This personality questionnaire was quite useful to me, not only because it was part of a project, but also because it gave me an insight as to what my friends and family think of me generally. I surveyed a total of nine people, of which four were family, four were friends and one was myself. I was unable to participate in the zero acquaintance survey because I joined the class during the second week of school, and so one of the friends I surveyed was a peer I had just met that week. This was done to achieve the best results possible; I could compare this individual’s results to the ones of my friends and family who have known me for years and assess the similarities and differences in their ratings.

Overall, my friends and family agreed with me over most attributes. The only attributes which all nine participants gave me the same rating for was fashionable and trendy; everyone gave me a rating of “agree”. I believe this is because fashionable/ trendy are fairly easily to determine as you can just tell how someone dresses by looking at someone as opposed to qualities such as kindness. Those tend to be revealed over certain situations and are not as apparent. Other most agreeable attributes included me being extroverted and enthusiastic, calm and emotionally stable, dependable and self-dsiciplined and me liking big cities. I predicted similar results because I believe my friends and family know me really well, and so they can assess my attributes easily.

Even though most participants had similar ratings over most attributes, there were slight variances. For example, some strongly agreed, whereas others agreed. I think that is to be expected though, because when a rating scale has options such as “agree” and “strongly agree”, each individual has their own interpretations. For one person “agree” could hold the same value that “strongly agree” holds for another individual. This would also apply to numerical scales where a “4” for one individual would be equivalent to maybe a “6” for another. For this reason, there are usually slight variances in results. This could be improved if there were just two options, such as ‘agree’ and ‘disagree’, or ‘yes’, ‘no’ and ‘I don’t know’. Although this would limit the options people have, it would give a better idea of exactly what people think and how well they know me.

One attribute which people tended to have different responses to was whether I am a morning person. I do believe I am a morning person; some participants agreed that I was, and others disagreed. This attribute had the most mixed opinions. I think this is because although I do not like mornings, I am usually cheerful, which may lead people to believe that I am a morning person. Those who disagreed with that statement would know that I tend to I stay up late at night, hence, they might have decided that I prefer nights over mornings and so they disagreed.

Another attribute where I received mixed results was whether I am facially expressive. This was a confusing statement even for me, because I am not sure if I am always facially expressive. I do know I am usually facially expressive, especially when I am happy, but I usually keep my emotions to myself so it is hard for people to tell if I am angry or upset. I agreed with this statement and some others did too, but some strongly agreed and two disagreed. This could be because it is a difficult attribute to assess. I found it difficult to assess myself so it would mean that others might find it confusing too. Moreover, most attributes in the survey focus on one or two qualities, such as being intelligent and smart. Facial expressiveness focuses on many different emotions so it would have been easier to answer had it been more specific. For example, if the statement had been “Naqia is facially expressive when she is happy”, this would have produced more conclusive results because it is very specific to one emotion.

There were a few attributes that my friends and family had different opinions on. I disagreed that I was athletic and my friends disagreed as well. However, my family agreed that I was athletic. This could be because they have different opinions on what is considered athletic. For example, I do go to the gym but I am not a part of any school sports teams. My family would perceive me going to the gym as athletic but my friends might have thought that exercising did not count as being athletic because I was not athletic in school - just like I did. Another attribute was my artistic ability. I agreed that I was artistic and my family did too, but my friends did not seem to think so. One reason for this is that artistic abilities can be perceived in different ways. It could mean being creative and imaginative, whereas to others it could mean certain skills such as drawing or painting. However, because the results were divided between friends and family, and not overall, that reason would be unlikely. Moreover, most people tended to disagree that was uncreative and conventional, which would mean they perceive me as creative so that refutes the first reason. A more valid reason could be that I have certain behaviors at home around family that show artistic ability, whereas other behaviors around friends that show my lack of artistic abilities.

Surprisingly, I did not come across any results where I had one opinion and the participants had the opposite. Most of the results either coincided with mine, or were mixed, or divided between friends and family. However, the classmate who filled out the questionnaire as mentioned above, had different answers for some attributes as compared to the answers my friends, family and I gave. She strongly disagreed with me having strong leadership potential, whereas everyone else agreed that I did. Moreover, she disagreed that I was school-spirited, sympathetic and warm, whereas other participants agreed to these. This was quite surprising to me because it revealed that I do not come off as sympathetic/ warm, and school-spirited when people first meet me. Moreover, I know that strong leadership potential is not apparent to others when I first meet them. However, I have held several leadership positions which might be the reason my friends and family believe I have leadership potential, whereas someone who does not know me well would not know this.

In conclusion, this survey had mostly predictable results overall. Most of the attributes listed had similar responses to the ones I had, except in certain cases where there were varied opinions, which could be because those qualities are difficult to determine in me, or just in general. There were other cases in which my family held one opinion and friends held an opposing one. This could be due to the the fact that I have different behaviors around family and friends specific to who I am with. Surveying a classmate also gave me an insight as to what people think of me when they first meet me; her opinion matched others for most attributes, which reveals that I display most of my qualities. However, there were some opinions she had that differed from others and it could be because those qualities are not apparent and I might have different behaviors around people who I do not know well.