

# Lesson 19. Passion

## Learning Objectives

### After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Categorize what people are passionate about based on their age group.
- Describe what passion is and how passion can drive people.
- Argue whether one should be doing what they love or do what pays.
- Recognize the use of certain vocabularies from a recording using context clues.
- Interpret and explain the content of infographics.
- Discover the problem that lies within the concept of the pursuit of passion.
- Infer relevant information from the provided text.
- Assess and reflect their potential/probable passion using provided prompts.
- Identify and correct the error found in each sentence.

# Lesson 19. Passion

## My Greatest Passion

1. How would you define passion?
2. Do you believe in the notion of passion?
3. Do you know what's yours is?
4. Watch this following clip and complete the table below  
[\(15\) Ages 0-100 Reveal Their Greatest Passion – YouTube](#)
5. Categorize the passion of the individuals in the video based on their age range.

	4 - 16	17 - 29	30 - 42	43 - 55	56 - 68	69 - 81	82 - 95
THE PASSION							

# Lesson 19. Passion

## In a nutshell

**Passion** is a feeling of intense enthusiasm towards or compelling desire for someone or something. Passion can range from eager interest in or admiration for an idea, proposal, or cause; to enthusiastic enjoyment of an interest or activity; to strong attraction, excitement, or emotion towards a person. Passion is what gives people boundless energy, intense almost single-minded focus and the willpower to overcome even the most daunting obstacles.

At it's best, passion is rewarding and makes us more enthusiastic and happy about what we do. But at it's worst, it requires us to suffer through difficulty that transcends our self-interest because we believe the work we do will have meaningful results and outcomes.

*"If passion drives you, let reason hold the reins"*  
– Benjamin Franklin

Interpret what Benjamin Franklin was trying to convey.

# Lesson 19. Passion

## Debate: Should one do what they love or do what pays?

### Points to consider:

- What interests you most.
- How proficient you are at it.
- Can your proficiency/interests generate money?
- What you aim to do with your interests in the long run (do you have a plan?).
- How does doing 'what pays the bill' make you feel? Does it make you feel restless?
- Do you have the privilege to pursue your passion/interests?

Think of:

- One's age.
- Financial situation/financial safety net.
- Do you have dependents?
- Are you the breadwinner of your family?

### Sources:

<https://www.rappler.com/hustle/work/career-advice-follow-passion-work>

<http://www.refreshleadership.com/index.php/2013/10/passion-pay-generation-difference/>

<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/money/10-reasons-why-following-your-passion-more-important-than-money.html>

<https://youhaveacalling.com/passion/five-realities-to-consider-before-pursing-your-passion>

# Lesson 19. Passion

## Keen Listening

Look for the following vocabulary in the recording. Define each vocabulary if you are familiar with it. While listening, jot down how each vocabulary is employed and related to the presented topic.

**vast majority**

**to set the scene**

**tight knot of stress**

**Sunday night blues**

**clear path of progression**

**win career lottery**

**dreaded**

**begged the question**

**square one**

**fit of despair**

**radical sabbatical**

**power dresser**

**animal husbandry**

**fickleness**

**Identify which part of the speech each vocabulary is.**

# Lesson 19. Passion



## Listening 19.1

Listen to the recording carefully and answer these questions below.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/emma\\_rosen\\_how\\_to\\_find\\_your\\_passion\\_and\\_make\\_it\\_your\\_job](https://www.ted.com/talks/emma_rosen_how_to_find_your_passion_and_make_it_your_job)

### How to Find Your Passion and Make it Your Job

1. How did the speaker commence her talk?

**True** or **False**? (question 2 – 4) :

2. The speaker was describing how looking forward she was to going working.

3. The speaker celebrated her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday by trying 25 different occupations.

4. The speaker got her alpaca farming job by contacting a farmer that she knew on Twitter.

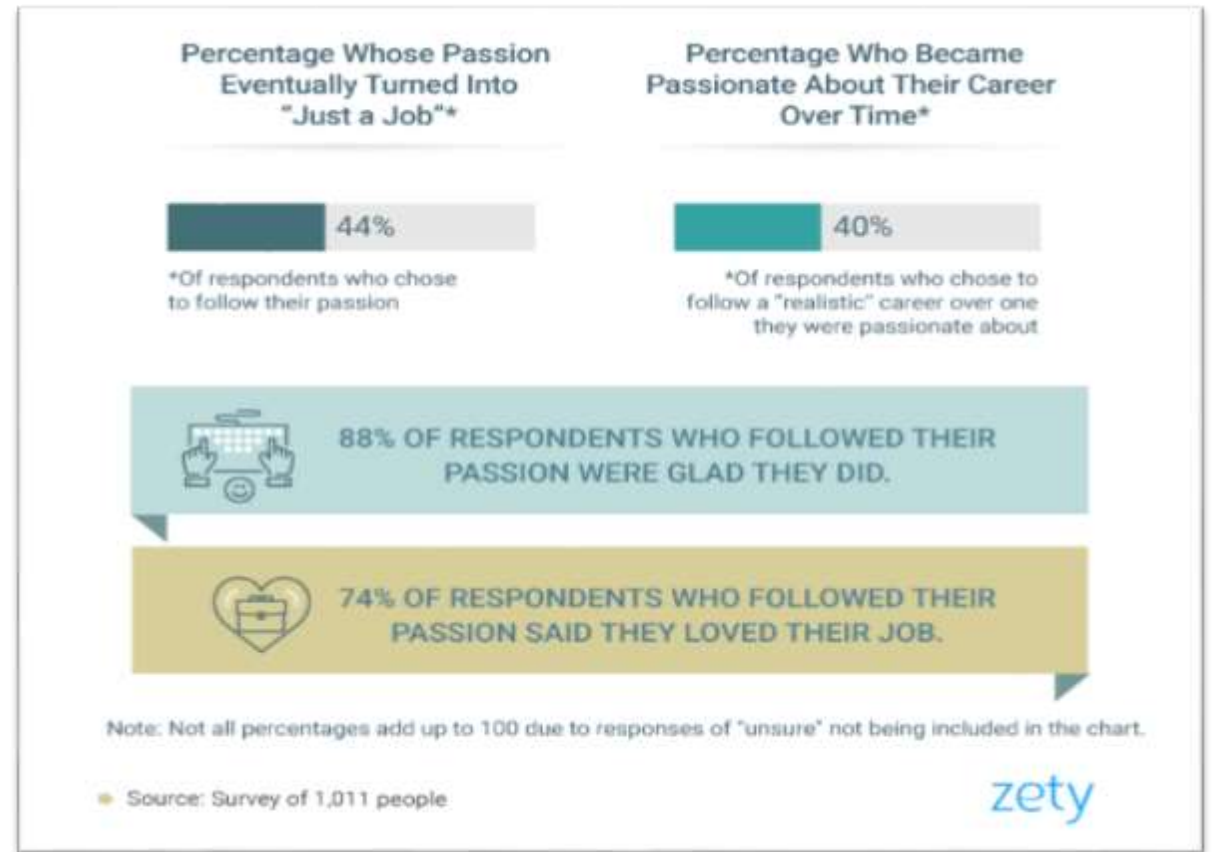
5. Why was the speaker instructed to come to the alpaca farming in January?

6. According to the speaker, what did the owner of the alpaca farming do with the alpacas' sheared fur?

7. What does the figure "65" mean?

# Lesson 19. Passion

Study and discuss the graphs below.



Reference: <https://www.cleverism.com/why-you-should-have-at-least-two-careers/>



# Lesson 19. Passion

## The Problem With Following Your Passion

In a recent biography of Elon Musk, Bloomberg technology writer Ashlee Vance documents how the entrepreneur transformed the electric car industry, launched rockets into space, developed solar technology and devised plans to colonize Mars. Vance emphasizes Musk's diligence and **unwavering zeal**, not just his intelligence and eccentricities. Like Steve Jobs, Musk is a **mercurial perfectionist**, prone to moments of rage, **spurred by passion**. It's tempting to read about someone like Elon Musk and conclude that **passion is a prerequisite for success**. And months from now, it's likely that **a suite of commencement speakers** will stand in front of class after class of new graduates, remarking that "the only way to do great work is to love what you do," as Steve Jobs told the Stanford class of 2005. But is passion really an essential condition for leading a successful life? That idea has **come under attack** in the last few years. Passion is increasingly labeled as mere post hoc storytelling, an empty cliché that makes for a good narrative. Cal Newport, an assistant professor at Georgetown University and author of *So Good They Can't Ignore You*, insists the passion mantra is not just unoriginal but misleading. The goal shouldn't be to find your passion—as if it has been there, undiscovered, from the beginning—but to create one. Recently, a team of psychologists led by Patricia Chen, a graduate student at the University of Michigan, published research that gives us new insights into the relationship between passion and work. The team polled 794 people and found that about 70 percent believed passion is about matching an intrinsically rewarding skill with a certain line of work—what Chen calls **the fit theory**. Under this paradigm, it's easy to explain people like Musk and Jobs: They persevered because their work tapped into a fundamental joy of theirs. The other 30 percent of participants in the study indicated that passion for work is developed and cultivated over time—what Chen calls **the develop theory**. According to this view, which is similar to what Newport endorses, we should think of our skills and proclivities as malleable instead of fixed. Passion is the result of persistent and deliberate practice. Across four studies, the psychologists found that those who think passion can be developed were just as likely to be satisfied with their job **in the long run** as those who **searched for a perfect fit**. These findings suggest, Chen and her team note, that people can "achieve similar levels of well-being at work by endorsing either the fit or develop theory."

# Lesson 19. Passion

This piece of research helps psychologists better understand the nature of passion, yet it still pivots off a very narrow definition, in which to be passionate about something is essentially to enjoy particular challenges that would otherwise be grueling. Moreover, it assumes such passion is the basis for a rewarding professional life. We'd like to introduce two more concepts to broaden what we mean when we talk about passion. Psychological research shows that **life satisfaction correlates with the ability to assess something from multiple viewpoints**. And so **by widening the meaning of passion**, we also allow ourselves more opportunities to find meaning and satisfaction in the lives we lead. In German, the word for passion is *Leidenschaft*, which literally means the ability to **endure adversity**. It is a much less rosy word, not the graduation bromide its English counterpart has become. If you're passionate about something in Germanic cultures, you don't necessarily enjoy it. *Leidenschaft* is about knowing the pursuit will be unpleasant but tolerating it because the outcome is worth the cost. Critically, Germans can be passionate about an activity without feeling the need to pursue it as a profession or worry about higher ideals. From this view, **work is a means to an end**, enabling the pursuit of passion during non-work time. In Eastern Europe, passion can also be understood as *cierpienie* (which roughly translates to "suffering" in Polish). It's a word that describes having a calling, but without any implications of deriving pleasure. You have no choice but to endure it, even when the outcome is not necessarily positive. A good example is Phil Hansen, an artist who developed permanent nerve damage in his hand from spending years practicing pointillism—a drawing and painting technique in which small dots are used to create a larger image. Because of his jittery hand, Hansen could no longer draw straight lines; his previously round dots began to look like "tadpoles." He eventually dropped out of art school and gave up art completely. When his doctor suggested that he "**embrace the shake**," Hansen decided to develop a new approach to art that relied on his handicap. The result was a new genre of creative work. Hansen made portraits out of matches, grease and food. He still used his hands to draw, but instead of creating images from perfect dots, he drew pictures composed entirely of squiggles. In the American sense of the word, art is Hansen's passion. But it's more accurate to describe his life with *cierpienie*. He still experiences joint pain and he still can't draw straight, so he has no choice but to endure his limitation. Despite his glowing TED Talk, the outcome is usually negative, as is the case with all creative work. The final product invariably results from dozens of failed ones.

Read the rest of the text here: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/on-leadership/wp/2015/11/06/the-problem-with-following-your-passion/>

# Lesson 19. Passion

## ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

## VOCABULARY

1. According to the passage, what idea has been scrutinized and contested for these past few years?
2. How does Cal Newport perceive the concept of passion?
3. **True** or **False**: Patricia Chen, who has just graduated from the University of Michigan, spearheaded a research consisting of a team of psychologists.
4. How does the passage convince the readers of this article that the word “passion” actually has a broader sense of meaning/multiple interpretations?
5. Infer what Phil Hansen is passionate about.
6. How has Phil Hansen’s passion “backfired” on him?

1. bright or cheerful; optimistic.
2. a person or thing closely resembling another, especially in function.
3. something formulated after the fact.
4. to persist in a state or undertaking in spite of counterinfluences, opposition, or discouragement.
5. to manage to use something in a way that brings good results.
6. a remark or statement that, although it might be true, is boring and has no meaning because it has been said so many times before.
7. a system of assumptions, concepts, values, and practices that constitutes a way of viewing reality.
8. an inclination or predisposition toward something.
9. dull, bleak, and lifeless; depressing.
10. having a capacity for adaptive change.
11. to make a dramatic change in policy, position, or strategy.
12. extremely tiring and difficult, and demanding great effort and determination.

- a. **post hoc**
- b. **paradigm**
- c. **persevere**
- d. **tap into**
- e. **proclivity**
- f. **malleable**
- g. **pivot**
- h. **grueling**
- i. **rosy**
- j. **bromide**
- k. **counterpart**
- l. **dreary**

# Lesson 19. Passion

## Finding Your Passion

Ponder the ways of figuring out your passion as detailed on the vertical arrow lists below.

Objectively answer each aspect covered in the following outline.

Then, assess whether your answers reflect the passions worth pursuing

### What you mostly read

- Books you read
- Create a list of books you want to read
- News headlines

### What you mostly watch

- Your top 5 TED Talks
- What non-viral YouTube videos have you watched recently?

### What you mostly talk about

- At work
- When hanging out with friends
- With those closest to you

### What you mostly write about

- In your journal
- In your social media/blog
- The best structured writing you've ever produced

# Lesson 19. Passion

## Identify the error in each sentence and correct it.

1. Following your passion presupposes that you have one. Nevertheless, many people don't.

A B C D
2. "Finding your passion" suggests that interests and passions are fixed, rather than fluid and evolve as we age and gain wisdom and experience.

A B C D
3. Be careful not to confuse a job title with living passionately. Sometime a job that we think we would love comes with familiar baggage.

A B C D
4. Growing your passion has many payoffs, such as joy and the rewards of master, but be realistic about what it takes.

A B C D
5. Passionate people are almost always ambitious. They want to have a speak in the field that they love.

A B C D
6. Depending on your passionate pursuit, you may have to start at the bottom of the food chain and work way up to a more substantial level of payment.

A B C D

# Lesson 19. Passion

7. While graduating students are often exhorted to do work they love to do, those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds are less likely to feel that they are a fit for and have the skills to thrive in a job that calls about passion.  
A  
B C D
8. To be passionate about something is to whether the storm no matter how hard it is.  
A B C D
9. Most of us are living our lives without any aim or reason. Because of this, we tend to become disoriented and lost our way somewhere in the middle.  
A B C  
D
10. A probable source for what we are passionate with may come from what we were exposed to during our childhood.  
A B C D
11. The one thing that everyone could agree on about passion is that it is closely associated with drive, enthusiast, limitless energy, motivation, the push, etc.  
A B C D

# Lesson 19. Passion

## Express Yourself:

1. Were there ever any ambitions you used to have but not anymore?
2. What do you strive for nowadays?
3. How do you think you can turn your interests or hobbies into a career?
4. Is there anything that, when immersed in it, you lose track of time?
5. What skills come to you naturally? Can those “natural” skills somehow generate income for you? Have you ever thought of monetizing your skills?
6. Does passion have to be something that can generate money?
7. Why do you think is passion synonymous with the means of making money/working?
8. Is life still worth living even though one doesn't know what their “calling” is?
9. What would you be willing to do for free? If you didn't have to worry about money nor time, what would you be doing?
10. What truly makes you happy or gives you a deep sense of fulfillment?
11. Would you say that you are privileged enough to be able to pursue your passion?

---

**THE END**