**Industry Data**

**Question 1**

My idea of an ideal job in IT would be that of an Information Security Manager. After exploring data in relation to the demand for various job titles in IT, I’ve seen that there doesn’t seem to be any particular demand for Information Security Managers. This would make sense though when you consider the fact that it isn’t an entry-level position and it requires years of experience. However, the field of cybersecurity itself is in huge demand right now. Here are two sources that are helping push forward a call for more cybersecurity specialists:

* The 2014 Cisco Annual Security Report - this report states “It’s estimated that by 2014, the industry will still be short more than a million security professionals across the globe.”
* Cybersecurity Ventures - this company is predicting that “It’s estimated that by 2014, the industry will still be short more than a million security professionals across the globe.” They also believe that all IT positions, if not already, will end up requiring some form of expertise in cybersecurity.

In terms of how the job title of Information Security Manager ranks among employers in regard to demand, its ranking would be relatively low. On the other hand, an entry-level position in cybersecurity for any job title of this field is in huge demand. Therefore, there wouldn’t be many barriers preventing me from getting into this industry.

**References**

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/3201974/it-careers/cybersecurity-job-market-statistics.html>

<https://www.monster.com/career-advice/article/information-security-analysts-high-demand>

**Question 2**

1. The IT-specific skills that come with being involved in cybersecurity are diverse. Some of the main, and most sought after, skills are those grounded in coding. Expertise in some coding languages are considered more valuable than others though. For example, you can be expected to know both Java and Python. Java, according to a study conducted by Burning Glass International, is ranked 3rd for demand. Python however, is ranked 22nd. Another skill that’s non-related to programming languages would be a basic understanding of web applications. This experience could later translate into website production, which happens to be ranked 17th for demand.
2. General skills considered essential in cybersecurity would primarily be those of soft skills. These soft skills may be considered as well-developed oral and written communication skills. It just so happens that, according to Burning Glass International, communication skills in general are the number 1 most sought after general skill in IT as a whole. Other important skills in this field would be an ability to work as part of a team and experience with troubleshooting techniques. Team work related skills are ranked 5th for demand and troubleshooting skills are ranked 6th.
3. The 3 highest ranked IT-specific skills not in my required skill set are SQL, JavaScript, and project management.
4. The 3 highest ranked general skills not in my required skill set are problem solving, organisational, and planning skills.

**Reference**

<https://news.clearancejobs.com/2016/11/12/skills-need-high-paying-cyber-security-job/>

**Question 3**

After looking at the burning glass data, my job aspirations have not changed. A good quantity of the skills required in cybersecurity are in high demand as of now. If this is a pathway I choose to commit to, I have many advantages to help me make this a reality.