

Thinking Outside the Box:

A formula for life – curiosity @ work

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Your Life

- Each of us writes our own book.
- What chapters will you write?
- Getting a job
- **Competitive advantage:** English, problem solving, curiosity, thinking outside the box
- Life can be fun (joy) but also lonely. Few are comfortable thinking outside the box
- Opportunity to make a difference




My Life

- My father taught me “what is a helper”: Helper: knows what the boss wants before the boss knows what he wants
- Critical and analytical thinking – think about a problem from different directions
- Curiosity
- Always looked for a way to make my job fun – not work
- Rule 42: life is not fair
- Sometimes lonely



Life is Problem Solving

- Start
 - What is the problem?
 - Collect information
 - Analyze information
 - Build a solution
 - Problem solved? – yes, ok; no,
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Cultural adventures from my problem solving

- Culture matters: Each culture has its + and –
- Each culture adds something to my personality and improves my problem solving skills
- Each culture provides an opportunity to exchange ideas and touch others



Learning

- Learning continues throughout your life
- 20th century: Teachers and students – Knowledge lived in libraries and universities
- The Internet enables anyone to access knowledge
- 21st century: Senior and junior learners
- Finding information: searching (Google)
- Learn by example (tutorial web page design)
- Teach yourself



Moving forward in Life:

Shooting for improvement

- School: Don't force yourself to be perfect – just do your best. Tomorrow be better than today
- Spend a little time each day building new options for tomorrow or next week or next year
- Know what you don't know
- Smile
- No problems, only challenges
- Take a risk, don't hide your ignorance, think outside the box
- Loneliness is part of thinking outside the box – but is usually only temporary



What is your next step?

- You choose your own life path based on your strengths.
- Transform liabilities into assets
- You create your own options
- Extend your skills (personal, job related, family)

- Good Luck!!!
- Lets continue to talk: frank.starmer@gmail.com

