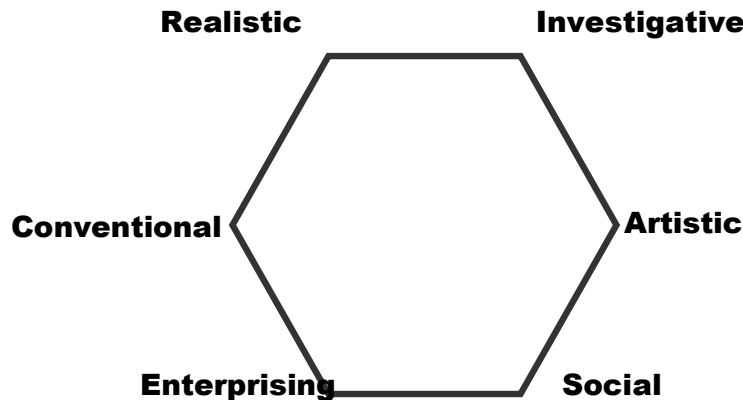


## Your Occupational Interests



This hexagon represents a theory of occupational interest types developed by John Holland. According to Holland, we can classify both people and jobs using a combination of these six types. Types located next to each other on the hexagon share some interests, while types located across from each other have different interests. Because the descriptions of each type that follow represent generalizations, no one type may fit you exactly. Consider that a combination of two or three types may best describe your interests.

### **REALISTIC**

People with *REALISTIC* interests generally like physical and mechanical work. They tend to act in practical, matter of fact, down-to-earth ways. They would rather do something than think about something, work with a tool or a machine rather than read. They prefer such occupations as construction work, building contractor, office products technician, computer hardware repair, medical technician, some engineering specialties, and so on.

### **INVESTIGATIVE**

People with *INVESTIGATIVE* interests enjoy scientific activities. They tend to act in task-oriented and individualistic ways. They want to understand how the world works. They like problem solving and intellectual challenges. They like to think, not just act. They prefer scientific and research occupations in such fields as medicine, social science, and engineering.

### **ARTISTIC**

People with *ARTISTIC* interests enjoy creative, self-expressive activities. Although some may do traditional arts, they all like to put their "signature" on whatever they do. As a result, they may appear unconventional to others. They prefer such occupations as writer, musician, photographer, lawyer, and so on.

## ***SOCIAL***

People with *SOCIAL* interests gravitate to activities in which they can work with others. They like to train, inform, develop, counsel, or offer personal services to others. Often they speak or write well. They often feel cheerful and optimistic. They like solving problems, but through talking, not through deep reflection or immediate action. They prefer occupations in the teaching, helping professions, and personal service fields.

## ***ENTERPRISING***

People with *ENTERPRISING* interests like to communicate in order to persuade or lead others. They often have lots of energy, like adventure, and feel confident. They value power, status, and material possessions, and will work to gain these. They prefer occupations in administration, business, law, or politics. Often they are entrepreneurs.

## ***CONVENTIONAL***

People with *CONVENTIONAL* interests like highly ordered, predictable tasks. They want everything stated clearly and precisely, with clear expectations. Often stable, well-controlled, and dependable, they tend to have traditional values. They feel comfortable in large organizations with a clear chain of command. They respect power and status, and often feel more comfortable supporting than being a leader. They prefer occupations in which they work with data and information according to clear procedures. For example, they might work as accountants, computer programmers, statisticians, and so on.