Communication

People who are especially talented in the Communication theme generally find it easy to put their thoughts into words. They are good conversationalists and presenters.

I am (being) → verbally expressive
I will (doing) → connect with others through words
I bring (contribution) → attention to messages that must be heard
I need (requirement) → a sounding board, an audience
I love (value) → stories and storytellers
I hate (value) → experience without expression
Metaphor/Image → silence is not golden
Barrier Label → blabbermouth

Career Development Tips

- Arrange an Informational Interview to have conversations with people who are currently in careers that interest you. By hearing their stories, you will become better able to determine whether those environments and careers would suit your talents and interests.
- Go to the U of M Job Fair where you can interact with lots of different people about a great variety of roles.
- You might be a natural storyteller. Interview storytellers such as stand-up comedians, actors, motivational speakers, teachers, public relations specialists, politicians, ministers, and corporate trainers to see how they use their Communication talents in their daily work.
- Explore opportunities to serve as the spokesperson for an organization, product, political candidate, company, school district, hospital, or elected official. These opportunities would allow you to try out your Communication talents in roles that could meet some of the world’s deep needs.
- Environments that allow for significant social interaction on a daily basis will allow your Communication talents to flourish. Steer clear of environments that do not offer this opportunity, as they might drain your energy.
- Cooperative, interactive, educational, and political environments are likely to bring out your best.
- Visit your college’s Career Services to learn more about the careers that interest you.

Theme Contrast

Communication: I think and learn best when I can talk with others
Intellection: I think and learn best when I can be alone and quiet
Communication: Telling a story helps others understand my message
Context: The re-telling of history helps others remember the past

General Academic Life Tips

- Participate in class discussions. Enhance your own and others’ comprehension by talking through the key points.
- Respond to questions with thought-provoking answers.
- Illustrate scholarly concepts with real-life examples. Help others learn in the process.
- Capture your audience’s interest by telling stories to amplify an idea, concept, theory, scientific law, philosophical point, ethical quandary, or historic event.

Extracurricular Activities

- Affiliate with a speakers’ bureau in which the members address campus and community groups.
- Join a Governing Body through the U of M’s Student Unions & Activities to get your voice heard on campus.
- Try out for the speech team. Concentrate on dramatic interpretation to hone your storytelling skills.
- Audition for plays even if you are not a theatre major.
- Campaign for elected office in the Minnesota Student Association (MSA), or be a candidate’s spokesperson.
- Look for more opportunities to get involved in one Student Unions & Activities.