



International[®]
Baccalaureate

**GETTING READY FOR THE
JOB MARKET**

R. VICENTE



ACTIVITY 1

WHAT DO YOU THINK EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR, IF IN FACT YOU THINK THEY ARE LOOKING FOR SPECIFIC QUALITIES IN THE CANDIDATES THEY INTERVIEW?

Chat with someone sitting close to you, and come up with a short list.

WHAT EMPLOYERS ARE 'LOOKING FOR'

- Work ethic trumps everything else (How can an interviewer tell what your work ethic is?)
- Caring about kids
- Ability to be self-reflective (this in part means that teachers can shift perspectives: as a minimum a teacher must take the role of the student as easily as he takes the role of the teacher)
- Growth: Has there been growth throughout the practicum?
- **Being able to talk about what did not go well (this is another part of self-reflection)**

ACTIVITY 2

Rank the sections (of the Performance Checklist) in order of importance for meeting the objectives listed in the previous slide, and select the top six descriptors (you don't have to have one from each section).

ACTIVITY 3

You are just back from your two week practicum. Share with your group, if you can,

- what did not go well

AND

- how you can use that experience to grow as a teacher and as a person

ACTIVITY 4

- What are you working on?
- How do you ensure there is consistency between the TC's final report and the letters of reference?

ROBERT ANTON WILSON

Apply the claims made in the next slide to your role as a teacher:

ACTIVITY 4

My own opinion is that belief is the death of intelligence. As soon as one believes a doctrine of any sort, or assumes certitude, one stops thinking about that aspect of existence. The more certitude one assumes, the less there is left to think about, and a person sure of everything would never have any need to think about anything and might be considered clinically dead under current medical standards, where the absence of brain activity is taken to mean that life has ended. (Robert Anton Wilson, *Cosmic Trigger I*, ii)

JOHN KEATS: NEGATIVE CAPABILITY

“...it struck me what quality went to form a Man of Achievement, especially in Literature, and which Shakespeare possessed so enormously – I mean Negative Capability, that is, when a man is capable of being in uncertainties, mysteries, doubts, without any irritable reaching after fact and reason....” (John Keats, Letter to George and Tom Keats, 21, ?27 December 1817]

JOHN KEATS: NEGATIVE CAPABILITY

Wilfred Bion elaborated on Keats's term to illustrate an attitude of openness of mind which he considered of central importance, not only in the psychoanalytic session, but in life itself. For Bion, negative capability was the ability to tolerate the pain and confusion of not-knowing, rather than imposing ready-made or omnipotent certainties upon an ambiguous situation or emotional challenge.

<https://creativeconflictwisdom.wordpress.com/2012/05/12/john-keats-1795-1821-and-negative-capability/>, December 1, 2015

WHERE I AM SHOWING STRENGTH

I think I am strong at:

STRENGTH

EVIDENCE (other than my own self-evaluation)

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WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Writing a realistic letter of reference for yourself after the short practicum (file it and read it after the second week of EP)
- Deciding on whom you select to write reference letters for you
- Articulating an inclusive but clearly developed approach to assessment
- Outlining a thoughtful and clear statement of educational philosophy
- Building an experiential resume to go along with your academic resume
- Developing self-awareness and a justified critical attitude