## Reflection essay what's in my backpack 1.

At the first lesson of what's in my backpack, we talked about several things. We started with introducing ourselves. I had to say my name, where I come from, what are my talents, what would be your role in a company and in which company do you want to work. So I told: my name is Saray, 17 years old and I come from Zaandijk. I am good at singing, acting, the whole musical thing. I am a leader and I want to improve and learn about it better. I want to work in a Christian company in which I can help people and support them. I don't want to make a system, or work at an office, I really want to be there. One of the assignments was to write your passion, goals, dreams and actions. I thought, for me, it was actually strange that some people didn't knew about what they want to do. Well maybe it is not that strange, because in some environments it is not that common to talk about yourself. In our youth organisation of the church, we do discuss about what your talents are, what your destination is, plan, how you are going to do that, because we believe that we aren't just here to live and make money or so. We, I, believe that you are here for a reason and that God has a plan for your life, because he made you! I learned to think about your business dreams, because it is important to know what you want and what you want to change as an innovator. I want to help people, but I still want to make money, be professional and an example for your company and others.

I found it very interesting to watch the speech of Steve jobs. I think it is good to hear a story of a person because it explains the way he or she is acting now. Something I really realised is this: you can have a lot of knowledge about business or the way things work, but if you don't know yourself, nothing else matters. When your business goes bank robbed, the only thing you have than is yourself. So it is important to invest in your own development. Who are you, what do you want to offer others, what makes you happy? I think it is very good that we have this kind of lessons, I find it very interesting. This lessons will give me things to think about and I think I will like the discussions that will follow.

Than some things in general: I learned about the different tasks in a company in the fundamentals of business. Now, I think it is a bit difficult because I haven't heard about all these business words ever. Well not in detail. I hope I will learn more about it and that I will have the courage to ask questions. In the course the international world of business I learned about the existence of money and how society changed throughout the years.

So this was my first reflection, hope to learn more and more!

Saray koel 570588 16-9-15

## **Reflection essay 2**

Today's lesson was about your brain. We watched 4 clips about education and the development of your brain. Before we watched the clips we had a recap of last week. Three students read their reflection out loud. I thought it was so beautiful and inspiring! It was amazing to hear how they thought about the lesson in which we discussed about what your talents were, your passion etc. etc. I found it very brave that they wanted to open themselves and be so vulnerable.

The video clips we watched talked about the following subjects: the first showed that it is so important that, when you are young, you have to develop yourself and you have to be creative, use the maximum capacity of your brain. It is strange that in our education system, we are educated to become high professors. That means that people who are not excellent in the 'head' subjects, do not belong in our environment, because they don't fit. Professors only use their head and use their body to get their heads from A to B. something I also learned is that your brain uses big picture thinking. So it is weird that in school all the subjects acquired separately. I did hear it before, but it sometimes is important to hear it again: it is not wrong to make mistakes. If you are afraid to be wrong, you can't be original. A kid is not conscious that putting food on the floor is wrong. He just didn't knew. In our society we are always told wat we did wrong. When we look at something the first thing that we look for is: what is wrong? While it is the best thing to focus on the positive, we focus on the negative. How did society became so contradictory... I think that that is something we should change. For example by going to your own primary school and make them aware. I think it is a real pro, when a primary school do focus on the creative side of a person and don't exclude anything. When I think back to my primary school time, I do had the opportunity to develop myself in a creative way. For example we were allowed to organise our own dancing show and in high school I had the opportunity to organise the Easter musical. I think that helped me to become the person I am now. I like to organise things and to be a manager of something.

If you talk about talents and capacities: after all the clips and a break, we had to do a personality test. We made it on the website: <u>www.16personalities.com</u> I think this was one of the greatest tests I have ever made. The explanation was very good and I recognized myself in it. When I filled in the answers I was thinking: how will this ever give me a clear result. All the answers were so different and sometimes I felt like they were so contradicting. My result was: you are a 'the consul'. I thought: consul? Do I need to give people advice? I thought it wasn't correct, but I read the explanation. It says that these personalities are great leaders and managers. They also want to be helpers to other people, supporting them. Well, it already connected my business dream! But, there was more: the esfj's want to make their choices and thoughts on traditional basses. It is important to keep in mind that, when you're talking to someone, you have to be reminded that everyone has a different background and that your truth is not always the truth of someone else. I think this was a great lesson!

## **Reflection essay 3**

So for this class we had to take the strength finders test. It took me half an hour and I thought that the questions were sometimes a bit strange. After all the outcome was nice. I had maximize, individualization, activator, responsibility, relator. I liked that it said that I want to get the best out of others. That I, in a group, the strengths of others use to make them and the project or assignment better. It also said that I'm intrigued with the unique qualities of others. I don't agree with what they said at the activator strength: 'they are often impatient'. I don't think that I'm often impatient, I don't mind waiting... well sometimes. We also had to think about why a company would take you. We watched a short clip about the golden circle. The companies who are working with the 'how' and 'what' are worse at selling than companies who are also using the 'why'. Customers are buying your product because they believe you. So if you want the job in a company, they should believe you.

This was preparation for the elevator pitch. Say in a couple sentences what you believe, what you aim for, what you're at, what you the company will bring and your proof. I had a hard time thinking about my elevator pitch. The reason is first of all, I don't have that much experience in the business world, I have to learn a lot still. Maybe it is also because I have different goals in life. I do want to be successful and use my capabilities in a company, but life is way more than just making money. You are here for someone else, to be there for them and to help them. So, to make a real business pitch it is hard to come up with ideas. I made a word web for each subject/ question and via that way I came up with the answers and wrote my pitch. It still need to be a lot better, because you need to sell yourself and bring your message powerful. At the end I was happy with the result and I learned much from it. I know that I will develop myself a lot with this course and sometimes that can be a bit hard.

## **Reflection essay 4.**

The last lesson we had a quest speaker. The name of this guy was Gabriel McIntyre and he is the cofounder of the company: The game beyond. He makes games to solve difficult problems. For example there was this mental disorder and scientists are searching for answers for a very long time. By using his game he invented he came up with the solution. So he makes something difficult to solve or understand, easy by offering games. Some general things he said about how we can be innovative, are the following. You should have a passion. He literally said that your passion prevents you from shooting yourself. I think that is a bit exaggerated, but there are people who do that, so it's not bad to mention. So having a passion for something is very important, that is what several people said till now. He also said it is important to read books. I like reading books (well I don't do it that often, but I still like it) and it is nice to let your imagination going by reading. When you read you can place yourself in another person. You can train your creativity. One time he was talking to a scientist and a ballerina at the same time. Those are completely different, but it is challenging to try to combine those different things. He also said that to become more creative or open minded, you should go out and travel the world. It is also important to start working at different companies. In that way you will know what you like and what not. In other countries you can learn from different cultures. Another way to improve your creativity is by going to museums. I like history and it is important to know what happen in the past to improve on that.

If you are making something, you should always make a prototype first. This will save you a lot of time and money. Living your life means: following your own destination. You can make a difference but then you have to stand out. You can't do what everyone else does. Follow what you want in your life.

I also had this interesting inside: if you want to change the future, you should go to the source. Go to the people who are making the future. For example, you can go to these congresses to hear what they are planning for the future. Another tip was: organise your own event, promote that to other companies, than go to their events and promote your company or people. You should always take a camera with you. In that way you record everything and you can show that to other people again. Than the last tip: if you have your own company, get a good lawyer and an accountant. It will save you time searching for things you, as a business person, don't have that much knowledge about. I liked the college tour, but I'm not a gamer, so I didn't had that much knowledge about it. I like learning different things from different people. I search for the aspects that are relevant for me and leave the rest out.