

You Need More than Skills & Experience to Get a Job These Days...

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By David Green

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A lot of people believe that an employer's decision on hiring a candidate depends on just skills and experience. Well they couldn't be farther from the truth because that is false.

Here is the truth...

Skills and experience within your profession aren't what gets candidates the job. The truth is that there are too many candidates with the proper skills and experience to get the job, and ONLY one usually gets the job.

Companies are looking for more than skills and experience these days. So it's extremely important that you all your individual characteristics mirror your passion.

So what are the other factors that are usually invisible to candidates?

****Self-Awareness**** - who are you and where are you going? What are your plans for the present and the future? How do you know what you want? How do you know that you're right for this job?

Employers want to make sure that you're not lost.

****Learning Skills**** - Are you willing to learn? Are you current on trends and technology? Are you a person who loves to "grow" within their profession? You want to show an employer that you're a candidate that learns in order to progress your career.

****Adaptability**** - With everything changing so rapidly today, it's possible that tomorrow your skills may no longer be relevant. Are you a person who adapts well to change?

****Character**** - Do you show passion in your industry, because when you do, it projects through your résumé, cover letter, and especially during the interview. An employer wants a dependable trustworthy employee. The more you project your positive character, the better!

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You can have a huge advantage over your competition by going one step. Create a career portfolio and within it make sure that you showcase all the categories above in the proper manner. I guarantee that this will give you a major edge over your competition.

So you see that it's not all about skills and experience. It's really important that you consider the factors above, because them alone can get you the job

=====[David Green is an author and hiring manager of Distinguish Marketing, LLC. If you want insider information on how to receive a job in 30 days or less any time you wish throughout your career click here! Free lessons which includes more resume, cover](#)

letter, and career portfolio tips! =====

WRITING YOUR WRITING JOB DESCRIPTION

By Mary Anne Hahn

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Have you ever heard about the "motivational" concept of writing your own obituary?

The idea is, you write what you would like your obit to say, by summarizing all those accomplishments that you most want to achieve during the course of your life. Motivation gurus suggest that this enables us to focus on what's most important to us, while discarding those activities that truly don't matter in the long run.

Along similar—but less morbid—lines, I believe that we writers might find it helpful if we took the time to write our own writing job descriptions. If we could lead the writing lives of our dreams, what types of writing would we be doing? Who would our customers and/or readers be? In what niches would we specialize? What would we consider to be our strongest skills, our areas of expertise?

Or let's say that you want to diversify your writing goals. You could develop a job description for each niche. In this way, you could identify the experience and skills you already possess, and which ones you still need to work on.

Here's an example: suppose one of your writing career goals involves writing profile articles—of celebrities, politicians, business leaders, scientists, or just ordinary people who do extraordinary things. What attributes would such a writer need to possess?

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Excellent interviewing skills, obviously. Research skills would help as well; you certainly wouldn't want to walk into the interview with absolutely no background knowledge of your interviewee or his/her subject matter. Attention to detail would come in handy, too. What is your interviewee wearing? What can you say about his smile, or her vocal qualities? What does the interviewee's home or office tell us about him?

So your profile writing job description might look like this:

Job Title: Profile Article Writer

Job Description: Interview famous, influential and or interesting people, and write article profiles on them for publication in local and national magazines.

Skills/Experience Needed: Excellent writing skills and attention to detail required. Experience in conducting interviews with people in a wide variety of occupations. Proven online and library research skills. Knowledge of publications with a track record of running article profiles.

Do you see how creating a writing job description for yourself might help direct you towards the kinds of writing assignments that you want to land? If so, spend some time today developing your own.

Mary Anne Hahn is editor and publisher of WriteSuccess, the free biweekly ezine of ideas, information and inspiration for people who want to launch and maintain successful writing careers. To subscribe, [mailto: writesuccess-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:writesuccess-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

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