1. **Describe what you learned about yourself based on your self-assessment.**

Based on CliftonStrengths self-assessment results, my top five signature themes are deliberative, analytical, harmony, futuristic, and relator. After performing a self-analysis of my behavior, I can see some traits from each of these categories in the way I think, make decisions, and behave.

I am deliberate in the way that I analyze the risks of my actions before I act on them. I am analytical in the way that I like to back up my arguments with facts. I am harmonious in the way that I like to find common ground to avoid conflict. I am futuristic in the way that I am constantly thinking about how my current actions will have an effect on my future. I am relational in the way that I prefer building a few strong relationships over lots of weak relationships.

Each of these qualities can add value to my future role as a software engineer. In being deliberate, I will be able to analyze the risks of my future projects. This will help me make decisions that will benefit any company. In being analytical, I can use past data to make decisions on how to go forward with a project, or an aspect of a project. This quality will also help me when dealing with any form of database and the best way to handle data in the software. In being harmonious, I will be able to work well with my team and find the best solutions even when we don’t agree on a certain aspect of the project. In being futuristic, I will be able to think about how my decisions will impact the project in the future. I will also be able to stay motivated to constantly be learning new things by thinking about how it will benefit me in the long run. Lastly, in being relational, I will be able to build strong relationships with my team. This will help us work well together.

This self-assessment has helped me learn about some of my strengths that I can continue to nurture to help me in my future career. It has also helped me realize ways that I can continue to improve.

1. **Create one SMART goal for developing influential leadership skills.**

**GOAL:** I want to improve my confidence and communication skills during interviews. I will attain this by explaining my capstone project **five times** before my interview in **one month**.

**S** - Improve my confidence with the technical skills required for the job by understanding each concept involved in my capstone project that I will explain to potential employers.

**M** - I will practice explaining my project **five times** leading up to the interview.

**A** - I will dedicate **one hour each day** leading up to the interview to learn important technical concepts and improve my confidence with the subjects.

**R** - Improving my confidence and communication skills will help me when working with development teams on future projects.

**T** - I have an interview for a software engineer position **in one month** where I will explain a project that I have completed.

**How does my smart goal support the development of leadership skills?**

Having confidence and effective communication skills is essential for any leader. By developing communication skills, I will be able to better explain what I have developed and what I expect from my team members. With these skills, I will be able to motivate my team members to become better versions of themselves as well as create strong relationships with team members.

**How do the strengths identified in your self-assessment will help you achieve your SMART goal?**

All five of my strengths will help me achieve my smart goal. Being deliberative, I will be able to analyze risks before I speak and limit the amount of ineffective communication I use. Being analytical, I will be able to utilize relevant data to help my peers better understand my point. Being harmonious, I will be able to take the thoughts and emotions of those listening to me into consideration. Being futuristic, I will be able to understand how working on this goal will help me become a better version of myself in the future. Finally, being relational, I will be able to create a relationship with my interviewer to reduce stress on myself in the interview.