

## Scenarios Survey

Wrzesniewski A., McCauley C. R., Rozin P., Schwartz B. (1997). Jobs, careers, and callings: People's relations to their work. *Journal of Research in Personality*, 31, 21–33. doi:10.1006/jrpe.1997.2162 [Crossref](#).

Note that the scenarios below are an example from the literature of different ways people could think about how their work relates to their callings. For undergraduate students, you may want to consider writing your own scenarios following a similar approach, perhaps about how they view the classes they are taking or their major in relationship to what they plan to do after graduation.

*Participants are asked to read the three paragraphs and rate how much they are like the person described in each paragraph on a 4-point Likert-type scale ranging from very much to not at all.*

### Scenario 1 (Job)

A works primarily to earn enough money to support their life outside of their job. If they were financially secure, they would no longer continue with their current line of work but would really rather do something else instead. A's job is basically a necessity of life, a lot like breathing or sleeping. They often wish the time would pass more quickly at work. They greatly anticipate weekends and vacations. If A lived their life over again, they probably would not go into the same line of work. They would not encourage their friends and children to enter their line of work. A is very eager to retire.

### Scenario 2 (Career)

B basically enjoys their work but does not expect to be in their current job five years from now. Instead, they plan to move on to a better, higher-level job. They have several goals for their future pertaining to the positions they would eventually like to hold. Sometimes their work seems a waste of time, but they know that they must do sufficiently well in their current position to move on. B can't wait to get a promotion. For them, a promotion means recognition of their good work, and is a sign of their success in competition with their coworkers.

### Scenario 3 (calling)

C's work is one of the most important parts of their life. They are very pleased that they are in this line of work. Because what they do for a living is a vital part of who they are, it is one of the first things they tell people about themselves. They tend to take their work home with them and on vacation, too. Most of their friends are from their place of employment, and they belong to several organizations and clubs relating to their work. C feels good about their work because they love it, and because they think it makes the world a better place. They would encourage their friends and children to enter their line of work. C would be pretty upset if they were forced to stop working, and they are not particularly looking forward to retirement.