impact. You are independent and prioritize projects based on how much influence they will have on your organization or people around you.

How This Theme Contributes to Your Success

Legacy is important to you. You are most passionate and engaged when you see the influence your projects have and when you know others will remember you. This means you work hard in your classes, clubs or extracurricular activities to ensure that you are positively influencing those around you. You want to work on admirable things that make a difference.

You strive to build credibility and impressive skills. When classmates or teachers hear your name, they likely think of your reputation for being hardworking and motivated. You enjoy it when others recognize you for your individual contributions to a group project or class discussion. That acknowledgment from teachers or classmates is very meaningful to you.

Chances are, you are more likely to enjoy independent work than group projects. This is because you can control the outcomes and the influence to reflect your legacy and goals. In group settings, you motivate others to raise their standards on what is considered high performance or success. You love setting a precedent for excellence.

How This Theme Could Get in the Way of Your Success

- You may struggle to stay engaged without a strong purpose or a chance to stand out. If a class feels too standard or doesn't leave room for individual success, you may not thrive. Unfortunately, not every class you take will allow you the freedom to have the noticeable effect you want, and some may be focused on group performance instead of individual achievement.
- Others may perceive you as a showoff because you want to learn only important skills and pursue only visible roles. From the outside, it might look like you're not open to supporting roles in a group project or like you think you have nothing to learn from your classmates. This could harm your classroom relationships, damaging the reputation you work hard to protect.
- You may discredit or dismiss others' value if you focus too much on your own goals. You have a powerful presence in a classroom; if you forget to turn that toward others, you risk ignoring the talent and greatness of those around you. You can be intimidating to other classmates, so try to be aware of how they perceive you.

ACTION ITEMS

How to Apply Significance as a Student

This theme gives you an edge — here's how you can use it.

- ☐ **Get involved in a group that matches your values.** As you build your legacy as a student, decide how you want others to remember you. What groups do you want to align yourself with? What are you passionate about? Join those groups and help them set bigger goals, and then invest your time and energy in supporting their meaningful work.
- ☐ **Give others recognition.** Because you like being recognized for your contributions, you know how inspiring it is to get recognition. Notice your classmates' talents and contributions, and share them in a specific, timely and genuine way. This will help shape your reputation as a leader while filling your internal desire for recognition. Sometimes recognizing others feels just as good.
- ☐ **List out your goals.** Use this list when making decisions that will influence your future. Then consider the people you want around you when you accomplish those goals. Whom can you share them with, and whose recognition do you value most? Maybe a mentor, parent, friend or teacher — let them know what you want to do, and keep them updated on your progress.
- ☐ **Strategically plan your classwork.** As you look at your required classes and the electives that interest you, consider how these subjects will energize you. If you must take some uneventful classes, try pairing them with others that will challenge you, allow you to succeed in front of people and require a lot of individual involvement.

Reflect to Plan for Action

What is the best recognition you have ever received?

How do you want others to remember you after completing your time as a student?



STRATEGIC THINKING

3. Learner

You have a great desire to learn and want to continuously improve. The process of learning, rather than the outcome, excites you.

How This Theme Contributes to Your Success

You love the process of learning. The daily routines that lead to learning will never get old for you — whether inside or outside the classroom. You can probably share exactly what you love about learning, whether it's a fresh notebook, a new class, complex ideas or something else. You are always looking for something new to learn.

Your enthusiasm for learning makes a better educational environment for others. You don't begrudgingly enter a classroom or complain about a new subject. You face each day with renewed energy as you wonder what further information you will learn. Your teachers will admire your attitude and appreciate teaching students like you.

Understanding how to acquire information comes naturally to you. You know exactly how you do and don't like to learn and can help others do the same. People may say you're a skilled teacher, as you can effectively connect the learning to the person. You know how to help others reach learning outcomes, and your academic career is filled with people who admire your knowledge.

How This Theme Could Get in the Way of Your Success

- You might get frustrated with boring classwork or teachers. Because you seek the profound awareness that often comes from the learning process, you may feel discontent when you're either not learning or when those around you don't care to seek it. During your academic career, you'll meet classmates and even teachers tired of learning; this will be hard for you.
- You could truly learn different subjects or skills forever, but this could become a problem when you choose classes or extracurricular activities that take up your time but don't help you achieve your long-term goals. In fact, learning for the sake of learning alone could distract you from spending more time on the subjects or extracurricular activities that you actually need to.
- It might frustrate you if the focus in a class is more on the learning goals than the process. You have your own strategy for attaining knowledge, and when you can't learn in the way that best fits you, you worry you won't get the education you need — for example, cramming for a test when you prefer days to study or having tight group project deadlines when you prefer weeks.

ACTION ITEMS

How to Apply Learner as a Student

This theme gives you an edge — here's how you can use it.

- ☐ **Pick a new subject or activity that excites you.** Filling your time with necessary learning will help you reach your goals — but take a class, participate in an extracurricular activity or learn a new skill for fun. This will help sustain your excitement for learning while also helping you increase your knowledge.
- ☐ **Find an innovative way to apply your love of learning.** Each day, learn something unique about a friend, roommate, coworker, teacher, coach or someone else. Or, instead of discovering a new thing, find out how to do something you already do just a little bit better. Finding ways to learn every day, even in small ways, will help fill you with purpose.
- ☐ **Formally or informally tutor someone.** Whether it's a job that allows you to instruct people in multiple subjects or just someone in your class who needs extra support, try helping others understand how they learn best. Plus, you might appreciate the information even more as you teach, and helping someone else enjoy the learning process will make you happy.
- ☐ **Prioritize your learning goals and expectations.** You love the process of gathering knowledge, so organizing your learning objectives will help you focus on what's due first, what will be the most challenging and what will take you the longest. Now, begin to work on those tasks in the order that helps you make the best use of your energy and time.

Reflect to Plan for Action

Where can you focus your learning right now? How would that help you meet your goals?

Describe your learning process. What can you do to make it more efficient?

**EXECUTING**

4. Responsibility

You take psychological ownership of what you say you will do. You are committed to stable values such as honesty and loyalty.

How This Theme Contributes to Your Success

You are a trustworthy student who's always aware of what's coming next. Your work is on time and consistent because you understand that your efforts will directly correlate to your outcomes. You don't leave your grades, friendships or extracurricular activity involvement to chance — instead, you put effort into everything you've said you would do.

In group scenarios, academic or otherwise, you ensure the group is on track and the work is done correctly. When your group makes a commitment, you personally take it on as your own. You feel a sense of ownership to ensure you hit goals and meet expectations. Your teachers trust your word because you always do what you say you'll do.

Others know that they can count on you. You take on the roles and responsibilities that you commit to with pride. And as you fulfill your promises, you strengthen relationships with your classmates and teachers. You may also be apt to say yes to extra credit or volunteer opportunities because you want to increase your responsibilities beyond academics.

How This Theme Could Get in the Way of Your Success

- You put immense pressure on yourself to be successful. The fear of disappointing people preoccupies you because letting others down feels like a failure. You likely have a hard time recovering from mistakes because you're worried your teachers or classmates are frustrated with you. These concerns can occupy much of your time and energy.
- Saying no might not come easily to you. Regardless of how much you have to do, you often say yes to helping others, taking on more work in a group project or meeting up with friends even when you don't have time. You want to be available for others when they need you to be, but this can come at the cost of your wellbeing.
- You may come off as controlling because you struggle to let others help you. It might be hard to delegate tasks because you prefer ownership over their completion, so you might micromanage your classmates' work when doing projects together. Inwardly, you may not trust that others will work with the same quality and commitment as you, but this can harm your relationships.

ACTION ITEMS

How to Apply Responsibility as a Student

This theme gives you an edge — here's how you can use it.

- ☐ **Delegate tasks in a group project setting.** This may not feel natural initially, but allow yourself to give things up. It's just temporary, and checking others' work or reviewing before submitting is OK. You don't have to ignore your attention to detail and commitment to excellence, but you can help others improve by giving them a chance to succeed and then reviewing their work.
- ☐ **Set aside time to invest in yourself.** Mark your calendar or schedule with designated time to replenish your energy and take time for yourself. This could look like getting coffee on the way to class, going on a walk before studying, spending a weekend morning with a friend or something else. Give yourself the same commitment that you give to others.
- ☐ **Consider a few people who could support you.** Whom do you feel safe asking for help? Whom can you call when you need to process an idea or study for an overwhelming test? Ask this person or these people to help you identify where you're doing too much and where you need to spend more of your time. This outside perspective can be very helpful.
- ☐ **Prioritize your commitments based on your goals.** As a student, you're continually working toward your future. Think about your volunteering, classwork, extracurricular activities, job or clubs. Then, write down your goals. What are you involved in now that is helping you get closer to them? Prioritize those things so you feel more aligned with your goals.

Reflect to Plan for Action

What are some positive motivators for you? What fears tend to hold you back?

Where have you overcommitted your time and energy in the past?



STRATEGIC THINKING

5. Ideation

You are fascinated by ideas. You are able to find connections between seemingly disparate phenomena.

How This Theme Contributes to Your Success

While some might need more direction on an assignment or project, your mind is immediately bursting with ideas. From brainstorming essay or debate topics to research planning, you are at your best in the beginning stages of ideating during a project. When other students are overwhelmed or don't know where to begin, you are ready to share your thinking.

You are a very creative person. How you think is unique because you see many approaches leading to the same conclusion. For example, you may be able to share three or four thoughts before others have even thought of one. Whether your ideas work or not isn't the point, but rather the originality with which you brainstorm them.

When others don't understand something, you're great at teaching or explaining it in a new way. Your approach to learning requires freedom to think and share, which makes you an asset for other students trying to better understand difficult lessons. You think of different ways to help others understand the problem. This positively influences class discussions and group work.

How This Theme Could Get in the Way of Your Success

- You may feel like you don't have enough time to think, ideate and share your ideas in every class. And often, you'll need to do this outside of class. At some point, you need to commit to an idea and then take responsibility for doing the classwork. You might continue to get great ideas even after you start a project, distracting you and tempting you to start over with something new.
- Without creative liberty, you may get bored. You might lose motivation if a class or extracurricular activity doesn't accommodate your learning style. For example, a class with only lectures and tests with few creative projects or limited free time will be part of your academic journey. While it may feel draining, you'll need to find ways to endure it.
- When considering the future, you may feel like there are too many options to explore. You see so many possibilities and often have many aspirations — but as your ideas for your future increase, so does your inability to choose a direction. You may exhaust yourself by worrying about what's next for your future.

ACTION ITEMS

How to Apply Ideation as a Student

This theme gives you an edge — here's how you can use it.

- ☐ **Ask someone to be a part of your decision-making.** As you think about the future — whether that's next semester or in five years — try partnering with someone who can help you make your ideas a reality. Whether they're a teacher, mentor, academic advisor or counselor, share your vision for the future with them. They can ask you questions that help narrow down your choices.
- ☐ **Figure out which ideas you can start on now.** You might feel like most of your thoughts have yet to become a reality. List out the ones you get the most excited about and what you can do today to make those come true. Could you enroll in a class or join a specific club? Could you find an internship or take time every weekend to work on one particular idea?
- ☐ **Make time to ideate outside of class.** You can use this time for academic or personal thinking: Decide on a research topic, or seriously think about an essay you're writing. On a personal level, this can be a break from the school routine where you need to think for the sake of thinking. Visualize your life right now; reenergize yourself with that thinking time.
- ☐ **Prioritize your academic and personal lives.** There are things you want to do and things you're already doing. Your prime concern should be what you've already committed to (classes, extracurricular activities, etc.), but don't forget to list out your personal priorities. With so many ideas, this may help you feel less overwhelmed because you know where to focus your energy.

Reflect to Plan for Action

How has your creative thinking helped you succeed in the past?

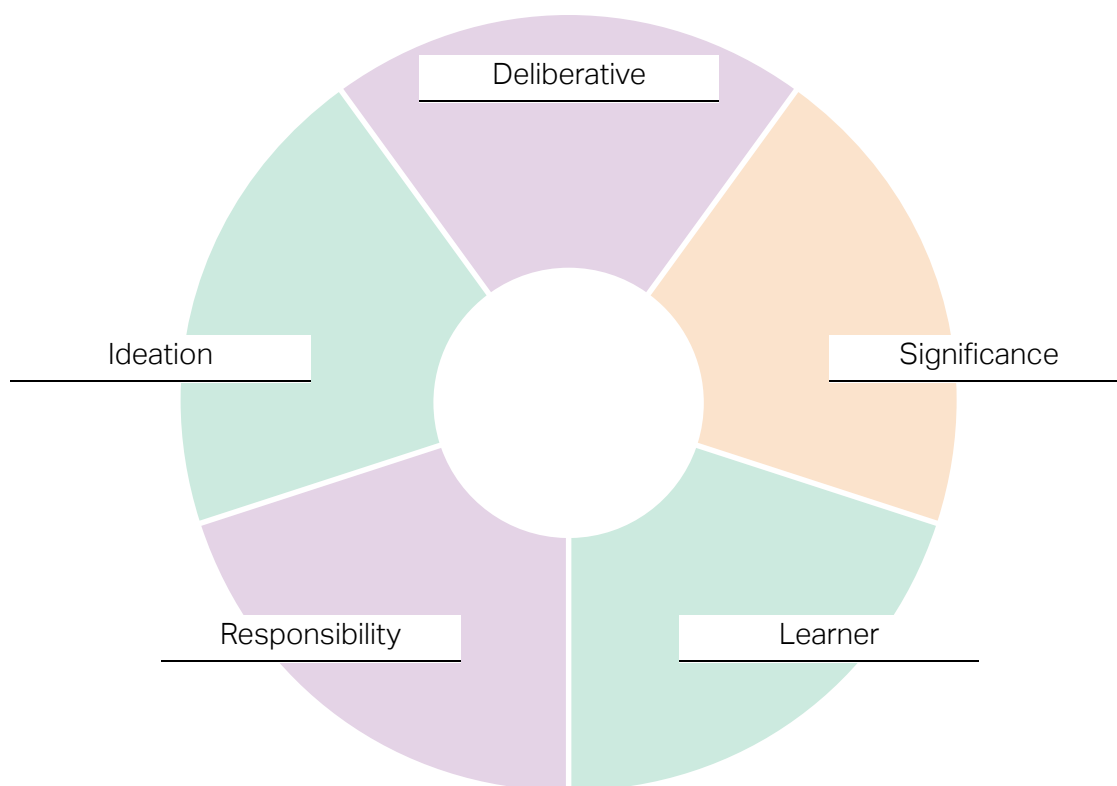
Whom could you partner with to help make your ideas become a reality?

Accomplish Your Goals

There's no "one right way" to succeed as a student. You'll get the best results by building on who you already are. But talents don't turn into strengths right away; you must continually aim them at your goals and the outcomes you desire most.

With a commitment to using your strengths, this report becomes the first step you take on the road to success selling.

Write your most meaningful goal in the center of the circle. Next, think about the themes you can use to achieve this goal to help you answer the questions below.



How will you use your strengths to reach this goal?

How will you know you have been successful?