



**EQ-i**<sup>2.0</sup>  
assess. predict. perform.

# WORKPLACE

## REPORT

**Jim Sample**

[www.markoconsulting.com](http://www.markoconsulting.com)

[kelly@markoconsulting.com](mailto:kelly@markoconsulting.com)

July 25, 2011

MARKO CONSULTING SERVICES INC.



# EQ-i 2.0 Model of Emotional Intelligence

## SELF-PERCEPTION

**Self-Regard** is respecting oneself while understanding and accepting one's strengths and weaknesses. Self-Regard is often associated with feelings of inner strength and self-confidence.

**Self-Actualization** is the willingness to persistently try to improve oneself and engage in the pursuit of personally relevant and meaningful objectives that lead to a rich and enjoyable life.

**Emotional Self-Awareness** includes recognizing and understanding one's own emotions. This includes the ability to differentiate between subtleties in one's own emotions while understanding the cause of these emotions and the impact they have on one's own thoughts and actions and those of others.

## STRESS MANAGEMENT

**Flexibility** is adapting emotions, thoughts and behaviors to unfamiliar, unpredictable, and dynamic circumstances or ideas.

**Stress Tolerance** involves coping with stressful or difficult situations and believing that one can manage or influence situations in a positive manner.

**Optimism** is an indicator of one's positive attitude and outlook on life. It involves remaining hopeful and resilient, despite occasional setbacks.



## SELF-EXPRESSION

**Emotional Expression** is openly expressing one's feelings verbally and non-verbally.

**Assertiveness** involves communicating feelings, beliefs and thoughts openly, and defending personal rights and values in a socially acceptable, non-offensive, and non-destructive manner.

**Independence** is the ability to be self directed and free from emotional dependency on others. Decision-making, planning, and daily tasks are completed autonomously.

## DECISION MAKING

**Problem Solving** is the ability to find solutions to problems in situations where emotions are involved. Problem solving includes the ability to understand how emotions impact decision making.

**Reality Testing** is the capacity to remain objective by seeing things as they really are. This capacity involves recognizing when emotions or personal bias can cause one to be less objective.

**Impulse Control** is the ability to resist or delay an impulse, drive or temptation to act and involves avoiding rash behaviors and decision making.

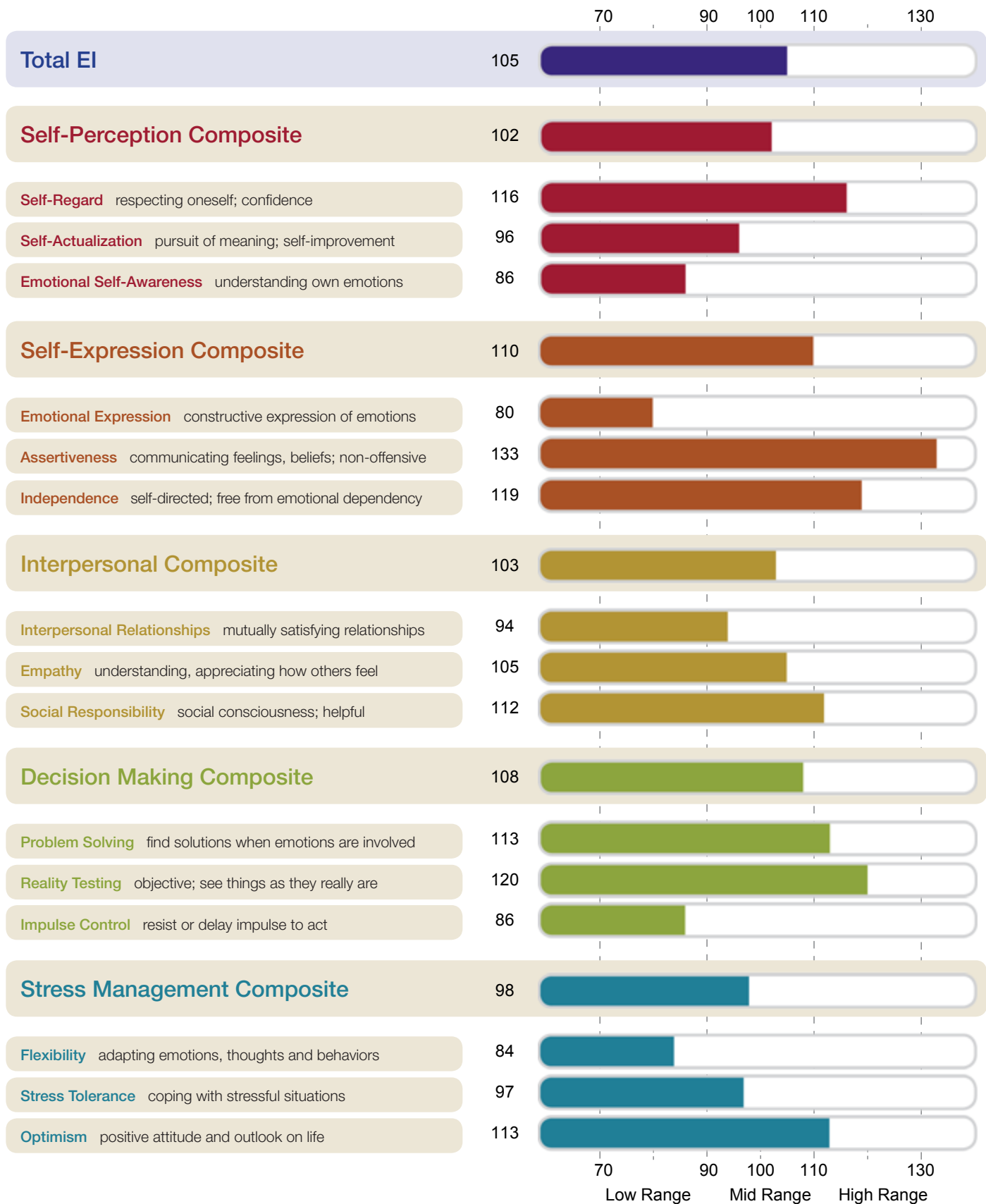
## INTERPERSONAL

**Interpersonal Relationships** refers to the skill of developing and maintaining mutually satisfying relationships that are characterized by trust and compassion.

**Empathy** is recognizing, understanding, and appreciating how other people feel. Empathy involves being able to articulate your understanding of another's perspective and behaving in a way that respects others' feelings.

**Social Responsibility** is willingly contributing to society, to one's social groups, and generally to the welfare of others. Social Responsibility involves acting responsibly, having social consciousness, and showing concern for the greater community.

# Overview of Your Results



# Self-Regard

**Self-Regard** respecting oneself; confidence

116

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Individuals with self-regard respect themselves and accept both personal strengths and limitations while remaining satisfied and self-secure. Jim, your result suggests that your self-regard is stronger than most people's. You know yourself and are comfortable with yourself, which generally translates into increased performance. You may have:

- a high level of respect for yourself, your talents, and your weaknesses.
- a willingness to confidently admit mistakes or unfamiliarity with a situation.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your result may mean that on an emotional level you are driven to achieve your fullest potential, have a more positive outlook on your capabilities, and are more confident in expressing yourself than those with average self-regard. The potential challenge is that you could lose touch with objective assessments of your capabilities. Draw on reality testing behaviors to maintain a healthy self-perception.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your willingness and ability to understand and accept your strengths and weaknesses is often perceived by others as confidence. People may frequently gravitate toward you, look to you for advice, and seek your leadership. Because your strengths are confidently demonstrated, you may be given opportunities or promotions that maximize these talents, but it is also important to seek out opportunities that stretch your less developed skills as well. To avoid potential negative consequences of overly high self-regard, use empathy and an appropriate level of assertiveness to avoid appearing overconfident.

## Strategies for Action

**Self-Regard Profile.** Seeking others' feedback on your strengths and weaknesses demonstrates a willingness to learn and gives you objective data to confirm whether your self-beliefs are in line with what others see.

- Identify those at work (colleague, manager) who know you well enough to comment on your strengths and weaknesses.
- Ask them to list your strengths and weaknesses with specific observations or examples.
- Without looking at their list, write what you believe your strengths and weaknesses are. Then compare lists. Look for disconnects and similarities between lists. Are there examples of where others didn't agree with your listed strengths?

**Own up to your Weaknesses.** Although challenging, openly admitting your weaknesses can help keep your Self-Regard in check with how your colleagues see you.

- Record your reaction to any mistakes or errors you make over the next few weeks. If you find yourself blaming "the system" or others for your mistakes, you might want to start openly admitting your points of weaknesses.
- Rather than placing blame, use mistakes as opportunities to show you know and accept your weaknesses and put in place strategies that manage them, rather than pretending they don't exist.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Self-Regard with Self-Actualization, Problem Solving, and Reality Testing. The subscale that differs the most from Self-Regard is Self-Actualization. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Self-Regard(116) Self-Actualization(96)**

Your Self-Regard is higher than your Self-Actualization. To balance these components, set goals at a level that is consistent with skill level. There may be an opportunity to reach higher goals, or to more fully recognize achievements when they occur. In doing so, both self-esteem and achievements are promoted.

# Self-Actualization

**Self-Actualization** pursuit of meaning; self-improvement

96

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Self-actualization can be summed up in three words: pursuit of meaning. While this sounds quite philosophical, in the business world it means finding purpose and enjoyment in your job and performing to your fullest potential. Jim, your result suggests that you are passionate about your work and life outside of work and take pride in setting and achieving challenging goals. Although you may believe that you can accomplish more, your result may mean that:

- you place value on training and keeping your expertise sharp.
- you appear to be working or acting with a plan in mind.
- for the most part you believe you are leading a rich and fulfilling life.
- at times you turn on “autopilot” mode, going through the motions of your job without truly striving to excel.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your success, happiness, and life satisfaction can probably be traced back to the fact that most of the time you do what you enjoy. Because you have found ways to apply your talents and strengths, you likely experience harmony knowing that your talents are being put to good use.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your consistent drive to improve yourself, while pursuing personally relevant objectives, helps to create a fulfilling and varied life. This perpetual drive is often perceived by your colleagues as being organized, directive, deliberate, and purposeful. In addition, self-actualized individuals value the actual process of achieving their goals as much as or more than the final outcome. Therefore, you may find both short- and long-term planning, projecting, and scoping activities are likely natural processes for you.

## Strategies for Action

**The Small Things we Enjoy.** Sometimes you just need to look at your job under a microscope to develop an even deeper passion for what you do.

- Write down some of the things you do in your job that are motivating for you. No matter how small, everything makes the list. Review this list once a week; Monday is usually a good day. Remind yourself that even the small things (like having a client compliment you on your presentation) can push you to do your very best.

**Protect Your Time.** Since you already know what you’re passionate about, you need to protect the time you have scheduled for these activities so they do not fall lower on your list of priorities.

- Block off time in your calendar, well in advance, for those activities you enjoy, especially if they are the vulnerable, non-work related type. Seeing an appointment in your calendar, even if it is for lunchtime yoga, will help you keep your time commitment.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Self-Actualization with Self-Regard, Optimism, and Reality Testing. The subscale that differs the most from Self-Actualization is Reality Testing. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

Self-Actualization(96)  Reality Testing(120)

Your Self-Actualization is lower than your Reality Testing. These components can be balanced by setting realistic plans to accomplish meaningful experiences that are internally satisfying and not just objectively required. The challenge is to set goals that are attainable and realistic, but also intrinsically valuable.

# Emotional Self-Awareness

**Emotional Self-Awareness** understanding own emotions

86

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

If you have a solid understanding of what causes your emotions, it is much easier to regulate your behavior and control the impact your emotions have on those you work with. Jim, your result indicates that fully understanding your emotions and their causes may be an area of challenge for you. It is likely that you:

- are comfortable experiencing some emotions, but others make you uneasy.
- superficially experience emotions, allowing them to just happen without thoughtful evaluation.
- keep emotions separate from work, or fail to use them to enhance your effectiveness.
- may fail to notice the impact your emotions have on others.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your experience of emotions may be very black and white: either you are angry, or you are not. As a result, you may not recognize the complexity of your emotions or their triggers, so to others your emotions may seem heightened or exaggerated. You may either miss emotions and their triggers entirely or are marginally aware of their existence, making it hard to accurately predict your emotional reactions.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** In social situations, your lower Emotional Self-Awareness may be noticeable in the way you express your emotions because you may not fully understand the emotion or its impact before you express it. Under times of stress your mood may impact your performance and that of your teammates. Also, because emotional triggers and responses often elude you, you may find yourself in uncomfortable professional encounters, where you have understood the tangible facts of the situation but perhaps overlooked somebody's emotional state.

## Strategies for Action

**Emotion Diagnosis—What You Don't Recognize, You Can't Manage!** Paying attention to how you are feeling may need to start out as a manual process of diagnosing how an emotion feels.

- Record the strongest emotions you experience. Note the thoughts and physical sensations that accompany them.
- Then, recognizing that every heightened emotion has "lighter levels", pay close attention to small shifts in this emotion the next time it arises. When it intensifies or weakens, write down your description of this new level of emotion and its triggers. What caused the change and what does this tell you?

**Emotional Email.** Reading your emails is an easy and non-obvious place to practice your Emotional Self-Awareness. Emails usually elicit some type of emotion like frustration, surprise or happiness.

- Over the next few days, record in two words what you feel (e.g., "discouraged and tired") after you read a noteworthy email. Next to each emotion, write one physical feeling or a change in your body that you experienced with the emotion (e.g., "slack posture, big sighs").
- Notice what sensations accompany certain emotions. Research the emotions you experienced most often to find out if there are other sensations you should be aware of.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Emotional Self-Awareness with Reality Testing, Emotional Expression, and Stress Tolerance. The subscale that differs the most from Emotional Self-Awareness is Reality Testing. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Emotional Self-Awareness(86)**  **Reality Testing(120)**

Your Emotional Self-Awareness is lower than your Reality Testing. Do you have a tendency to concentrate more on the feelings of those around you and the situation at hand than on your own feelings? Maintaining a balance between these two areas will allow you to consider your own feelings in concert with the feelings of others and within a given set of circumstances.

# Emotional Expression

**Emotional Expression** constructive expression of emotions

80

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Individuals who effectively express emotions use words and physical expressions to convey their feelings in a way that is not hurtful to others. Jim, your result indicates you have difficulty bringing emotions to the surface and sharing your true feelings with coworkers. You may appear emotionally detached from your colleagues, probably showing as little variation in your demeanor as possible. Consider the following characteristics of your result:

- certain emotions, if not most, are uncomfortable for you to express either through words, facial expressions, or body language.
- you use a limited emotional vocabulary to describe your feelings (e.g., happy and sad versus elated and somber).
- you assume people know how you feel so you don't display it through your words or actions.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Think of Emotional Expression as the action part of the emotional experience. You tend to bottle emotions inside and not share them with others. This can create the illusion that you are either emotionless or that you do not grasp the significance of the situation.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Expressing one's feelings verbally and nonverbally is key to forming effective relationships. Your less expressive style may mean that in new environments you could struggle to engage others in a meaningful way. People can easily misperceive you as being withdrawn and as a result it may be hard for you to inspire others or gain the support you need. While you may feel comfortable remaining in a predictable, pokerfaced state, it is actually stressful for others when they need to share information with you. If you do not reflect your emotions, you may miss crucial information because others feel uncomfortable being open and honest with you.

## Strategies for Action

**Getting Rid of the Group Hug.** At work, sharing your emotions shouldn't be a single organized event like the infamous group hug. Think about emotions as drivers of performance, like any other resource you draw upon to get your job done.

- Start small—try expressing what you feel in an email. Take time to find words that really describe how you feel. Praise a team member on his work, express your gratitude for someone's help, or voice your concern over deadlines.
- Once this becomes comfortable for you, start expressing yourself where appropriate in small conversations. Draw on the same emotional vocabulary you used in your emails.

**Get it Out in Writing.** If you find yourself dwelling on a particular feeling but not expressing it, begin to write an email to a friend. You will not send this email, so don't worry about who would receive it.

- Just start writing—this in itself can be a healing process. Describe the details of what happened, what *exactly* you are feeling and *why*.
- Although it is in written form, you have just completed the process of emotional expression. Take one small section of your email and appropriately talk it over with those involved. Take the email with you to refer to your notes and emotional language.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Emotional Expression with Interpersonal Relationships, Assertiveness, and Empathy. The subscale that differs the most from Emotional Expression is Assertiveness. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Emotional Expression(80) < Assertiveness(133)**

Your Emotional Expression is lower than Assertiveness. People tend to be most cooperative when they are aware of your underlying motives and concerns. When these two facets are balanced, and Emotional Expression is used effectively, there is a better understanding of both the issues and feelings involved, and the resolutions tend to be more effective overall.



# Assertiveness

**Assertiveness** communicating feelings, beliefs; non-offensive

133

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Picture a line between the words passive and aggressive. At the middle point of this line lies assertiveness, a place where you work with others by finding the right language at the right time to express your feelings and thoughts. Jim, your results indicate you operate at the assertiveness midpoint of this line almost all of the time, articulating your thoughts in a clear and confident way. Some of the following characteristics may apply to you:

- you are firm and direct whenever necessary.
- you achieve your goals by articulating your needs and protecting your resources.
- you view your rights and those of others as sacred; you stand up for yourself and others.
- you can come across as aggressive or overly focused on promoting your interests if you don't use empathy with your assertiveness.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** You have a solid understanding of what is worth standing up for, and you likely pull on strong emotions and convictions to state your position. While this is a crucial skill to have, watch that when you defend your position you do not miss important information or feedback that may alter your perspective. While some situations call for a definitive stance (e.g., addressing a safety violation), others may require you to be more flexible in your thinking.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your level of assertiveness suggests that you have the knack for finding the right words at the right time to get your point across in a clear and confident manner. As a result your team may see you proactively dealing with conflict, leveraging organizational resources and openly voicing your opinion or feedback on the matters at hand. You must remain aware of the distinction between assertiveness and aggressiveness and how the work context determines which type of person you are seen as. Becoming overconfident in your ability or being too rigid in defending your position may result in unproductive, stubborn, or aggressive behavior.

## Strategies for Action

**Identify Cave Points.** Determining your cave points allows you to demonstrate your flexibility by setting a point where you have enough information to change your stance on an issue.

- Before entering a discussion or a meeting, determine what you need to hear from others for you to concede on your position. For example, you strongly want a spring launch date for a new product, but others are insisting the winter would be best. What evidence or data do they need to present to you that will convince you to surrender your position?
- Highly assertive people need to know this cave point ahead of time in order to allow the team to move toward a decision and not become paralyzed in rigid debate.

**Crossing the Aggression Line.** Because of your strong result in assertiveness, you need to be particularly cautious that your behavior doesn't harm your relationships.

- Set up a few rules for yourself (or for the whole team) that you will follow when your behavior starts to cross the line into aggression. For example, interrupting others in a meeting is a sign that you are no longer being respectful. If this happens, a rule could be "Openly apologize to the interrupted person and be silent until it is your time to speak."

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Assertiveness with Interpersonal Relationships, Emotional Self-Awareness, and Empathy. The subscale that differs the most from Assertiveness is Emotional Self-Awareness. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Assertiveness(133) Emotional Self-Awareness(86)**

Your Assertiveness is higher than your Emotional Self-Awareness. Ensure that you attend to your tone of voice, body language, and the manner in which you treat others when you are being assertive. Self-understanding will help you to express your assertiveness more appropriately.



# Independence

**Independence** self-directed; free from emotional dependency

119

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Jim, being independent means you are capable of feeling, thinking, and working on your own. Your results show that this is a well-developed skill, as you are more than willing and capable of pursuing your own ideas and course of action. You are more likely than most to be decisive, directive, and accountable for the responsibility associated with making decisions. Consider the following interpretation of your results:

- you are comfortable making decisions on your own.
- you can work without direction or reassurance from others.
- you accept responsibility for your decisions knowing that at times people will disagree with you.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your tendency to act and think on your own positions you to showcase your strengths in other areas of EI. Your strong Independence result also means that your emotions are freely expressed; you don't need reassurance or a group consensus to say what you feel. Remember that it is okay to reach out for help when you need it; always working alone can make you appear arrogant and alienating.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your level of Independence indicates that you rarely depend on others to make important decisions. Because you are self-directed, you can analyze a situation on your own, formulate a response, and move into implementation mode without second guessing your decisions or looking for approval. This independent approach shows initiative, and in autonomous roles allows you to take responsibility for your actions when direction is limited. Due to your high level of independence, you must be cautious not to neglect the emotions and opinions of your colleagues. Keep a close eye on how often you go off in your own direction, rather than building coalitions.

## Strategies for Action

**Independence Check.** Not every situation requires you to act autonomously, although it may be your preferred approach to accomplishing your goals. Here are three questions you should ask yourself before making a decision independently:

- Am I missing subject matter expertise to make an informed decision?
- Am I hurting collaborative relationships by making this decision on my own?
- Does my decision have implications for those I work with? Would their input help me predict these implications?

**Securing Buy-In.** Effective, independent professionals don't march off in their own direction hoping that others follow; they balance self-directed thought with the ability to secure buy-in and support from key relationships.

- Examine past decisions that were not well supported by your colleagues. What did your decision-making process look like? Where might securing buy-in have broken down?
- Brainstorm ways that you can involve others in your decision-making process. The ultimate decision or plan may rest with you, but it will be easier to gain support when others feel empowered throughout the decision-making process.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Independence with Problem Solving, Emotional Self-Awareness, and Interpersonal Relationships. The subscale that differs the most from Independence is Emotional Self-Awareness. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

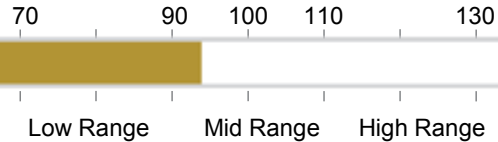
**Independence(119) vs Emotional Self-Awareness(86)**

Your Independence is higher than your Emotional Self-Awareness. When these components of EI are in balance, you seek feedback from others on your emotions without being overly dependant on that feedback. There are times when it is a good idea to seek a "sounding board," gaining a second opinion on the way you are feeling can enhance your effectiveness.

# Interpersonal Relationships

**Interpersonal Relationships** mutually satisfying relationships

94



## What Your Score Means

Jim, this subscale is about developing and maintaining mutually satisfying relationships and your result suggests that generally you handle most social interactions well and with confidence. Being a contributing member of a team is something you value and you usually work toward creating relationships that support mutual goals. However, when relationships require maintenance, you may avoid putting in the required effort, preferring to work on your own instead. Some characteristics of your result are:

- you generally seek out new relationships, yet continue to take care of the ones you have.
- you understand how others can help you, as well as how you can help them.
- in unfamiliar or uncomfortable situations, you may be more hesitant to socialize.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** While you value the relationships you have, you could use your relationship-building skills to connect with a more diverse group (e.g., different jobs, levels of seniority). If you only forge relationships with people you are comfortable with, you may not receive well-balanced support, especially if your closest colleagues are similar to you and will likely not offer a differing point of view.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your result suggests that although your relationships are not always perfect, you are usually willing to be open, trustworthy, and compassionate. You likely have people resources in place for when you need them, like in times of stress or when you're short on time. Although you appreciate the relationships you have, be aware that maintaining them requires hard work and this usually isn't written in your job description. Continue to balance your job requirements with relationship maintenance, recognizing that going outside of your job description to help someone out can have immeasurable returns.

## Strategies for Action

**Step Outside Your Comfort Zone.** Building resilient and trusting relationships with all types of people, whether you "like" them or not, is crucial to your success.

- Identify someone (colleague, manager, or customer) whose relationship with you is ineffective. Pick someone with whom if you had a stronger relationship you would be better able to reach your objectives.
- What have you done to earn this person's trust and their willingness to help you? Leverage your empathy to see things from his/her perspective. List what you think this person needs from you.
- Meet with this person to confirm your perspective. Emphasize the importance of understanding mutual needs and arrive at an action plan to support one another.

**Recognition Goes a Long Way.** Remember to celebrate events that are important to your coworkers, but also express recognition on a regular basis. Instances may include birthdays, promotions, or recognition for a job well done.

- Do you know what kind of recognition your coworkers prefer? Not everyone likes "Happy Birthday" sung at their desk or a reward given in front of their peers.
- Leverage empathy skills to determine what type of recognition motivates and is appreciated by each of your coworkers.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Interpersonal Relationships with Self-Actualization, Problem Solving, and Independence. The subscale that differs the most from Interpersonal Relationships is Independence. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Interpersonal Relationships(94) < Independence(119)**

Your Interpersonal Relationships result is lower than your Independence result. This relationship is a balance of doing things on your own and working with others. Recognize that there are situations where collaboration can be advantageous, but avoid disturbing others with tasks that are easily completed without assistance.

# Empathy

**Empathy** understanding, appreciating how others feel

105

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Empathy, the ability to recognize, understand, and appreciate the way others feel, is a crucial EI skill at the heart of all effective work relationships. Jim, your result indicates that you are generally an empathic person who is able to grasp what another is feeling, even if it is much different from what you feel. Your empathic nature makes you an approachable and open team member with whom coworkers feel safe sharing thoughts and ideas. With a result such as yours you may find:

- you are “tuned in” to how others are feeling.
- you care about the thoughts and feelings of others as much as you do your own.
- under times of stress or moments of defensiveness, you are likely to adopt a less empathic approach, possibly arguing your position without considering the needs of others.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your result in Empathy provides a solid foundation for all other interpersonal skill areas. You draw on your ability to respect others so that your interactions with others appear sincere. Still, certain emotions may cause your normally empathetic demeanor to crack. Anger, for example, may get the best of you, causing you to become critical instead of your typical caring and respectful self.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Generally speaking, your ability to perceive and understand other people’s emotions suggests that caring for others is built into the process of achieving your day-to-day tasks. For you, empathy is an active process that is inherent in the way you make decisions, resolve conflict, manage change, and work as a contributing team member. Often this results in others reciprocating their thoughts and emotions. Your ability to demonstrate empathy where appropriate will go a long way toward fostering your interpersonal relationships.

## Strategies for Action

**Be Prepared.** Prior to your next meeting, prepare by:

- Listing all attendees and what needs and expectations each brings to the meeting
- Predicting how they will act during the meeting. What issues do you need to be sensitive towards?
- Generating a number of questions to further understand your colleagues’ needs during the meeting. You may not be able to resolve conflicting needs, but these engaging questions will help show your interest and compassion for others’ situations and needs.

**Connecting on a Personal Level.** If you know colleagues on a personal level you will better understand what impacts their emotions and be in a better position to see situations from their perspective.

- With some of your lesser known colleagues, take the time to connect with them on topics outside of their field of work (e.g., children, sports, current events, traveling).
- With the next situation that calls for empathy on your part, draw upon this background information to show your sensitivity to their needs (e.g., “You must really be feeling stressed with two sick kids at home and I know your wife is away at that conference. How can I help?”).

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Empathy with Emotional Self-Awareness, Reality Testing, and Emotional Expression. The subscale that differs the most from Empathy is Emotional Expression. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Empathy(105) Emotional Expression(80)**

Your Empathy is higher than your Emotional Expression. Aligning these components of EI means taking other people’s feelings into account when expressing your own emotions. The goal is to express your feelings effectively while staying attuned to others, so that your expressions are more than just a reflection of the feelings of others.

# Social Responsibility

**Social Responsibility** social consciousness; helpful

112

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Social responsibility is that moral compass directing your behavior toward promoting the greater good and contributing to society and one's social groups. Jim, your result suggests that you are highly altruistic in your efforts, taking most, if not all, opportunities to help others. Your concern for societal issues is demonstrated through the selfless contributions you make, both at work and in your community. Based on your result, you:

- consistently demonstrate your social conscience and are compelled to help others.
- are seen as a "Good Samaritan" who helps out without expecting anything in return.
- gain fulfillment from a variety of sources, including those activities outside of work.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** You are able to keep your emotions in perspective, having observed firsthand the difficulties others are facing. Also, because you contribute to a wide variety of activities, your emotions are not tied to one source. For example, if you have a setback in one area (e.g., loss of a key client account), you can look to another area for relief (e.g., coaching basketball).

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Overall, you appear to be a cooperative and constructive member of your organization who acts in support of the common good. It is not uncommon to see someone with this level of Social Responsibility involved in a variety of social and leadership pursuits both inside and outside of the workplace. A potentially problematic implication of such involvement is that you may take on too many responsibilities, regardless of the cost to the quality of your work or your personal well-being. Be mindful that you don't engage in helping others as an escape from things that need to be fixed in your own life.

## Strategies for Action

**The Best Intentions.** Check in with yourself to ensure that you are not avoiding your current emotional state by focusing solely on helping others.

- Ask someone close to you (e.g., family or close friends) to describe what your intentions to help look like from their perspective. Others may be able to see the real motives behind even the best intentions.
- If you are overly involved to the point that your personal well-being is neglected or you are placing unrealistic expectations on your friends, family or work peers for their social or corporate involvement, it may be time to reflect on your motives behind your desire to help others.

**Inspiring Initiative.** Inspiring others to be socially responsible can create an overall feeling of meaning and charity in the lives of others while fueling your passion for contributing towards the greater good.

- Leverage your passion for causes you care about by reaching out to your friends and family for help.
- Brainstorm several activities that you, family and friends can engage in to help at least one of these causes.
- Identify a plan, specific roles for each person and a timeframe for these activities.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Social Responsibility with Self-Actualization, Interpersonal Relationships, and Empathy. The subscale that differs the most from Social Responsibility is Interpersonal Relationships. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Social Responsibility(112) > Interpersonal Relationships(94)**

Your Social Responsibility is higher than your Interpersonal Relationships result. To balance these components, make contributions to society by connecting with individual people. It is sometimes better to participate in a charitable event, for instance, than to simply donate money to a charity. Connect with individuals who are involved in the activities you pursue. Remember that being socially responsible can happen even on the smallest scale, helping one person at a time.

# Problem Solving

**Problem Solving** find solutions when emotions are involved

113

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Problem Solving is not about the quality of your solutions, but rather at how effectively you use your emotions in the process of solving a problem. Jim, this is an area of emotional intelligence that you use extensively; you tackle problems head on without being overwhelmed or distracted by your emotions. Your approach to problem solving is likely logical, uninterrupted, and involves gathering information before drawing a conclusion. Your result indicates:

- you see emotional information as playing a pivotal role but are not sidetracked by it.
- you work through the many steps of solving a problem without being emotionally distracted.
- you tend to stick with a problem until a solution is reached.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** You are able to maintain a focused demeanor as you generate solutions to many types of problems. However, be aware that you may appear too removed from the gravity of the situation if you “turn off” your emotions in order to arrive at an objective decision. You still want to appear emotionally invested in the decisions you make—you just aren’t allowing your emotions to derail you from making those decisions.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** You frequently engage in effective problem-solving strategies, especially when emotions enter the picture. Your level of awareness, persistence, and decisiveness speaks to your level of understanding of how emotions play a role in the problem-solving process. Although you rarely let your emotions derail your problem solving, you do run the risk of being overly decisive when a solution isn’t readily available, or putting your emotions so far aside that your solutions are seen as cold and impersonal.

## Strategies for Action

**Seek Understanding First.** If you find yourself quick to jump into problem-solving mode, you might start implementing solutions without fully surveying the situation.

- Begin by explaining your interpretation of a problem to at least two people, one who is connected closely to the problem and the other who is a neutral third party.
- Don’t ask for solutions; present your summary of the situation and have them ask clarifying questions if needed.
- If there’s a question to which you do not know the answer, that’s a sign that you need greater understanding of the problem before you begin to solve it.

**In the Mood.** Emotions play different roles in the decision-making process. Learning ways in which you can generate both positive and negative emotions can help you to focus on the task at hand.

- Positive emotions help you stay open to ideas and brainstorm creative solutions. Identify ways to generate a positive mood to help you with the brainstorming phase of problem solving (e.g., listen to music, talk to a friend).
- Negative emotions help you concentrate on the details or analyze the costs associated with each solution. Identify ways to generate a mood that can help you with the analytical phase of problem solving.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Problem Solving with Flexibility, Reality Testing, and Emotional Self-Awareness. The subscale that differs the most from Problem Solving is Flexibility. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Problem Solving(113) ➔ Flexibility(84)**

Your Problem Solving is higher than your Flexibility. Balancing these components often involves considering different solutions to a problem. Use solutions that you know from experience will work, but be receptive to new approaches when they may offer a more optimal solution. Remember to maintain a flexible stance throughout the brainstorming process to help generate as many solutions as possible.

# Reality Testing

**Reality Testing** objective; see things as they really are

120

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Reality Testing—"being grounded" or "tuned into the situation"—means things for what they really are. In business, this includes accurately sizing up the environment, resources, and future trends in order to set realistic plans/goals. Jim, your results indicate that you have the ability to remain objective. By keeping your personal biases at bay, you likely make trusted and sensible decisions that others can buy into. Your result suggests:

- you are very unlikely to misinterpret critical information or allow emotions to color reality.
- you are keenly aware of your own strengths and weaknesses.
- you are attuned to your immediate environment and attentive to the task at hand.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your ability to see most situations objectively may lead you to make very black and white conclusions: something is right or it is wrong, there are no shades of grey. Your emotions can also appear black and white: either you are angry or you aren't. For example, when an event triggers a slight emotion in others, you may remain emotionally neutral as you believe emotions cloud your assessment of the event.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Staying grounded, objective, and realistic is essential for the strategic and tactical elements of leadership, from accurately matching a five-year strategic plan within the forecasted economy to creating daily production quotas. Because you frequently see situations as they really are (and not as you wish them to be), your team likely turns to you for the hard facts when it comes to decision making and goal setting. As a result, you are likely to find yourself setting and pursuing meaningful and achievable goals. Be aware, however, of when your objectivity gets in the way of your creativity and willingness to set stretch goals.

## Strategies for Action

**Gut Checks.** Emotions provide us with information about an event. If you ignore them completely, you are missing out on crucial data that objective analysis cannot provide.

- Try a few "gut checks" throughout your day. Reflect on how you felt about a discussion, calling a customer, making a decision, etc.
- Gut checks are particularly important for large decisions or meetings where you usually allow objective data (e.g., a 10 to 4 vote in favor of pulling the project) to take precedence over what your emotions tell you (e.g., Karen was furious that her project was cut).

**Put your Realism to Work.** You are likely to notice when personal bias is affecting your performance or your team's performance.

- Leverage this strength by using objective processes to facilitate the group's productivity (e.g., SWOT analysis, strategic-planning techniques) when you notice progress becoming sidetracked by personal agendas or unrealistic views of the situation.
- Research some facilitation or meeting management techniques to create a more productive mindset for your team, where the focus is not on exploring personal speculations but rather on accomplishing realistic objectives in each meeting.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Reality Testing with Emotional Self-Awareness, Self-Regard, and Problem Solving. The subscale that differs the most from Reality Testing is Emotional Self-Awareness. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

**Reality Testing(120)** ➡ **Emotional Self-Awareness(86)**

Your Reality Testing is higher than your Emotional Self-Awareness. Balancing these aspects of EI means objectively analyzing information, but also remaining receptive to your emotions and others' emotions. The right synthesis involves considering emotional reactions in addition to practical logistics as you go about your work and life.



# Impulse Control

**Impulse Control** resist or delay impulse to act

86

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Impulse control involves understanding the appropriate times and ways to act on emotions and impulses, and the importance of thinking before acting. Jim, your result shows someone who is more often impulsive and impatient than composed and controlled. You may respond in unpredictable ways to your emotions, making your coworkers uncertain as to how you will react. Your result may indicate a tendency to:

- be very involved and talkative during meetings or conversations.
- be impatient for action, antsy to move into the execution stages of projects.
- be high-strung or touchy.
- have an “act now, think later” approach to solving problems and making decisions.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your low impulse control may cause you to ignore information that is present in emotions. Your experience of emotions is spontaneous; they appear and are gone with little warning and usually fail to appropriately direct your behavior. For example, see your anger as just anger. You may miss the cause of your anger, your body’s expression of anger, or how others are reacting to your anger.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Over the long haul, your inability to delay temptation and avoid rash decision making can overwhelm your colleagues. Always chasing the next great idea may lead them to believe you lack focus, discipline, and the commitment to an established direction. On a day-to-day basis, your impulsivity may come across as interrupting others, erratically changing priorities or timelines, “winging” presentations, or sidetracking conversations with unrelated topics. If your team resists your ideas, or you regret things you have said or done, you need to find ways to be more focused and deliberate in your job to avoid isolating yourself from others.

## Strategies for Action

**Five Deep Breaths.** Your best weapon against impulsive behavior is to force yourself to take pause before you jump into action.

- Take five deep breaths the next time you feel yourself being impulsive or interrupting someone.
- Give yourself this permission to pause. During this short 30 seconds or so, ask yourself what alternative actions you could take.

**Voice of Reason.** People with low impulse control usually have one internal voice and it says “go for it!” You (and your colleagues) may benefit from “pausing” that voice and taking time to consider reasons for staying the course.

- Look at your current workload and find a task or project where it is imperative that you see it through to completion.
- Anticipate points in the project plan where you may lose focus or be tempted to change priorities/processes.
- For each of these instances, prepare yourself against possible impulsivity with some counter arguments: build a case for why it is important to stay the course. These counter arguments to rash decisions become your voice of reason; bring them to meetings when you need a reminder to first evaluate a new direction before you “go for it”.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Impulse Control with Flexibility, Stress Tolerance, and Assertiveness. The subscale that differs the most from Impulse Control is Assertiveness. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

Impulse Control(86)  Assertiveness(133)

Your Impulse Control is lower than your Assertiveness. Assertiveness works effectively with impulse control when your actions are made with confidence after due consideration to those around you and to the circumstances. This relationship can be balanced by taking time to consider the appropriateness of what you want given the circumstances, then leveraging your assertiveness to act in the most effective manner.



# Flexibility

**Flexibility** adapting emotions, thoughts and behaviors

84

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Flexibility requires that you be able to modify your thoughts, emotions, and behaviors in response to change. Jim, more often than not, you appear to be rigid in the way you approach work and life in general. You likely thrive in environments with strict guidelines to follow and stable priorities. However, most workplaces today are in a dynamic and rapid state of change. This may be an area to strengthen as your result indicates:

- an unwillingness to change the way you work (e.g., how you store your emails, managing customer accounts, who you report to, moving from one project to another).
- that you feel uneasy or nervous about change.
- your view of change is: "If it ain't broke don't fix it!"
- you approach organizational changes with trepidation.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** When people are less flexible they are usually allowing their emotions to have a bigger voice than their objective reasoning. Being flexible is about making a choice—do I keep doing the same thing, or do I change? Be aware of when your emotions take over this decision, for instance when anger or frustration convinces you that your old way of doing things is just fine and change isn't necessary.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** You may have difficulty adapting your emotions, thoughts, and behaviors to changing conditions in your workplace. As a result, your colleagues may perceive you as rigid and unwilling to change, which may result in missed opportunities for leadership and becoming antiquated in your area of expertise. While others might tackle a new idea, product, or strategy with gusto, you may find yourself overwhelmed, scared, or worried about adjusting to the change, and thereby fall behind the crowd of change supporters.

## Strategies for Action

**Emotion Analysis.** If you find yourself resisting change, write down what emotions accompany your hesitation.

- For each emotion, use your self-awareness to identify the reason you are feeling this way (e.g., your fear of change comes from the possibility of making mistakes).
- Work through your list of emotions and their causes to find tangible evidence to support or invalidate your emotion. For example, if you are afraid to make a mistake, start gathering all the possible resources and expert advice to help keep your fear at bay when tackling this new challenge.

**Brainstorming.** Brainstorming, especially when performed in a group context, will enable you to take on new perspectives and harvest these options for future contexts. Before you begin brainstorming options, bring about a positive mood in yourself or in the group. Positive emotions help to facilitate creativity and will allow you to remain open to any ideas brought forth.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Flexibility with Problem Solving, Independence, and Impulse Control. The subscale that differs the most from Flexibility is Independence. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

Flexibility(84)  Independence(119)

Your Flexibility is lower than your Independence. Balancing these components of EI can be tricky since the goal is to be open and responsive to change, but you want to maintain an ability to act and think independently. The key is to be willing to change while standing firm when it is important for you to do so. Often you can leverage your independence by implementing strategies to help execute change brought on by others.

# Stress Tolerance

**Stress Tolerance** coping with stressful situations

97

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Stress Tolerance is the ability to cope with and respond effectively to stress and mounting pressure. Jim, your result indicates that you are armed to withstand stress with a repertoire of effective coping strategies. You are able to manage your emotions, remain composed, and maintain your performance, even when times get rough. Although you may not handle all stressful conditions well, you have the underlying belief that you can control your reaction to stress. Some characteristics of your result are:

- you can maintain a level of work performance even under mounting pressure or competition.
- you actively cope with stress without letting your emotions take over.
- weaknesses in other areas of EI may be more apparent during times of stress.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Although you can keep control of your emotions during times of stress, there is the possibility that you do not leverage and use your emotions. Rather than subduing your emotions, remember to use them. The emotion of happiness can help you come up with creative solutions to your stressful situation.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your ability to tolerate stress and exert some influence over the situation is likely to appear calming and even inspiring to your colleagues. Your ability to openly cope with your challenges and even bring others along with you is a sign of tenacious leadership, a quality that is imperative given the full schedules we all work with. Although mounting pressure can cause you to lose your composure, for the most part others can predict your calm and focused demeanor and as a result are likely to openly share information with you.

## Strategies for Action

**Building your Coping Strategies Bank.** There are several effective behavioral strategies that can help you better cope with daily stressors and improve your overall stress tolerance. Some of these strategies are so discreet you can use them in the office to address stress as soon as it starts:

- deep breathing, belly breathing, visualization exercises
- progressive muscle relaxation, acupressure
- yoga, tai chi, meditation

**Worry-Free Zone.** Declare a worry-free zone somewhere in your workplace.

- Move away from your desk and spend five minutes in a different location (e.g., cafeteria, outside) where the only rule is: No thinking about the thing that is causing you stress.
- Allow your mind to cool down and to become clear again. Only then are you in the best position to leverage your emotions in order to respond appropriately to the stress.

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Stress Tolerance with Problem Solving, Flexibility, and Interpersonal Relationships. The subscale that differs the most from Stress Tolerance is Problem Solving. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

Stress Tolerance(97)  Problem Solving(113)

Your Stress Tolerance is lower than your Problem Solving. While solving the actual problem is of course necessary, it is also important to pay attention to effectively coping with the stress it creates. When problems take longer to resolve (e.g., ongoing job demands), you may need to use coping strategies (e.g., relaxation techniques) in order to keep you energized and effective in the long run.

# Optimism

**Optimism** positive attitude and outlook on life

113

70 90 100 110 130

Low Range Mid Range High Range

## What Your Score Means

Optimism, the ability to remain positive despite setbacks, often differentiates between “star performers” and others in the workplace. It permeates almost every application of EI, from helping you persevere to enabling you to view change as a good thing. Jim, your result shows someone who is extensively optimistic and almost always sees the world in a positive light. Some characteristics of your result are:

- you approach the world with a “glass half-full” attitude.
- you believe in yourself and others and rarely give up prematurely.
- you inspire those you work with to overcome challenges.

## Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** People who are strong optimists may attend primarily to positive emotions, ignoring negative ones. The implication is that when you see the world with rose-colored glasses, you see your emotions under the same extra-positive lens. As a result you may miss important information that is accompanied by emotions such as fear, anger, and disgust.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** You are likely able to see opportunities and possibilities that others may overlook or simply reject for being too difficult, too time-consuming, or outside of the organization’s current comfort level. This positive outlook helps you to set stretch targets and communicate a compelling vision that together brings out the best in yourself and others. Your team probably relies on you for a positive view of the current situation, which although motivating can be unrealistic and risky if beyond the organization’s capabilities.

## Strategies for Action

**Grounded Optimism.** Ideally, optimism is rooted in rational thought and logic. To check that this is the case for you, try:

- asking for feedback on the goals you have set.
- looking for past cases where what you are proposing was achieved.
- seeking buy-in from others. Watch for signs of hesitation or questions about the feasibility of what you are asking.

By incorporating some of these checks into your daily routine, you can confirm whether your goals will bring others along with you or leave them behind in the dust.

**Keep it Real.** Your high optimism can be a great strength; however, it is important that you remain realistic about the challenges you are willing to undertake. Stretch goals are important, but make sure they are within your capacity. Prior to undertaking new challenges, take time to evaluate all elements of the task and identify whether or not you have the emotional, social, financial, and technical resources to meet the challenge. If not, is help available?

## Balancing Your EI

This section compares Optimism with Self-Regard, Interpersonal Relationships, and Reality Testing. The subscale that differs the most from Optimism is Interpersonal Relationships. Improving the interplay between these subscales is likely to significantly impact your overall emotional intelligence.

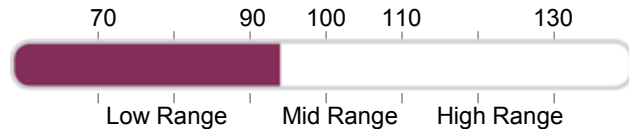
Optimism(113)  Interpersonal Relationships(94)

Your Optimism is higher than your Interpersonal Relationships result. Balancing optimism with well developed interpersonal relationships can help you to remain positive and realistic. Also, by using your interpersonal relationships effectively, you can get important feedback to help keep your optimism grounded.

# Well-Being Indicator

**Happiness** satisfied with life; content

94



## How to Use this Page

Happiness includes feelings of satisfaction, contentment and the ability to enjoy the many aspects of one's life. It is different than the other EI abilities in that Happiness both contributes to, and is a product of, emotional intelligence. As such, your result in Happiness is like an indicator of your emotional health and well-being.

Your Happiness result is shown below, linked to your results on the four subscales most often associated with Happiness.

Because Happiness is so interconnected with all EI abilities, you may find further development opportunities if you explore how the remaining subscales contribute to your level of Happiness, and vice versa.

## Happiness

Jim, your result in Happiness suggests that more often than not you feel satisfied with your life, and generally enjoy the company of others and the work you do. You may:

- have fun at both work and play when participating in activities you enjoy.
- be seen by coworkers as likeable and pleasant to be around.
- have to occasionally manage your discontentment with certain aspects of your life.

Although you have no low scores in the four subscales typically tied to Happiness, you should examine other lower scoring subscales (Emotional Self-Awareness, Emotional Expression, Impulse Control and Flexibility) which may be holding you back from experiencing greater happiness. Are there goals you can set that are related to these areas?

### Self-Regard (116)

Happiness is a by-product of believing in oneself and living according to your own values and standards. Your high level of Self-Regard helps to promote positive feelings about oneself, confidence, and enhanced life satisfaction and happiness.

- If you could improve one facet of your life, what would it be? Why?
- Aside from material things, what is it about you that makes you truly happy?

### Optimism (113)

In the face of setback and disappointment, the ability to recover and claim a happy state is contingent on one's level of optimism. Your results indicate that you have a high level of optimism, adopting a positive framework during adverse conditions. This approach to life enhances and sustains pervasive feelings of happiness.

- What thoughts help you remain optimistic during more difficult times?
- Are there any situations where you feel less optimistic? If so, how can you improve or deal better with those situations?

### Interpersonal Relationships (94)

Well-developed relationships serve as a buffer from the negative effects of life's daily demands. Your result suggests that your relationships are fulfilling for the most part, but there may be times when you need more encouragement and support from those around you.

- What causes struggles in your relationships and what could make things better?
- What are the most desirable attributes of the people you spend time with?

### Self-Actualization (96)

Happiness comes from a willingness to learn and grow on a journey aligned with your values. Your result suggests a good level of self-actualization, but further development in this area will help to promote feelings of achievement and overall happiness.

- Identify what you value most in life. Are you spending enough time on the activities most important to you?
- What legacy will you leave behind?

# Action Plan

The steps you take towards achieving your EI goals will determine whether or not success is realized. Use this step-by-step activity plan to help guide you closer to your goals. Remember to use the SMART goal setting criteria for each goal.

S

MEASURABLE

ACTION-ORIENTED

REALISTIC

TIMELY

Write down up to three EI skills or behaviors that you would like to further develop (e.g., “reflective listening” to build empathy, or “recognizing how my body reacts to stress” to raise emotional self-awareness). The SMART goals that you outline in the template should help to strengthen these EI skills and behaviors.

1.
2.
3.

Write down up to three overall qualities that you would like to have (e.g., integrity, providing clear leadership, team player, clear communicator). In some way the goals you outline in this action plan should help you achieve the overall qualities you identified.

1.
2.
3.

Transfer your SMART goals into the action plan template below.

| SMART Goal       | Time Frame                              | Benefits  | Measure of Success  | Support and Resources Needed             | Potential Barriers   |
|------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| Listen to others | In team meetings<br>Starting from today | Other people will listen to me<br>I will get to hear everyone’s views | Feedback from the team to say that I am listening to them more<br>Take actions that other people have suggested | From the team to give me honest feedback | Time – often do not have time to listen to views but just need to give instructions. If this is the case need to tell people at the beginning of the meeting |
|                  |   |   |   |  |  |
|                  |   |   |   |  |  |
|                  |   |   |   |  |  |

I commit to this action plan \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

# EI Development Commitment

A Development Commitment is a tool to help hold you accountable for accomplishing the goals outlined in your action plan. As we all too often know, our plans for personal growth and development often fall by the wayside when we get engrossed in work and our

organization's demands win the competition for our time and attention. By outlining your objectives here and leaving a copy with your coach you are increasingly more accountable to reach your personal goals.

## My Personal Development Goals

My action plan includes the following goals:

|    | Due Date |
|----|----------|
| 1. |          |
| 2. |          |
| 3. |          |
| 4. |          |

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Your Coach's Signature \_\_\_\_\_