

# IBIS : What's in my backpack

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The lesson from Friday last week made me really think about a couple of different things. First of all it started with some inspiring videos ; a youtube movie, what was all about what you want to do if money wasn't a option and secondly, the commencement speech of Steve Jobs which he gave in 2005 at Stanford University.

This last one I already saw once and inspired me at that time to, but in the light of this lesson and the assignment of making a masterplan and thinking about your passion, it was a little bit different and of course very use full.

Steve Jobs is in my opinion a very inspiring person and the "Think Different" campaign he launched in 1997 when he came back to Apple, is a great motto to keep in mind and to start this innovation study with. After all, thinking different is the basic of every great innovation.

When we where asked about our passion's, I noticed that I couldn't write them down immediately. I was thinking about lost of interests that I have, but couldn't find something which motivate me so much that I want to work on it every moment and where I can go for completely.

Except a present or a call from the lottery there are even very little other things, for what you can awake me for at night.

Nevertheless my list of interests are very long and maybe that can be one of the problems for not having a answer to the question about my passion.

Because this text need to be around the 500 to 750 words I guess it's useful to mention some of them, what would be a massive help to get to that amount of words.

First of all the thing I enjoy most is to listen to **music** and to visit **concerts** and **festivals**. The music genres I listen to are very divers and of course that's the same for the concerts and festivals I like to go to. I don't play an instrument, I don't sing and I do not make music in any other kind of way but if I would have, I can imagine that it would be a great passion of mine. The point is, I don't know where to start and can't find the motivation for it to find that out.

Another interest of mine is to **travel**. I've seen the common touristic places in Europe like Lloret de Mar, Cote d'Azur, Barcelona, Paris, etc, etc. I don't mean those places and that travel experience when I talk about my interest for traveling. I mean adventure, unique locations and creativity like I did before when I made a Road trip for 5 months in a camper Van through Europa or when I went for eight weeks to Ghana.

A third interest that I have is that I like to take **leadership** and that I can be a good **organizer** to. The things that I like to organize are very different from each other. It can be a great housewarming party where I take the leadership in all the things that are need to be done, a apartment that needs to be found for four friends and myself in Amsterdam or I can be the one that works the most on organizing a city trip. Such a thing is easily to combine with my interest in travel ( as mentioned before ) but also with my interest in **history** and **culture**.

I like learn about ancient places and buildings and this comes with my interest in **architectural** stuff, interest in **design** and a **eye for perfection** in that way. When I write and talk about my business dream history, culture, design, architectonic comes all together in my dream to renovate a old house to live in and combine it with modern architect. Even through I'm interested I all those things, I didn't found that thing in all those interest above, that can motivated me enough to work with every moment and to lose myself in. That's the same for my interest in **politics**. I like to read about it, I like to watch programs about it, I like to follow the news about it but I'm not that interested yet to become an expert in it.

The only interest that I had, where I was really passionated about was **entrepreneurship**. For over half a year I worked on my ideas and tried to make a real company out of it, it was hard and I'm not succeeded yet

but it gave me energy and I would like to continue with this or to pick up some of the many other ideas I have.

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The thing I realize is that, because I have so much interests and things I want to do with those interest, that I can't focus. In the end this means in practice I don't do anything, because I can't focus on what I want to do most and then where back at the question : " What's your passion ? "

What I think I need to do is to find a red line between all my interests and maybe when I've found them it's more easy to focus and to start working on the things I want and to create my passion, because I definitely want one !

This step that I will take is in the same line with the subjects of the second lesson of *What's in my backpack*. Here we talked a lot about our brains and the red line of the videos and lesson was that you need to find out which things you want to learn and in which things you're good at. If you focus on those things, you will enjoy life as much as possible because if you do something you like, you will never really work and because of the fact you focus on the things you're good at, you become a pro and can make a living out of the things you like to do. A very important condition to make a success out of it, is to find your intrinsic motivation.

To help myself getting the focus I need and the intrinsic motivation to work on things that interests me, a plan and perseverance is necessarily. The first step I've made is to swim two or maybe three times a week, I like doing that and it's good to change your mind for a moment. It also gives me often a lot of idea's and when finished I'm often very focused. Furthermore I settled a deadline ; in the next two weeks I want to find out which things from my interest really excites me and which not. Secondly I'll do research about my idea's that I have for entrepreneurship. Maybe some ideas are worthless and maybe there are some things that are worth it to work them out and have something similar with my interests.

But before that I wil do that it's a good idea to have a deeper look into myself to find out if 'lots of interestes' and "not having a focus" are the only reasons why some things wouldn't start. In class we talked about our personalities and we did a test to find out which type of person we are. The conclusion of that test was that i'm a 'protagonist' or ENFJ which means in my opinion almost everything. Of course there where some criteria that really did fit me like being really self-convinced but it was more like a horoscope ; there is always something in it that fits you.

An other far more important thing to mention is that the reasons why I can't do something with all those interest is a short of time. IBIS is a rigorous program witch takes around 40 hours a week of my time, then there is some time for swimming as mentioned before and two evenings a week i've got my fraternity so the conclusion of all that is i don't have so much time left for other things. Another very important thing to keep in mind is that, previous on starting IBIS I enjoyed a gap year where there were no liabilities and in September that switched to full mandatory days. That's a great change and a change I honestly like but a massive one. Especially being still in that flow, meaning having not a clear focus because before the start I didn't need one because there was always plenty of time. Now that changed and i'm developing myself with that change and when I take a look at my interests, my inspirations and fascinations I see that there is maybe a very clear red line in it.

I can't work on them all separately and I even don't want that because I don't want to dive very deep into the most of them, I'm just interested and like to learn more about it and to let those interest trigger me to something bigger an eventually my business dream. So I can say those interests are all about learning from them and getting more knowledge. The red line is see in them is also education, International Business & Innovation studies to be exactly. Because I have the idea that, when I chose the right study course ( which i'm convinced of ) all those interest are going to be part of the IBIS program, the NLO's and the quandary. And IBIS will trigger me hopefully to work on them, take them out of the class and to make it fit into my daily life so that there will be ideas created at IBIS, where I can work on in my daily life and maybe really starting something with it. The only things that I will need then is intrinsic motivation for the course and patience because i'm now only in the first term and there are four years ahead of me, so that's plenty of time !

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Workshop three continued the theme of workshop two what ended with exploring your personality with the 16 personalities test. To dive deeper into myself this reflection is basically about who I am which was the theme of the third workshop. In the previous reflection I already mentioned some things about myself but now I should to make it even more specific then before and more focused on my character.

Since writing this reflections, starting with IBIS, living in Amsterdam and being part of a fraternity i'm constantly surrounded with ambitious people. Thats a really positive thing that I like and that makes me ambitious to. Dealing with the point that I have lots of things I want, lots of ambitions and lots of intertest that I often don't that much with it's important to keep that constantly in mind because that would be my greatest challenge. I need a focus, working step by step and patience.

One of the things that I wanted to do was being more sportive and starting to swim, I did, bought a year pass and now my goal is to go there for two or maybe three times a week. With doing those things that I've promised to myself and written above, I see when I reflect on myself that I'm honest and willing to develop myself. Thats a very important part of answering the question : " Who am I ? "

Another subject from this workshop was about the iceberg theory : " What do you show the world and maybe more important what don't you show the world ?". I thing that in my case there aren't that many differences. I'm not a completely different person when I walk out the door. Of course I'm more self-convinced with family and close friend but because I'm already a really self-convince person with a strong own opinion there aren't that much differences between what I show the world and who I really am. The only thing that comes in mind is the main subject of this reflection. I've doubts about my ambition, my interests, passion and what I really want to do. That's something the world wouldn't see immediately and that I wouldn't show so often. Of course there is a paradox when writing this reflection about a point that I wouldn't show that soon to the world but I can say thats also a part of who I am.

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Unfortunately i've missed the IBIS What's in my backpack college tour so this reflection will be that last one and will be about completing my reflections. In the last couple of weeks I've learn a lot, focusing on myself and the workshops what's in my backpack i've learn really interesting things. The theoretical business insides which can be used to identify your own personality such as the golden circle. Knowing the why, how and what are very important in your own life but also in business and when those things are becoming part of each other, what my final business dream is, those three needs to be answered. I've completed my masterplan during the couple of weeks and those are an important part of it.

When reflection the workshops and link them to my personal life I need to answer a couple of questions where we talked about. The keyword of everything is development. It doesn't matter if it's at school, business, sport, fraternity or social private life, everything is linked with each other. When I look at my own development during the last weeks i've noticed that I've a better insight of who I am, what interests me but especially what are my real learning moments. I tried to write about those experiences in te reflection of my previous education ( added to my masterplan ) but mostly in this reflections when I wrote about the important insights that I still don't have a clear passion. As can be read in my masterplan I do have a clear idea where I want to be in 5 or 10 years. During and after writing these reflections every week I came more and more to idea that the most important thing where I need to grow is my patience. I want to much things to quick and to soon and in the end that's not an efficient way. When I look at my happiest memories and to the moments where i've improved myself the most, I noticed that all those moments were ones where it was relaxed and where I was patient. Moments were I worked at my idea to build a tutor application and was focussed on it for hours, moments of enjoying a beautiful concert of two or three hours and the moments when I take time for a swim and getting totally relaxed.

With this insight I can continue and working on the things I want step by step. I've look at my list of enterprising ideas and came to the conclusion that almost every ideas takes a lot of time. I will keep them in mind and with my intrinsic motivation to become an entrepreneur and participating IBIS and a fraternity where i'm surrounded by lost of ambitious people in a ambitious vibe im totally convinced that there will be a right time for some of those ideas but not now, because I need my focus for other things. At the other hand there is one idea that doesn't take that much time and can be directly linked with IBIS, maybe some NLO's and my interesstes. I wouldn't write about it here because I need to think about it seriously first but when there is some interesting information I will mention it at the interview !