

Louis Cann Assignment

by Louis Cann

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Louis Cann

Reflection on Academic and Employability
Skills

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Section 1

This part of the report has asked me to provide a brief overview of my class PowerPoint presentation.

Strengths and Weaknesses ...

Strengths

I am quite a confident person and I like new challenges.
I'm quite easy to get along with and outgoing.
Hard worker and can work alone or as part of a team.

Weaknesses

I'm quite stubborn at times especially when I think I'm right.
It can take me a while to learn and pick things up but when I do I excel at it.

My gang ...

This is Nancy and Toby, Nancy is 7 and Toby is 2, absolute handful but totally worth it.



This is William, he is 13 going on 30.
Number 1 for pole vaulting in the UK under 15's and he wants to go To the Olympics!



My goals ...

The whole reason im going to university is for my children, I want to be able to provide for them and live a happy comfortable lifestyle where they do not have to worry and struggle like I have, this is my one and only goal to do it for them.

Strengths and Weaknesses ...

Strengths

I am quite a confident person and I like new challenges.
I'm quite easy to get along with and outgoing.
Hard worker and can work alone or as part of a team.

Weaknesses

I'm quite stubborn at times especially when I think I'm right.
It can take me a while to learn and pick things up but when I do I excel at it.

My name is Louis Cann and I am 31 years old, I have lived in Swansea most of my life however I was born in Aberdare. I have 3 children, my oldest son William is aged 13, my daughter named Nancy is 7 years old and my youngest son is called Tobias aged 2 years old and they are my life.

I love football and have been playing since I could walk. I have played for Swansea City Centre of Excellent's from age 8 to 16 and I have also got a Welsh Cap and played against England however my career as a footballer stopped when I broke my ankle at age 18.

I try and stay as active as I can and enjoy going to the gym, I love music and am open to most types, much like my football passion starting from a young age I also love playing video games and computers which has ultimately lead me to this course in university.

There are several key points that I have learnt whilst creating and presenting my PowerPoint to the class and a lot that I feel I can improve on. The first of which is the way my PowerPoint looked, I feel that I could have made the colour scheme better to look more appealing and also included more pictures as I feel that pictures draw people in more. I also felt that I could have made the transition between slides better by talking more rather than waiting but I feel this is down to experience other than anything else. I noticed that my class mates were the same as we were all in the same position not having much experience in this.

One of the main points I can take away to improve for next time is my ability to talk in front of the class, whilst I am confident under normal circumstances I did find myself stuttering at times thinking of what to say next which made the presentation less effective, on the same point, having enough material to be able to last a good duration, in the presentation we were tasked to try and make it 5 minutes and I fell short of this by a minute so whether it's a case of talking slower and more clearly or adding more material to be able to talk about.

Section 2

Research into Skills Evaluation

When learning in higher education there are a number of "key skills" required in order to be successful in learning what you need to. Below is an article I have found on LinkedIn by Oliver Schinkten who is a Staff Instructor, Education, eLearning, & business at LinkedIn Teacher, speaker, consultant, polymath and has created posts on LinkedIn. These points cover both in the classroom as a student but also what a potential employer may look for.

<https://learning.linkedin.com/blog/education/10-skills-all-students-need-to-be-successful>

As the article suggests there are roughly 10 main skills that a student would need in order to be successful in learning in higher education, these are;-

1. Adaptive thinking
2. Communication skills
3. Collaboration skills
4. Critical thinking and problem solving skills
5. Personal management
6. Inquiry skills
7. Technology skills
8. Creativity and innovation
9. Soft skills
10. Empathy and perspective

The points listed above are what this website from LinkedIn suggests and I agree with these to a certain extent, personally the last 2 points I believe to be of preference, not essentially required for successful learning but they are good skills to have in general.

Adaptive thinking – this is the concept of being able to adapt to your surroundings and needs, if things change a procedure a way of doing things then you need to be able to adapt to the new way of doing something, in the career I am looking to pursue it would mean learning a new way of doing something and being able to learn it quick and be able to carry out my job without it effecting productivity or standards.

Communication skills – being able to communicate is a big part of learning, for example, if you don't understand something being able to communicate this so that you can get help. Also as the article suggests in this day and age there are many ways to communicate with the help of technology so being familiar with this technology and being able to communicate through it is an essential skill.

Collaboration skills – this is essential both in the classroom and in employment and the 2 are quite different but both equally important. In the classroom you need to be able to collaborate with class mates in order to carry out tasks required of you however your work must be your own so there is an element of independence as well, whereas in the work place and again with the work place I am looking to go into once I qualify from university, I need to be able to work as part of a team as most things within that environment, programming, will be team based which will require a lot of communication.

Critical thinking and problem solving skills – this speaks for itself in the sense that problem solving is much of today's digital world, in the programming sense, so being able to effectively problem solve it crucial however the ability to critically think and come up with different ways to do things, I can relate this to the part time job I am currently doing where they encourage people to come up with different ways in which we can carry out our job more effectively through a suggestion box and in the past the company has actually changed its policy on the way it does certain things as a suggestion was better/more effective than the current policy. This will only better the company and thus having the ability to see something old and help improve to new better ways of doing things is essential.

Personal management – again this one is self explanatory. Being able to effectively manage yourself whether it be time management or workloads, which can relate to both in education and in the workplace, is essential and a good skill to have.

Inquiry skills – this relates to the way in which an individual makes an inquiry and as the article suggests "asking the right question". Personally I believe this refers to, in a classroom setting, actually asking the question in the first place and by this I mean, being a victim of this myself in the past, being too afraid to ask a question in front of people in the first place, and overcoming this barrier to not only ask the question but further more asking the right question to get the answer your looking for or need.

Technology skills – in this day and age everything revolves around technology so being able to use this technology comfortably and to your advantage is a huge tool in your learning capabilities. Being able to not only keep up with technology but being able to use it can really help with studies and make you a more successful student in higher education.

Creativity and innovation – again as the article suggests this ties in with problem solving and asking good questions and I would have to agree with this, coming up with new fresh ideas to improve and create ways of doing things more effectively is a good tool to have and in classroom setting this could relate to revision methods, research methods and things like that, that allow you to gain access to the information needed to learn better.

I have been asked to carry out a self evaluation exercise to find out my results, below are 2 links with the website I used to take the test and my results at the end of it;-

<http://www.humanmetrics.com/personality/istj-type?EI=-3&SN=1&TF=16&JP=12> - Link for test

<http://www.humanmetrics.com/personality/istj> - link for my results

From the test I completed my results showed that I can be classed as ISTJ which stands for Introverted Sensing Thinking Judging. Below is a screenshot of the result given to me.

ISTJ

Introverted Sensing Thinking Judging

"It is in keeping with tradition throughout our history that I should express simply and directly the opinions which I hold concerning some of the matters of present importance." --Herbert Hoover, *Inaugural Address*, Monday, March 4, 1929.

ISTJs are often called inspectors. They have a keen sense of right and wrong, especially in their area of interest and/or responsibility. They are noted for devotion to duty. Punctuality is a watchword of the ISTJ. The secretary, clerk, or business(wo)man by whom others set their clocks is likely to be an ISTJ.

As do other Introverted Thinkers, ISTJs often give the initial impression of being aloof and perhaps somewhat cold. Effusive expression of emotional warmth is not something that ISTJs do without considerable energy loss.

ISTJs are most at home with "just the **facts**, Ma'am." They seem to perform at highest efficiency when employing a step-by-step approach. Once a new procedure has proven itself (i.e., has been shown "to work,") the ISTJ can be depended upon to carry it through, even at the expense of their own health.

ISTJs are easily frustrated by the inconsistencies of others, especially when the second parties don't keep their commitments. But they usually keep their feelings to themselves unless they are asked. And when asked, they don't mince words. Truth wins out over tact. The grim determination of the ISTJ vindicates itself in officiation of sports events, judiciary functions, or an other situation which requires making tough calls and sticking to them.

Their SJ orientation draws the ISTJ into the service of established institutions. Home, social clubs, government, schools, the military, churches -- these are the bastions of the SJ. "We've always done it this way" is often reason enough for many ISTJs. Threats to time-honored traditions or established organizations (e.g., a "run" on the bank) are the undoing of SJs, and are to be fought at all costs.

(ISTJ stands for Introvert, Sensing, Thinking, Judging and represents individual's preferences in four dimensions characterising personality type, according to Jung's and Briggs Myers' theories of personality type.)

Your Type Preferences

Introvert(3%) Sensing(1%) Thinking(16%) Judging(12%)

SHARE     



After reading through this result I can agree with most of what it says but not all

Section 3

Action plans

Setting goals is important for motivation and confidence to make sure you stay on track in achieving what you want. My long term goal is for my family, I want to be in a position where I can support them in whatever they need. This is very important to me.

However this will take a long time to achieve so I need to set myself smaller goals in order to maintain performance to ensure my long term goal is also achieved. My daily goal is to understand everything I have learnt in the classroom thus ensuring my assignments and exams have the highest possible grades they can, Passing my course with a 1st is a goal of mine, if I don't do this then my long term goal may not be achieved.

Outside of the classroom my personal goal is to go to the gym and get fit and healthy again, although this is separate from my educational/career goals I do believe it will have an impact as being healthy minded keeps you focused and allows you to perform at your best.

I believe that all that I have mentioned above in terms of my goals both long term and short term follow the S.M.A.R.T system as they all specific, Measureable, attainable, relevant and time bound. Setting goals that do not follow S.M.A.R.T is not a good thing to do, not only does S.M.A.R.T make sure that the goals you have set can be achieved but also helps you keep them in check without this you could be setting yourself up for failure which will have a negative impact.

My short term goals will be measured by my grades that I get for each assignment and exam, if there are aspects of my work that didn't meet the standard required I can learn and make the necessary adjustments for next time from the feedback I receive which ties in with the time bound aspect of the S.M.A.R.T system. All my goals that I have set myself are attainable, relevant and specific. With these goals I was unable to create an action plan for however I have them written down in a personal folder at home and they are things I can address at the given time needed to ensure I am on track.

Section 4

Looking after your data

It is extremely important to look after your data and make sure its protected at all times. As discussed in class, the “3 different places” rule, says that saving your wanted data in 3 separate places is one of the best things you can do to make sure data is protected, personally I have my data saved on my hard drive on my computer, on a USB stick and on Google One drive. This way my work is stored at all times, also with one drive I can access my data from anywhere essentially.

If my computer gets infected with a virus that looses the data on it, even if my USB is lost or itself gets corrupted I will still have everything I need saved to One Drive which I can then make copies of when I am able to replace or repair the storage device that has been broken. This method does mean that there is a lot of work involved making sure that each location of storage has work that is up to date because if it didn't then it would be more work if one of the saved locations had work on it that wasn't up to date. In a worst case scenario it allows 2 of the 3 locations that I have saved my work to, to fail and still have what I need in the 3rd location. The worst can happen at any time so it is always good practise and highly recommended that you do this with your own work, it's worth the extra time to make sure things are saved/backed up correctly.

Ransom ware

Furthermore to add to the above on looking after your data, ransom ware is one of the disasters you may face which is quite a real threat. Simply put ransom ware is exactly what it says, a ransom, meaning that once this enters your device you can be locked out of files or even your entire device. There may be something on your screen that says a sum of money need to be paid in order to access that data which is what the ransom ware does and even paying this money will not guarantee that you will get your data back what so ever. There are programs/software out there that will decrypt the ransom ware but that is only if there is the option to do it not all ransom ware will be able to decrypted.

Typically ransom ware will lock itself onto personal files and lock you out of them or as mentioned before some can even lock you out of your entire device. There are 3 types of ransom ware;-

- Scare ware
- Screen lockers
- Encrypting ransom ware

The 3 mentioned above also go in order of the size of threat that it will impose with Encrypting ransom ware being the worst.

<https://www.malwarebytes.com/ransomware/>

B) Time Management and Self-Organisation

Before starting this course I didn't realise just how much work was involved outside of the classroom and I was not ready for the amount of time needed to put aside to ensure work is completed.

I personally have a part time job on the weekends and 3 children I have 2 full days and nights within the week so this has been a big adjustment for me, to ensure that I am able to juggle all of this and still maintain my lifestyle and good grades I have designed a calendar and timetable diary, I set aside 2-3 hours a night to work apart from the days I have my children stay with me and I stick to this religiously. By doing this and knowing what I am doing ahead of schedule has lowered the stress that I was initially under when I first started and unaware of the amount of work I would need to do outside of the classroom however now I feel this is now under control which has allowed me to learn better than before because my mind is clearer and I am able to take in more information.

By having a timetable for my studies it has automatically transferred to my personal life outside of studies and education, though not written down in any calendar or diary I find myself sticking to a strict routine for going to bed and waking up but also chores around the house which in itself is giving me a better lifestyle which has a knock on effect on everything, I am more motivated and energetic which has created a positive environment for both me and my children, family and friends.

Section 5

Conclusion and Evaluation

By doing this module it has taught me a lot about who I am and how I am able to learn, it has given me an insight to what I perhaps should be doing in order to maximise my potential and stay on course to achieve my goals it has made me realise what aspects I need to change and think about.

For example, during this assignment, was the first time I have ever completed a test about myself and I believe more people should do this, understanding yourself and your habits will help you figure out the best type of learning style you may need to adapt in order to learn as much as you can, I believe this is something I am going to look into more as this will be very beneficial to me. This is an area for further consideration for further study to benefit all.

During this module I was worked through different things I never would have considered before such as keeping a diary and calendar of what I need to do and time manage myself to do certain things on certain days, this has very much helped and lowered stress that otherwise would have been

unmanageable which probably lead to dropping out of university so I am grateful to have done this and implemented it into my lifestyle for studies but also my personal life.

Louis Cann Assignment

GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

GENERAL COMMENTS

Instructor

27 / 100

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GRADING FORM: GJ_2019

LOUIS CANN

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ENGAGEMENT WITH LITERATURE

 Your research sources should extend beyond mainly using the links provided in the AES moodle content. It needs to be FAR more extensive than that demonstrated. You must do more of your own research, but more importantly, you must cite these sources in the main body of your report and show how your reading has influenced or backs up your own comments. Just sticking on one or two web links in the main body is insufficient. Also, this is not using the IEEE citation/referencing method. You **MUST** include evidence of external research and present it in the numeric format if the brief requests is (and many assignments will during the course of your studies)

5

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

 Rather basic level of understanding. Doesn't really push any boundaries and doesn't extend past anything covered in class. The lack of additional research means that you are hindered in being able to gain additional marks in this section.

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COGNITIVE AND INTELLECTUAL

 The disaster scenario data recovery section should have been far more detailed and formally presented. Weak analysis of the data loss scenarios - doesn't really do what the brief asked for in terms of explaining exactly what you would need to do to

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recover your system, how long this might take etc.
Too much reliance on simply presenting data. Need to use this information and extract meaningful conclusions or new recommendations etc.
Research/Data/information collection is one thing, but what you do with it is also important. E.g. how do all your findings relate specifically to YOU and what might you do to change things or improve?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION



You have described what hardware/services you intend to use for your backups, however you haven't really described a STRATEGY in enough detail – how EXACTLY will the work get backed up? How will you ensure it happens? How will you test the integrity of the backup etc etc. No real evidence of e-portfolio being created and populated. some areas lacking in evidence to describe what steps are going to be taken to improve/change in view of the findings or actually showing evidence to demonstrate things are actually being put into place (e.g. evidence of actually USING a calendar system, rather than just mentioning it) Cryptowall report itself not included as a complete appendix. No reason why action plans couldn't be done in more detail.

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TRANSFERABLE SKILLS



Unfortunately, you need to stick to a plain format for future assignments (boring I know). i.e. no fancy backgrounds!! even for the title page. Don't use

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"asked me ..." that's 1st person. Do not use the "I" first person style – it is considered bad practice for technical reports such as this. You should write in the third person. See your notes. There is just too much missing in this assignment and what is there is far too limited and often doesn't follow the guidance given in class.