**Personal Information**

* Name: Dominique Western
* Student Number: s3833565
* Student Email: s3833565@student.rmit.edu.au
* Nationality: New Zealand
* Cultural Heritage: Jamaican/Dutch
* Education to Date: High School Diploma, incomplete bachelor degrees of aviation and commerce
* Languages Spoken: English
* Interesting Fact: Flew a plane solo at 16 years old

**IT Background**

My interest in information technology stemmed from a fascination with space exploration - I’m obsessed with the idea of humanity becoming a space faring civilisation. This led me to a general interest in technology as I drew correlations between our society’s progression toward this exciting future and technology enabling this. The ‘Big Bang’ of my interest in space and consequently technology occurred at the age of 11 during a visit to an observatory which was the first time I had ever had a detailed look at the moon through the telescope housed at the observatory. It’s taken me a while to professionally explore my interest in IT.

To date, my professional experience its limited to the Technical Expert role at an Apple storefront which had me oversee the software troubleshooting and hardware repairs of iOS devices, an internship at a Digital Marketing Agency as a junior web developer which provided me with practical, team-based development experience and my current role as an IT specialist at Flight Centre which has exposed me to a dynamic and high-paced corporate technology environment. In addition to this, I have built a number of projects such as a Spotify clone, a line-tracing robot using the Arduino microcontroller, a few websites and computer based games.

In order to build more complex applications, I have chosen to complete a Bachelor’s degree in Information Technology at RMIT to acquire a deeper understanding of IT systems. The facilitation of online learning is hugely convenient for someone working a a full time job and training on a full-time schedule in hopes of becoming a professional athlete. Additionally, after perusing the course content of the degree courses - the learning objectives align with mine and the content covered is practical and exciting.

**Ideal Job**

* Role: Software Engineering (Flight Software)
* Where: SpaceX (or any aerospace company with a department specialising in space vehicles)
* Link: https://boards.greenhouse.io/spacex/jobs/4456472002?gh\_jid=4456472002

The Software Engineering team at SpaceX contribute to the development of flight software and firmware used in aerospace and ground vehicles in current and future orbital, lunar and mars missions. The opportunity to work on projects that have a direct impact on humanities push toward becoming a space faring civilisation is extremely appealing considering my interest in the topic of space exploration. According to the job description, to be qualified to become a Software Engineer one must have at a minimum a bachelor’s degree in a science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) discipline, a minimum of four years experience in a software engineering discipline and professional experience programming in C++. Alternatively, if one has not completed tertiary level education, a minimum of 6 years in software engineering in addition to professional experience programming in C++ is required. (Manager, Software Engineer (Flight Software) 2019).

Currently, I do not meet the minimum requirements to be accepted into the position. I have two and a half years experience working with IT systems and have not completed tertiary education in a STEM discipline. To obtain the minimum requirements of my desired job, the following steps must be achieved;

* Obtain my Bachelor’s degree in Information Technology, with a Software Systems Development Major; and
* Gain experience in a software development role, specifically working on technologies that are built with C++ or have a strong object-orientated programming implementation; and
* Work on open-source projects that give me exposure to more team-based software development projects.

**Personal Profile**

* Results of Myers-Briggs test: ENFP
* Results of learning style test: Visual learner
* Big Five Personality test:
  + Openness 79%
  + Conscientious 58%
  + Extraversion 56%
  + Agreeableness 73%
  + Neuroticism 44%

**ENFP**

According to the MBA Institute (2019), those who embody the attributes corresponding to the ENFP personality type are said to display extraverted intuition with feeling, be enthusiastic, high-spirited, ingenious and imaginative. Often putting others before themselves, the ENFP types are quick to come up with an improvised solution to resolve problems and find compelling reasons to justify making decisions. ENFP are commonly display the following qualities: project-oriented, great people skills, service oriented, cooperative and friendly, and well-developed verbal and written communication skills. The ENFP therefore exemplify behaviours that compliment a team environment with effective communication skills and goal oriented task execution. When forming a team, the ENFP would be wise to opt for a leadership role due to their effective communication style, empathetic nature and goal-oriented planning. Additionally, opting to oversee creative tasks would amplify the value an ENFP could contribute due to their reluctance to complete routine-oriented tasks. (Inspirer (ENFP) Personality Type 2019).

**Learning**

A visual learner processes, organises and communicates information more effectively when colours, images, maps and diagrams are used. When communicating in a team setting, a visual learner should use visual queues such as diagrams, charts, colour-coding and images to effectively translate information. It would be beneficial if members of a team of which a visual learner is a part of are capable of communicating information in a visual way. This would lead to a cohesive working environment. To maximise productivity, the majority of members of a team of which a visual learner is a part of should share the visual learning style, so there is a standardised way of communicating information. (The Visual (Spacial) Learning Style 2019).

**Big 5**

My results from the big five personality test suggests I strongly exemplify creativeness, focus, abstract thinking, strong feelings of empathy for others, and enjoy helping and contributing to the happiness of others. These attributes are useful to the creative process of team planning and conceptualising abstract solutions to solve complex problems presented to the team. Additionally, one embodying the traits understand the needs of their team members, how to effectively tend to those needs, are aware of their roles and of their responsibilities. Assigning or being assigned roles, I will be able to provide the greatest value to my team if I am put in a position that is heavily involved in the initial planning and brainstorming phase as I can employ my abstract, creative thinking style. (Cherry, K. 2019).