



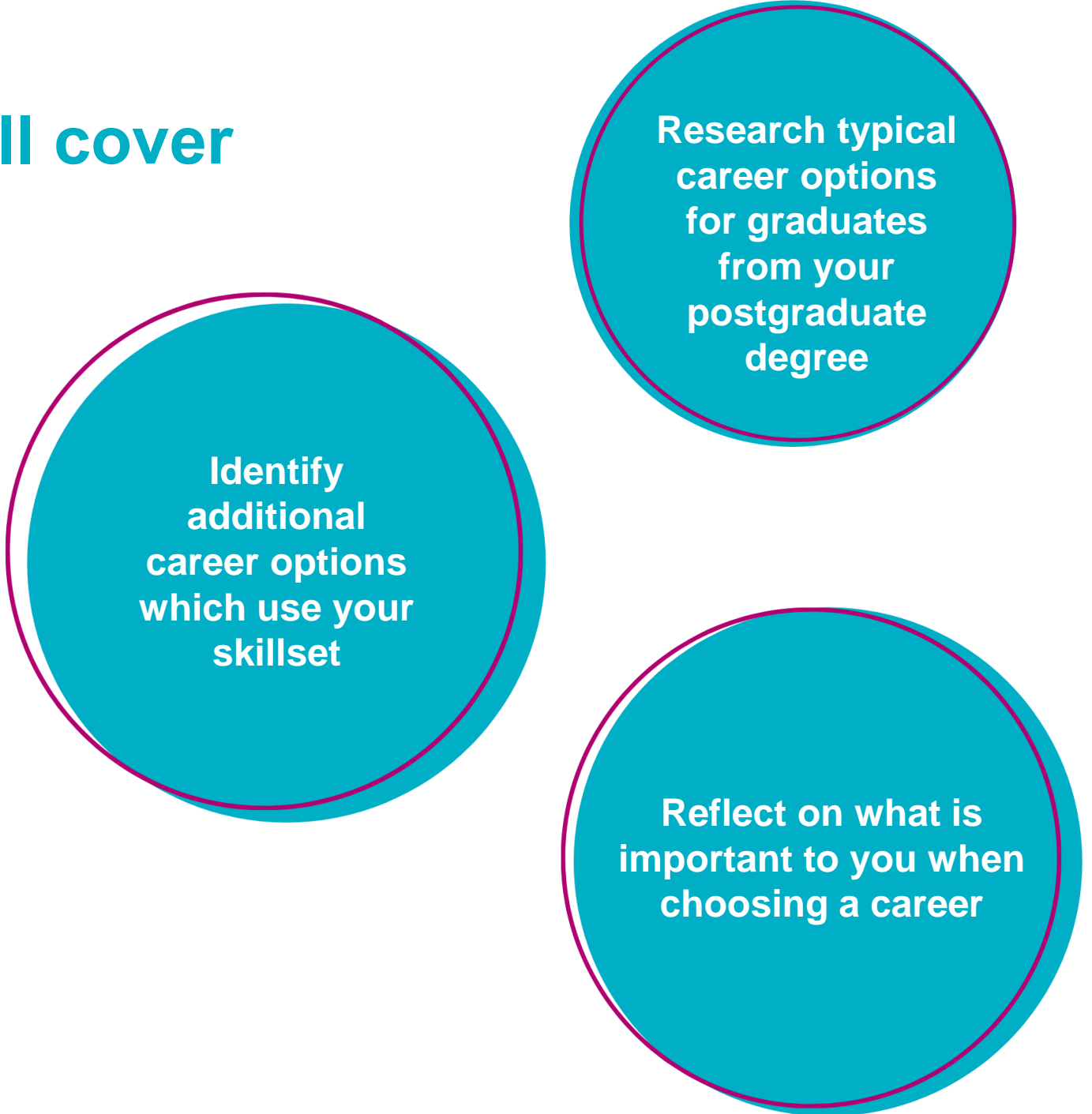
POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD



What can I do with a Masters degree?

Anna Flatt– PGT Careers Adviser

In today's session we will cover how to...



Identify
additional
career options
which use your
skillset

Research typical
career options
for graduates
from your
postgraduate
degree

Reflect on what is
important to you when
choosing a career

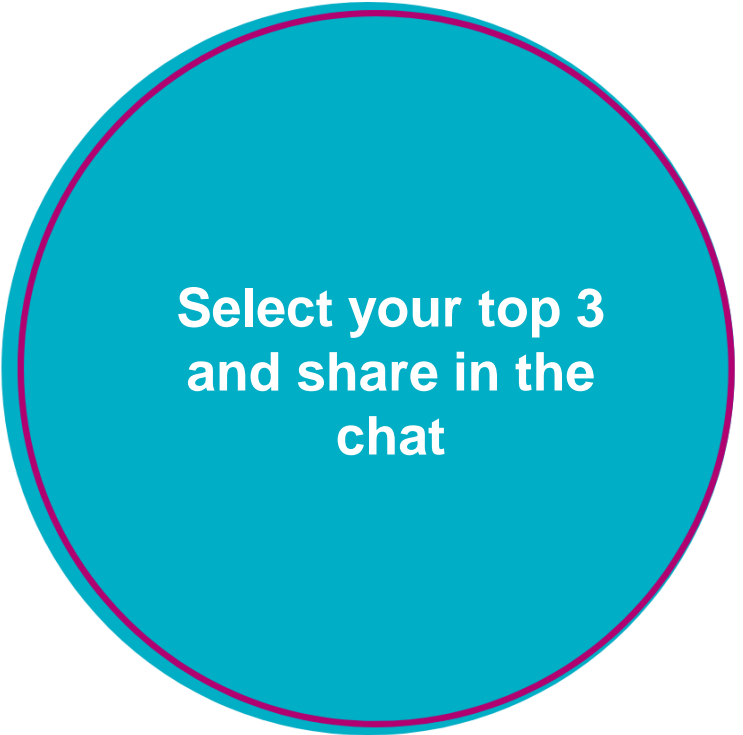
Should we ask ourselves...

What *can* I do?

What do I *want* to do?

What is important to you in your future career?

Salary
Company size
Being an expert
Making a difference
Working with others
Being your own boss
Structure
Flexibility
Creativity
Progression
Being challenged
Variety
Location
Reputation/status
Using my subject knowledge



Select your top 3
and share in the
chat

Your values and motivations

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What is your preferred working style or environment?
- What do you tend to prioritise?
- What makes you feel proud or fulfilled?
- What gives you a sense of achievement?
- Who inspires you and why?

Identifying your values and motivations can help you choose a role and a company that feels right for you. [Mind Tools](#) has a useful resource on identifying your own values.

What is a strength?



Share your
definition

Identifying your strengths

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What would your friends say you're good at?
- What activities do you do which feel easy?
- What activities do you do where you feel like time passes really quickly?
- What activities make you feel positive or energised?
- Imagine you've just arrived home from a good day of studying, working or practicing a hobby. You are talking to a friend about your day. What aspects of it are you describing?

Strengths in career planning

- You are more likely to excel in and gain satisfaction from jobs which use your strengths
- In the UK, most employers recruit based on skills and strengths
- Matching your strengths with the skills listed in a job description can be a good way to decide if a job is right for you.



**Look at Job
Profiles on
[Prospects.ac.uk](https://prospects.ac.uk)**

Options after a Masters degree

Jobs for Masters students

Approaching the graduate job market with a Masters degree can put people ahead of pack and can really impress employers. Having a Masters degree shows employers a commitment to furthering their education and a higher level of understanding which can be vital in the race to land that graduate job.

⚠ No matching jobs were found. Here are the latest jobs.

- Only 2% of employers set a PG degree as a requirement when recruiting, according to ISE research
- Whilst the skills from your postgraduate studies can help you stand out, there is not a separate job market for Masters graduates in the UK

How could you find out about your career options?

- What websites could you use?
- Who could you speak to?
- Are there any other research methods you could use?



**Share your
ideas**

What is a graduate scheme?

- Often recruit from any degree, so this is an option for you!
- Typically a 1-3 year programme with a large employer
- Part of a cohort of graduates
- Open to graduates without a PG degree
- Includes relevant training and sometimes a professional qualification
- Often includes rotations/placements in different areas of a business
- May lead to a permanent role at the end
- Has a rigorous recruitment process
- Often recruit from any degree subject
- Important to check timescales in relation to Masters completion!



**Note: Many
graduate
schemes are
already
recruiting for
September 2024**

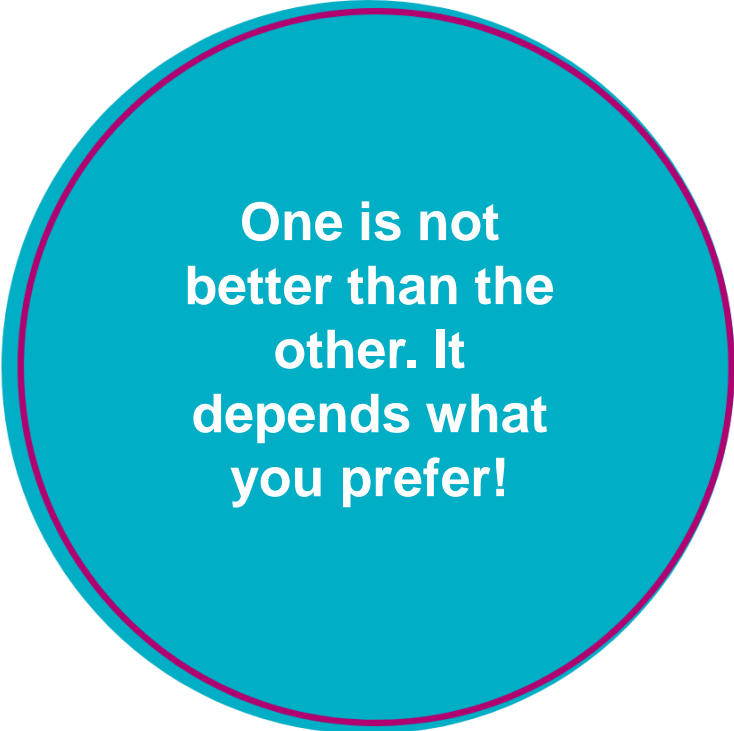
Graduate jobs vs graduate schemes

A graduate job can refer to any job that requires a degree. Some ways in which a graduate job differs from a graduate scheme might be:

- You might have a more clearly defined role
- You might be the only graduate starting at that time
- You might be 'thrown in the deep end'
- They are advertised as needed, rather than having a fixed recruitment period, meaning you can apply later
- May be more difficult to find!

Which is right for me?

- Do you like the idea of working for a large company?
- Do you like structure?
- Do you like the idea of having responsibility from the start?
- Do graduate schemes exist in your sector of interest?
- Do you want to be in a particular location?



**One is not
better than the
other. It
depends what
you prefer!**

“Experienced hire” routes

If you already have professional experience, you might not be aiming for a typical graduate job.

- Some larger companies will have an ‘experienced candidates’ page on their website
- Using sector-specific job search websites rather than graduate websites may be more useful for you
- Filter by experience level if possible
- Some professional bodies may map out typical career paths
- Prospects job profiles can give you an idea of earning potential with experience, which you can use as a benchmark
- Use job descriptions as a guide – Can you meet their criteria?

Further study

- A Masters can be a good stepping stone to a PhD
- Think about what you'd like to research and where
- You could also consider vocational qualifications if relevant for your sector

**'Should I do a
PhD?'**

25th October, 2pm

Starting a business or self-employment

- Support and advice on starting a business or setting up as a freelancer
- Funding for starting your business
- Programmes to develop your entrepreneurial skills



Check out the
[B-Enterprising
webpage](#)

How can I find out about my options?

English



AGCAS editors



November, 2020


The skills you gain through studying English are marketable in most sectors. Read on for inspiration on where you could use your degree


Job options

Jobs directly related to your degree include:

- Digital copywriter
- Editorial assistant
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Lexicographer
- Magazine journalist
- Newspaper journalist
- Private tutor


What do graduates do?





University of Birmingham

Empowering people to turn ingenuity into reality and make important things happen
Higher Education · Birmingham, West Midlands · 304,768 followers

 Dashi & 59 other connections work here · 11,250 employees

[✓ Following](#) [Invite](#) [More](#)

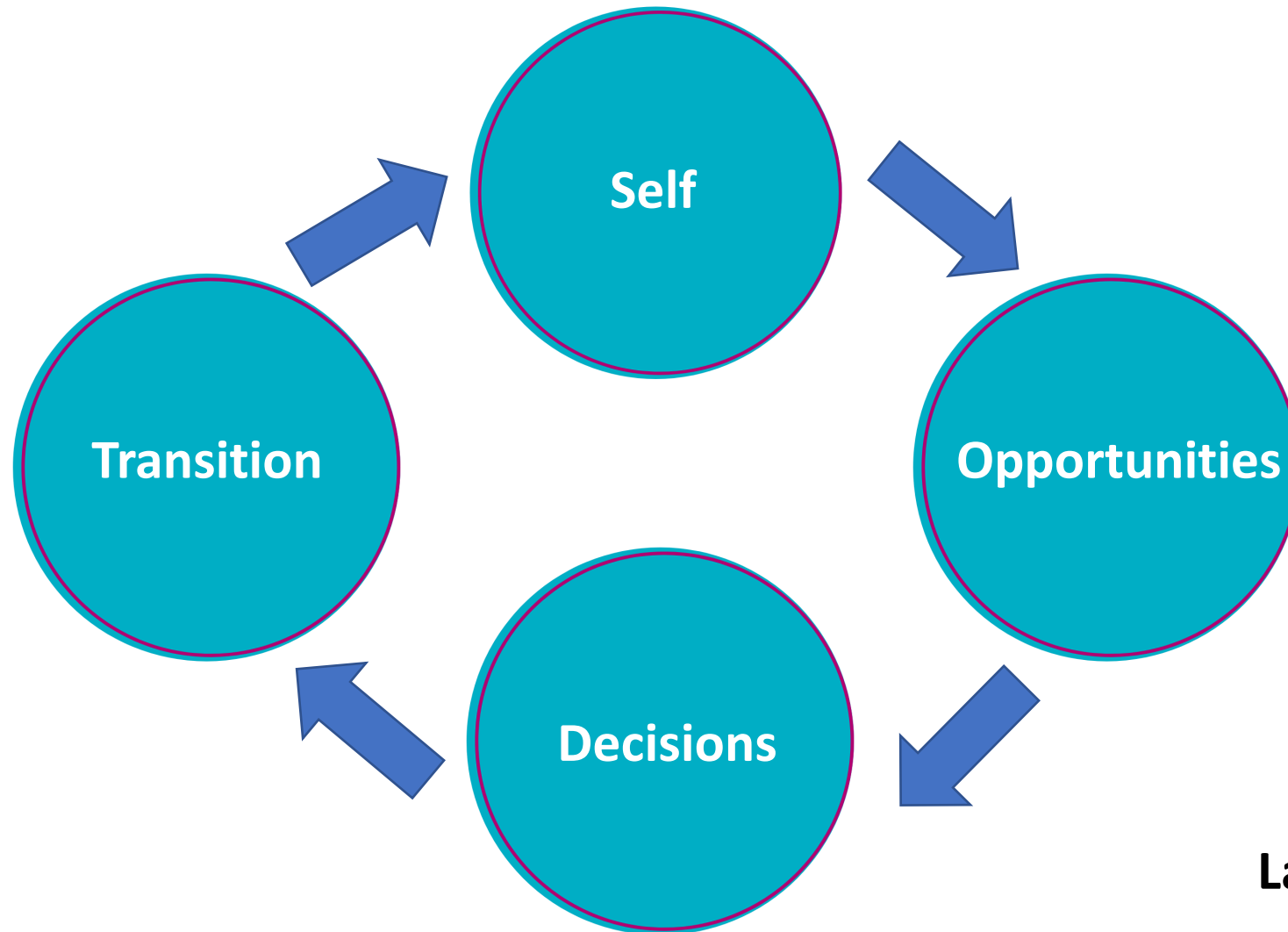
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198,945 alumni

Start year End year

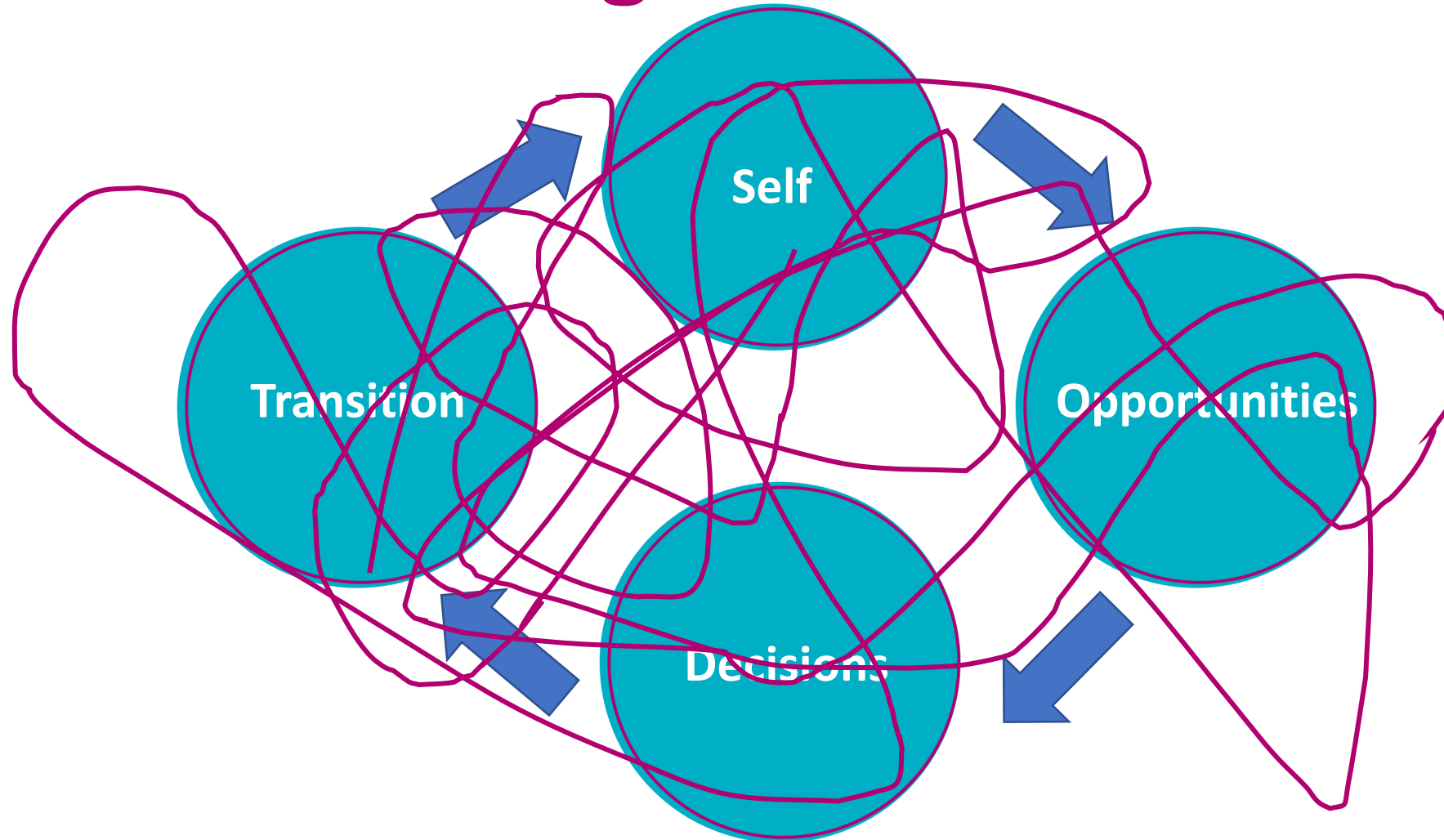
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Career Planning Models



**The DOTS model
Law and Watts (1977)**

Career Planning Models




Career planning models

“The creating and transforming of planned events into opportunities for learning”

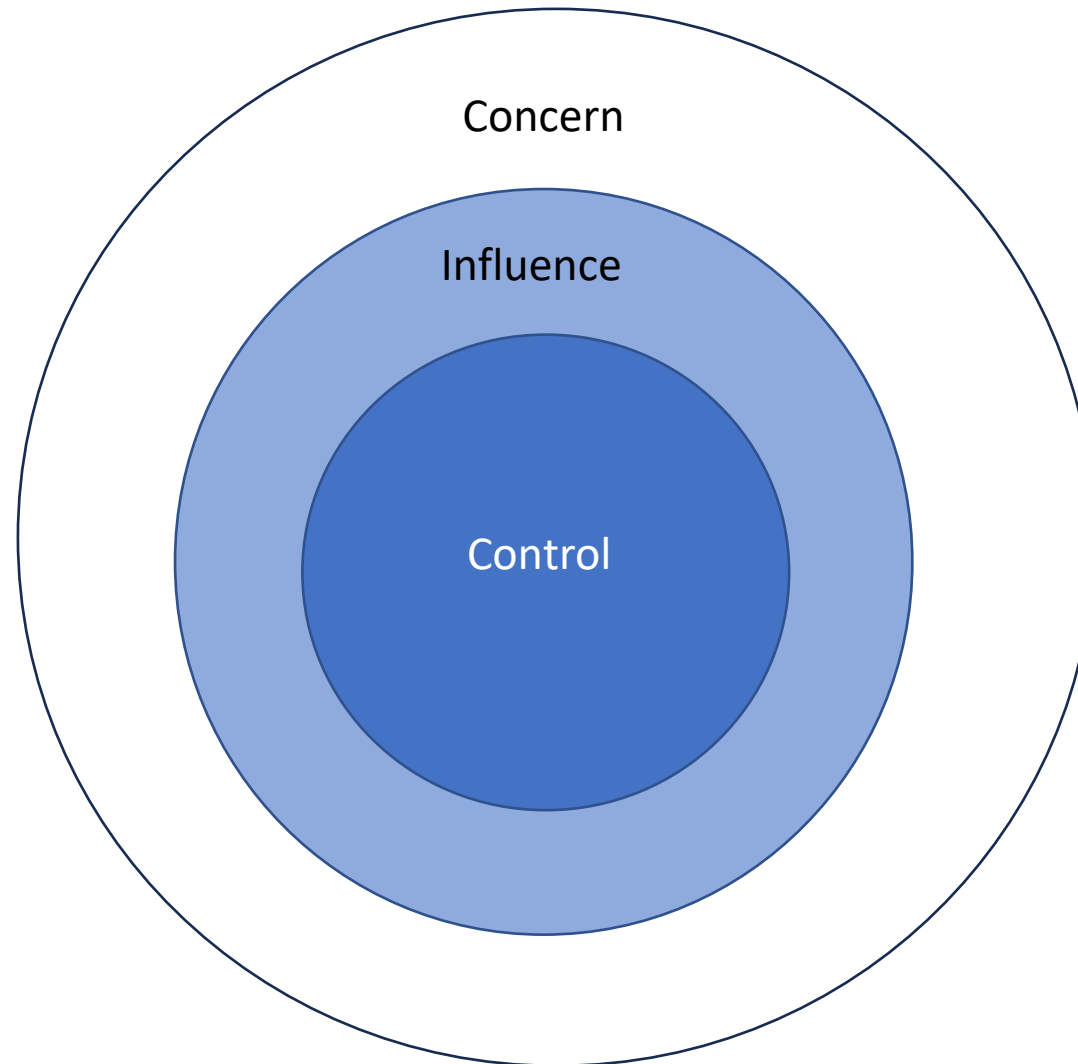
“Plan to generate and be receptive to chance opportunities”

“Planned Happenstance theory should not be confused with magical thinking or reliance on fate. [We] should not merely meander through experiences initiated by others whilst passively awaiting a “knock at the door”. [We] need to take action to generate opportunities”



**Planned
Happenstance
– John
Krumboltz**

What can I do next?



Stephen Covey, The 7 Habits of
Highly Effective People

What can I do next?

- Reflect on your strengths, values and motivations
- Stay curious – *What opportunities are there?*
- Research your options using the Job Profiles on Prosects.ac.uk - *How do the different options align with your strengths, values and motivations?*
- When researching companies you might be interested in, look at their values
- When reading job descriptions, consider how the duties and skills required align with your strengths



POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD



Employability
Masterclasses

Professional
Development
Activities

Portfolio

Join the Canvas site: <https://canvas.bham.ac.uk/enroll/H6LJ7T>

This session counts as 1 Masterclass towards the PPDA!

Find out more:

<https://canvas.bham.ac.uk/enroll/H6LJ7T>
Careersenquiries@contacts.bham.ac.uk

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