# Considering Your Career Priorities

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Knowing what motivates you and gives you fulfilment can help you focus your time and energy on development activities and career avenues that bring you the rewards that matter to you.[[1]](#footnote-1) Consider how important each of the following values are to you. Consider also the questions below.

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| **Potential motivator** | **Scale**(1 – not important, 5 – very important) |
| 1. **Job security**
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| 1. **Good income**
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| 1. **Flexible working environment**
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| 1. **Working alone**
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| 1. **Variety**
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| 1. **Contact with people**
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| 1. **Feeling appreciated**
 |  |
| 1. **Pursuing excellence**
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| 1. **Professional recognition**
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| 1. **High level of responsibility**
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| 1. **Helping others, benefitting wider community**
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| 1. **Status within organization**
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| 1. **Status outside organization**
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| 1. **Using technical expertise**
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| 1. **Opportunity to be creative**
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| 1. **Challenging work, using abilities/skills fully**
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| 1. **Specific geographic location**
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| 1. **Working on a team**
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| 1. **Managing other people**
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| 1. **Opportunity for promotion**
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**Questions**:

* How many of your highest priorities are met by your current work?
* Are any of your highest priorities in conflict with the work you do now?
* Which, if any, of your highest priorities are you willing to compromise on?
* Which priorities would you consciously seek in a new career opportunity?
1. Adapted from Vitae’s ‘The Career-Wise Researcher’ ([vitae.ac.uk/researcherbooklets](http://vitae.ac.uk/researcherbooklets)) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)