

Odyssey Planning Instructions

1. Use a graphic or visual timeline to create 3 different plans for a 5 year period. Include general elements for personal and non-career events.

Plan 1: What you are thinking or up to right now, the plan that feels most obvious

Plan 2: IF plan one didn't exist what would you do?

Plan 3: IF money and image were no object what would you do or what life would you live?

2. For each plan page:

Resources: time, money, skill, contacts you need to pull off your plan?

Likability: are you hot, cold or warm about your plan?

Confidence: are you feeling full of confidence or uncertain?

Coherence: does the plan make sense within itself? Is it consistent with your Workview and your Worldview?

3. Give your plan a title.

4. Possible considerations to think through and note: Geography, What experience/learning will you gain or is required? What are the impacts/results of choosing this path (intended and possible unintended)? What will life look like? What particular role, industry or organization do you see yourself in?

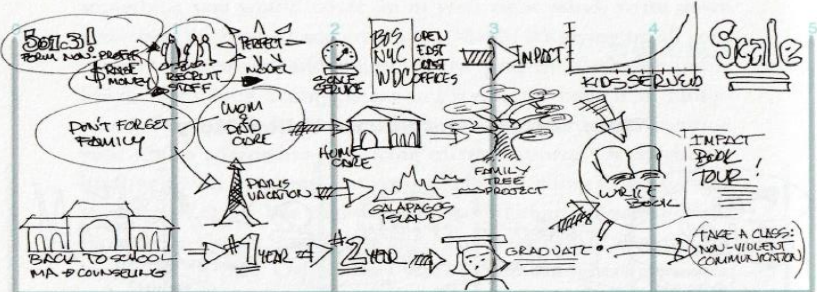
5. Other ideas: Keep in mind things other than money and career, even though they are import and even central to the decision, there are other critical elements. Any of the considerations listed in your 3 plans can be a springboard for forming a plan for the next few years. **Do not overthink this exercise.**

6. List 3 critical questions you have after creating this plan.

*This exercise is about generating options. You are not designing the rest of your life; you are designing what's next. Every option holds unknowns and compromises, each with it's own identifiable and unintended consequences. You are not so much finding answers in this exercise as learning to embrace and explore the questions that come with each option. People ask, why would I spend my energy of a plan that is very unlikely (plan 3), the answer is to get the best ideas you have to access ALL your ideas.

Examples follow on page 2:

Title: "Using What I Know—Helping Kids!"



Alternative Plan # 2



Using What I Know—Helping Kids!
 Questions this plan addresses:
 1. WILL SKILLS TRANSLATE?
 2. CAN I REALLY HELP KIDS?
 3. WILL THIS BE MEANINGFUL?

Questions

1. "Will my skills translate to the nonprofit world?"
2. "Can I really help at-risk kids with a nonprofit?"
3. "Will this be meaningful?"

FULFILLING EXPECTATIONS: BECOMING A CORPORATE LAWYER

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Law school at McGill | Law school year 2 | Law school year 3 | Start work at a firm | First-year associate |
| Quit job at non-profit | Work as an LSAT tutor for extra money | Take the Bar exam | Get married | Buy a place in Montreal |
| Move to Montreal | | Trip to Spain | | |

Alternative Plan #1



6 Word Title: Fulfilling Expectations: becoming a corporate lawyer
Questions this plan addresses:
 1. Do I want to take on debt?
 2. Will I find the work fulfilling?
 3. Will my partner want to live in Montreal?

SOURCE: Bill Burnett and Dave Evans, "Designing Your Life"