

How Elon Musk Succeeded with Soft Skills



Known for: entrepreneur, innovator, humanitarian, futurist, founder of SpaceX, Co-founder of Paypal, Zip2 and Tesla Motors

Primary soft skills: Critical thinking, Goal Setting, Resiliency

Failure is an option here. If things are not failing, you are not innovating enough.

It's easy to believe that the age of grand invention has passed. Modern innovations seem to be limited to incremental improvements over technology whose foundation hasn't truly been revolutionary for probably 20 to 30 years.

Elon Musk has spent his life changing that image, however. As the founder of SpaceX, and co-founder of Paypal, Tesla Motors and Zip2, Elon Musk's contribution to the world of technology go beyond app development. Driven by humanitarian desires, this real life Tony Stark would probably say that he's not so much redefining innovation, as he is reviving it.

His soft skills

Critical Thinking

Musk's willingness to see common objects and technologies as worthy of critique has allowed him to innovate in areas that few have imagined...like the car you drive, for instance. While electric cars have been around since the 1970's, Musk's pioneering work has turned them from tiny niche vehicles with limited driving range into Tesla Motors' sleek, futuristic sports cars that get 200-300 miles out of a single charge.

How about your home power grid? Tesla is also responsible for the Power Wall, a large battery that can store and more efficiently provide power to your house during peak energy usage times. It's probably not too big of a surprise that the power wall also works swimmingly with solar technology Musk himself touts as the future. The Power Wall's 92% DC power efficiency is just another symptom of the type of future-thinking that drive both Musk and Tesla.

Even our home planet is not safe from Musk's self-critique. His company SpaceX lists, on their website, their goal:

SpaceX designs, manufactures and launches advanced rockets and spacecraft. The company was founded in 2002 to revolutionize space technology, with the ultimate goal of enabling people to live on other planets.

Musk knows that at the heart of innovation is a willingness to question the way things have always been done and ask if there is a better, smarter and more mutually beneficial way to accomplish these tasks. In his own words:

Constantly think about how you could be doing things better, and keep questioning yourself.

Goal Setting

Speaking of lofty goals, Elon Musk perfectly demonstrates the important skill of setting goals in the mission of every venture he leads. If you were to interview 5,000 CEOs about their goals for their business, 4,998 would tell you it was to increase profit. 1 wouldn't return your phone call, and 1 would be Elon Musk who, in a quarterly letter to Tesla investors, wrote:

Profits are not our primary goal...

To many companies, that message may be unpalatable, but for Elon Musk, it signifies higher goals – goals like interplanetary exploration, moving humanity away from dependence on fossil fuels, and the opportunity for every human being to contribute to the collective knowledge.

Surprisingly, or perhaps not so surprisingly, Tesla's stock went up in value following Musk's bold and transcendent declaration of goals. Staying focused on these goals keeps Musk from being encumbered by failure. Which leads us to...

Resiliency

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again is a standard phrase among schoolchildren. When Musk's SpaceX company tried to launch its first rocket, it did not succeed. Musk paid heed to this idiomatic wisdom and

tried, tried again. Two more times the rocket didn't launch. On the brink of losing all investment, Musk tried one more time and finally succeeded in launching a rocket and subsequently, the SpaceX name.

Does failure weigh on Musk? It seems to, but not the same way it does with many people who give up when they've failed. He puts it this way:

If something is important enough you should try, even if the probable outcome is failure.

So even though Musk has had his run-ins with failure (SpaceX rocket launches, Paypal's undervalued sale to eBay, etc), he has always continued to try and innovate allowing his vision for a world of cleaner electricity, equal opportunities and space exploration to keep that failure from knocking him down. Don't just try, try because you believe so much in the outcome you are trying for.

What can we learn from Elon Musk?

Perhaps the biggest, and most apparent way we can learn from Elon Musk is to value and incorporate the same skills that have placed him at the helm of innovation and technological progress into our own lives and lines of work.

We learn to question the processes and statuses of our own day-to-day routines. We learn to set goals that are bigger than the goals we had yesterday, and maybe even so big that the people around us think they are outrageous and impossible.

Finally, when our critique of the status quo mixes with our goal to change it for the better, we learn to be resilient and not back down from this new vision in the face of failure. Like Elon Musk, we learn to embrace failure as a symptom of innovation, and run at full speed toward the kind of ideas that define the future.

6 soft skills every professional needs

By Debra Auerbach | June 20, 2018

It's become more important than ever for young professionals to display strong interpersonal skills when looking for work.

On paper, you look perfect for the job. You have all of the experience and qualifications the job requires. But do you have the soft skills necessary to succeed?

Soft skills are those qualities and attributes, such as communication and teamwork, which help employees work well with others and enhance productivity. And they matter to employers.

According to a recent CareerBuilder survey, 63 percent of employers said one of the top questions they're trying to answer when looking for candidates is "what are their soft skills?" What's more, [Google recently conducted a study](#) which found that "among the eight most important qualities of Google's top employees, STEM expertise comes in dead last. The seven top characteristics of success at Google are all soft skills."

So, what are some of the softer skills employers think are important for their current and future workers to have? Here, career experts share a list of six soft skills companies are seeking in a successful employee:

1. A thirst for knowledge. Adrian Ridner, CEO and co-founder of online learning platform [Study.com](#), says that employers place a high value on candidates who have an ability to learn. "Workplace needs are constantly changing, so we need employees who will be willing to learn and adapt along the way to meet those changes. During the hiring process, it's important to assess if candidates have learning agility and the hunger to develop professionally."

2. Team mentality. "Many jobs are teamwork driven and rely on each team member to get the project completed," says Carrie-Anne McGrath, partner and manager at talent acquisition firm WinterWyman. "It's not enough to robotically say 'I'm a team player.' Focus the discussion on your work with teams and the important role you played. Give specific examples of a team-focused project – share some interesting details of the work and describe how it was completed successfully."

3. Flexibility and commitment. McGrath also says that being flexible and showing your commitment are often hard to convey during an interview, but it's still important to prove you possess these qualities.

“Describe your flexibility by talking about a project that was changed just before a due date and how you adapted to meet the new requirements. Discuss an assignment that required a great deal of time and lasted longer than anticipated and how you stuck with it until its successful completion. When things move quickly and deadlines and scope change frequently, hiring managers want to know their new employee is flexible and able to adapt easily.”

4. Project management. No matter what type of role you’re seeking, hiring managers will be looking for a candidate who is organized, can stay on task and can work under pressure. “Team members should hit deadlines and let others know where they are on project timelines,” says Jason Patel, former career ambassador at George Washington University and the founder of [Transizion](#), a college and career prep company. “You need to be able to update others and give alerts when trouble arises.”

5. Self-awareness. “People perceive us by how we carry ourselves,” says Christopher K. Lee, founder and career consultant at [PurposeRedeemed.com](#). “Being aware of how your words and actions come across, whether intended or not, is a foundation for successful leadership.”

6. Communication skills. Ada Chen Rekhi, founder and COO of [Notejoy](#), says that when she’s hiring, she looks for communication skills, because she wants to create a team that can collaborate together effectively. “They need to be able to explain the motivation for their decisions, and persuade others in the team to come along with their viewpoint,” she says. “There’s a huge difference in execution when the entire team is bought in and believes in doing what you’ve asked them to do, rather than being tasked with work where they don’t understand or agree with the significance. The result of a highly communicative team is that information is shared more quickly and the entire team can act with more conviction and speed.”

3 Underrated Soft Skills That'll Get You Ahead (No Matter Where You're Going)

<https://www.themuse.com/advice/3-underrated-soft-skills-thatll-get-you-ahead-no-matter-where-youre-going>

by JEREMEY DUVAL



Cultivating the right skills in your career will make the difference between getting a promotion and getting passed over for one, landing your dream job and settling for a role you don't love, and being given that big new account or watching your not-so-favorite co-worker get the opportunity.

The question is, which [soft skills](#) are the right ones?

Whether you're a career veteran or just entering the workforce, here are three highly-underrated soft skills that'll help you no matter where you go in your career:

1. Focus

In his book, [Deep Work: Rules for Focused Success in a Distracted World](#), author Cal Newport outlines the benefits of the intense focus you have when you're fully engulfed in a task (a.k.a., not checking Twitter or Facebook).

Newport lays out three reasons why it's such a valuable skill. First, those periods of concentrated effort allow you to produce more than usual. Second, most people gravitate toward easier work (checking email) versus hard, satisfying tasks (that [big project you've been delaying](#)), so it'll help you stand out. Third, it maximizes the use of your skills and talents in a way that gives your work more meaning and you more satisfaction.

Develop It: Block Out Time (and Space)

It's impossible to practice your focus if you're constantly interrupted to go to meetings. Fix this by identifying one segment of your day and block it off from any meetings. Look for a two-hour time slot when you can just think and work—and then mark it as “busy” on your calendar.

Next, set up your environment so you can focus on difficult tasks without temptation. Consider browser apps like [Self-Control](#)—it's free!—or [Freedom](#). Put your phone on airplane mode. Turn off notifications on your computer. If your team is on Slack, set yourself to “Do not disturb.”

The more time you make to practice and engage with focused work, the more prepared you'll be to tackle these kinds of projects when they arise.

2. Openness to Feedback

It doesn't matter how well you deliver feedback: If you won't listen to critiques about your own work, you'll never grow (not to mention, you'll make yourself pretty unapproachable). People will not only be less inclined to work with you, but they also may discount your advice in return.

In [*Thanks for the Feedback: The Science and Art of Receiving Feedback Well*](#), authors Douglas Stone and Sheila Heen walk through the challenges of receiving feedback. For example, when you hear [constructive criticism](#), your initial gut response is often to say, “You're wrong.” But being defensive won't help you grow.

Develop It: Listen Attentively

Instead of insisting the other person is wrong, Stone and Heen suggest a different tact: “That's interesting. I would like to understand more about why we see this differently.” By asking for specifics, you can get to the root behaviors and observations leading to their judgment.

Now, often in feedback conversations, two or more topics pop up. Don't try to tackle everything at once.

For example, let's say you walk into your manager's office and receive this onslaught:

I just wanted to chat with you about that project you're working on. You're behind schedule, and I'm concerned that it's not headed in the right direction.

There are actually two issues here. First, there's the pace of the project. Second, there's the overall direction. Trying to tackle these at the same time means each could get short shrift. Instead, when you notice this happening in conversation, use this line from Stone and Heen's book:

I see two related but separate topics for us to discuss. They are both important. Let's discuss each topic fully but separately, giving each topic its own track.

When you say this—and then actually listen—you'll impress your co-workers with your ability to both hear and incorporate their feedback.

3. Accountability

It's one thing to enthusiastically volunteer for a new project. But it's another to see it through to completion.

Sometimes you may bite off more than you can chew, but you don't want to make it a habit.

According to [a study on over-commitment](#), it's hard to know what future tasks will take up our time, so we underestimate and expect to have more available time in the future than we actually do.

Additionally, [people underestimate](#) how long projects will *actually* take.

Develop It: Overestimate and Plan for the Worst

Use the [Scotty Principle](#): Determine how long you think a task will take. Then, add 25% to 50% and promise it'll be done by the end of the lengthier estimate.

Best-case scenario, you'll finish with time to spare.

But best-case scenarios, while awesome, are not what you should be planning for. If you're chronically struggling with deadlines, stop scheduling your day based on everything going right.

Assume at least one thing won't swing your way. Better yet, plan for this by setting aside blocks of time strictly for unexpected items. For example, three or four days a week, I build in a 45-minute block just for catch up on random tasks that I didn't anticipate. This way, you're building in contingencies so you can start meeting deadlines and be seen as someone who's 100% dependable.

Like any other skill on your resume, you can't master these within a week or even a month. It will take consistent work; however learning these skills is a surefire way to keep growing and stand out at work.

5 Soft Skills You Need to Master for Workplace Success

These intangible qualities are essential to get ahead in the workplace.

By Antonio Neves *Millennial workplace speaker and author* [@TheAntonioNeves](#)



CREDIT: Getty Images

<https://www.inc.com/the-muse/5-emotional-intelligence-leadership-skills-you-need-for-success.html>

When it comes to succeeding in the workplace, a college degree isn't necessarily enough. Nor is years of experience on the job.

That's because the most in-demand skills that employers crave are the elusive ["soft skills"](#)--the intangible but important qualities that enable you to work and interact with the people around you effectively.

These traits include leadership, self-awareness, communication skills, and emotional intelligence. In fact, an important criteria during the [hiring process at Google](#) is screening for "learning ability."

Having [great soft skills](#) can be a huge game-changer as you go through your career. It can be the difference between getting people to believe in you or being forgotten, the difference between advancing a project or having it rejected, the difference between getting a promotion or finding yourself in yet another disappointing lateral move. These skills teach you not just to be a better employee but a stellar human being as well.

So, check out the five soft skills below that are essential for success--all of which you can teach yourself to practice in your daily interactions:

1. Listening: Make it Your Secret Communication Weapon

People often associate good communicators with excellent public speaking. But the best communicators do something that most others fail at. They [listen](#).

The easiest way to build trust with someone is by showing interest in him or her. You can accomplish this by listening more than you talk. Good listeners don't think about what they're going to say next when the other person is speaking. Good listeners ask follow-up questions. Good listeners make it all about the person they're with; not about them.

When in doubt, provide guiding cues like "Tell me more about that." The most valuable thing that you can give someone is your attention.

2. Take Accountability: Do What You Say You're Going to Do

When something goes wrong and you're responsible for it, don't make excuses, ignore it, or blame someone else. Instead, take full [accountability](#) and responsibility for the role that you played in it. Even better, learn from it.

Further, when working on a project, it's easy to hit send on a message or email and assume your job is done. It's even easier to agree to something in a meeting and then not follow through on it. However, being accountable also means making no assumptions, it means holding others accountable and following-up to confirm tasks have been completed, and it means keeping the agreements that you make.

When in doubt, this skill's all about doing what you say you're going to do. This is the core of integrity and it builds trust.

3. Creative Thinking: Be Resourceful With What You've Got

Being creative often means finding ways to solve problems with limited resources. Chefs are a great example of how to do this. If a chef wants to make a dish that requires 10 ingredients, but he only has seven of them on hand, what will he do? Is he going to leave his customers hungry?

No, a great chef will go into [problem-solving mode](#). He'll find a way to get creative with the seven ingredients that he has to make a delicious dish. The greatest innovations tend to arrive under constraints. The companies with the largest budgets or head counts don't always finish first. Use your disadvantages to your advantage. Focus on the ingredients that you have, not the ones you don't, and then embrace the freedom that this creates.

4. Emotional Awareness: Know What You're Feeling

When we're having a good or bad day, it's easy to act on pure emotion. But this can be a deeply problematic way of making decisions (for reasons you can probably figure out).

The truth is, sometimes when you're afraid, you're actually very excited. Sometimes when you're sad, you're really angry. Sometimes when you're angry, you're actually quite sad. When you're feeling any type of emotion that may cause you to behave in a questionable manner, one that you may possibly regret a few hours later, press pause and ask yourself: "What am I really feeling?"

Talk to a friend. Get a second opinion on that angry email you have drafted to your boss before you press send. Take the time to pause, re-center, and ask yourself what's most important.

5. Empathy: Go Outside to Connect Inside

It's easy to be part of the crowd and do what everyone else does, particularly within a large organization. However, it's valuable to find time *outside* of the office to explore new experiences that allow you to grow and [build empathy](#) for others.

Great outlets for this include [volunteering](#), taking continuing education courses, travel, working on side projects, attending conferences or cultural events, and more. When we do this, we learn how to connect with others outside of our industry and build an understanding of those who may have different viewpoints, backgrounds and who see things from a different perspective. This also teaches us how much we may have in common with others.

When we take these outside experiences back inside the office, it can create a greater empathy and understanding of our colleagues, which ultimately allows us to feel more comfortable in our own skin.

And this is really what soft skills are about. After all, it's not just about landing a cushy job or impressing an employer. Bringing these traits to a job can help make the work you do more efficient, effective, and--dare I say it--even enjoyable. They may seem simple and you may already be practicing some of them, but push yourself to do more, go deeper, push yourself even further. Because in the long run, they're what's going to get you ahead.

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Managing Yourself - How to Master a New Skill

By: [Amy Gallo](#)

NOVEMBER 29, 2012

We all want to be better at something. After all, self-improvement is necessary to getting ahead at work. But once you know what you want to be better at — be it [public speaking](#), using social media, or analyzing data — how do you start? Of course, learning techniques will vary depending on the skill and the person, but there are some general rules you can follow.

What the Experts Say

Mastering new skills is not optional in today's business environment. "In a fast-moving, competitive world, being able to learn new skills is one of the keys to success. It's not enough to be smart — you need to always be getting smarter," says Heidi Grant Halvorson, a motivational psychologist and author of the HBR Single [Nine Things Successful People Do Differently](#). Joseph Weintraub, a professor of management and organizational behavior at Babson College and coauthor of the book, [The Coaching Manager: Developing Top Talent in Business](#), agrees: "We need to constantly look for opportunities to stretch ourselves in ways that may not always feel comfortable at first. Continual improvement is necessary to get ahead." Here are some principles to follow in your quest for self-improvement:

Check your readiness

When working on a new skill or competency, you need to ask yourself two things. First, is your goal attainable? "There are certain limits to what you can learn," explains Weintraub. "For example, you may want to be a brain surgeon, but not have the eye-hand coordination required." Second, how much time and energy can you give to the project? "It's not like going to the pharmacy and getting a prescription filled," says Weintraub. Self-improvement is hard work. Halvorson agrees: "Many people implicitly believe that if you have to work hard at something, it means you lack ability. This is rubbish." Instead, recognize that learning a new skill takes extreme commitment. Unless your goal is attainable and you're prepared to work hard, you won't get very far.

Make sure it's needed

Weintraub suggests you also make sure the skill is relevant to your career, your organization, or both. You may be jazzed up about learning how to speak in front of large audiences, but does your manager value that? Unless you absolutely need the skill for your job, or for a future position, it's unlikely you'll get money for training or support from your manager. Gaining a new skill is an investment and you need to know upfront what the return will be.

Know how you learn best

Some learn best by looking at graphics or reading. Others would rather watch demonstrations or listen to things being explained. Still others need a "hands-on" experience. Halvorson says you can figure out your ideal learning style by looking back. "Reflect on some of your past learning experiences, and make a list of good ones and another list of bad ones," she says. "What did the good, effective experiences have in common? How about the bad ones? Identifying common strands can help you determine the learning environment that works best for you."

Get the right help

Eliciting support from others can greatly increase learning. Find someone you trust who has mastered the skill you're trying to attain. And look beyond your immediate manager who has to evaluate you. Weintraub suggests you ask yourself: "Who in my organization, other than my boss, would notice my changes and give me honest feedback?" Then approach that person and say something like, "You are so comfortable with [the skill], something I'm not particularly good at. I'm really trying to work on that and would love to spend some time with you, learn from you, and get your feedback." If you can't find a mentor inside your company, look for people in your industry or from your network. "Ultimately, you want to go with the best teacher. If there is someone in your organization who is able and willing to provide quality mentoring, then great. If not, seek outside help," says Halvorson.

Start small

Self-improvement can feel overwhelming. "You can't take on everything. If you do, you'll never do it," says Weintraub. Instead, choose one or two skills to focus on at a time, and break that skill down into manageable goals. For example, if you're trying to become more assertive, you

might focus on speaking up more often in meetings by pushing yourself to talk within the first five minutes.

Reflect along the way

To move from experimentation to mastery, you need to reflect on what you are learning. Otherwise the new skill won't stick. Halvorson and Weintraub both suggest talking to others. "Always share your goals with those individuals who can provide informational or emotional support along the way," says Halvorson. "Even if that person doesn't have the answer, he can help you and keep you honest about how much you're improving," says Weintraub. Talking about your progress helps you get valuable feedback, keeps you accountable, and cements the change.

Challenge yourself to teach it to others

One of the quickest ways to learn something new, and to practice it, is to teach others how to do it. So share what you learn with your team, your manager, or your co-workers. You can force yourself to do it by putting a "teaching" date on your calendar or agreeing to lead a formal training session a few months down the road. With objectives like those, your learning will be much more focused and practical.

Be patient

"Too often, we approach a new skill with the attitude that we should nail it right out of the gate," says Halvorson. The reality is that it takes much longer. "It's not going to happen overnight. It usually takes six months or more to develop a new skill," says Weintraub. And it may take longer for others to see and appreciate it. "People around you will only notice 10% of every 100% change you make," he says.

Principles to Remember

Do:

- Select a skill that is valued by your organization and manager
- Divide the skill up into smaller, manageable tasks
- Reflect on what you've learned and what you still want to accomplish

Don't:

- Try to learn in a vacuum — ask others for guidance and feedback
- Rely solely on your boss for advice — you may want to involve someone who isn't responsible for evaluating you
- Assume it's going to happen overnight — it usually takes at least six months to develop a new skill

Case study #1: Learn by trial and error

Jaime Petkanics was a basic Excel user when she started her first job out of college. As a recruiter for JP Morgan, data analysis wasn't one of the required skills. However, a few months in, she was asked to build an Excel model that would track and report the success rates of campus recruiting efforts. "I was totally out of my element," she admits. "Excel is not a core part of a recruiter's job. I was focused on hiring people — that's what I was being measured on." But she had an interest in analysis (that's why she chose to do recruiting at an investment bank), and wanted to prove herself as a newcomer.

She started by learning as much as possible on her own. She found tutorials on Google, and watched instructional videos on YouTube. But she still struggled. "When I got stuck, I would ask bankers. They build models every day so I was able to leverage my connections and find people who had the right skills," she says. Over the course of two weeks, Jaime developed the model. "I didn't get it perfect the first time. There were mistakes in the formulas and people found errors," she says. But she continued to refine it, and because of her success, others asked her to take on similar projects. "Once people knew that I could pull data together quickly — and make sense of it — I started to get a lot of requests."

She admits this trial- and-error approach wasn't the most effective way to learn Excel but given the immediacy of the need, it was necessary. By the time she left the job almost three years later, Excel and data analytics were strengths that helped her land her next position.

Case study #2: Experiment with different approaches

Safia Syed, a regional finance controller at a global outsourcing company, noticed that any time she suggested an improvement to a financial or IT system, colleagues resisted. Her ideas went

through numerous rounds of review and were heavily questioned. She decided that her communication style was hindering her, and needed to be changed. “I was given feedback a few times that I was too opinionated,” she says.

Safia started by reading books about how to persuade people effectively and joined Toastmasters, a non-profit educational organization. Through that program, she learned how to connect with stakeholders and present ideas in a more appealing way. Also, coincidentally during the same time, the president of Safia’s company started interviewing key employees to better understand what they did or did not like about their jobs. This provided Safia with a perfect opportunity. She explained her desire to see her ideas have more impact and the boss advised her to focus less on *why* something needed to be changed and more on *how* it could happen, including what she could do to make sure it did.

Safia realized she had been assuming that her colleagues understood what the problems were and how to fix them. She had been highlighting what needed to be done, and leaving it at that. With her new understanding in hand, she was able to try a different approach: she mapped out a process and pointed to the root causes. This helped her audience understand where they could make changes and how exactly she could help.

Safia has noticed a big difference in how colleagues respond to her suggestions: they are now more open to hearing them, and willing to work with her to implement them.

[Amy Gallo](#) is a contributing editor at Harvard Business Review and the author of the *HBR Guide to Managing Conflict at Work*. She [writes and speaks](#) about workplace dynamics. Follow her on Twitter at [@amyegallo](#).

Essentials:

- Title:** Developing Career & Academic Potential through Application of Soft Skills
- Objective:** This assignment is meant to provide students with a foundational understanding of skills sought by employers searching for quality new & recent graduates.
- Background:** Employers are demanding that new and recent grad bring a set of soft skills to a new job. During interviews job candidates may be asked to discuss unique soft skills s/he offers to the employer and why they are of value to job success.
- Scoring:** Maximum is 100 points
- Grade Percent:** 5% of course grade
- Scoring criteria:** Professionalism, spelling, mechanics, grammar, use of vocabulary, detailed, quality of references, and quality of responses to each question.
- Delivery method:** Upload to the correct assignment folder in Blackboard.
- Due Date:** Wednesday, 7th August 2019 by noon (No option for late submissions)

Requirements:

- Read and analyze articles provide in the assignment packet.
- Develop detailed responses to discussion questions presented below.
- Organize and present a professional quality document responding to stated questions.
- Formatting: single-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, and one-inch margins.
- Provide a list of references using APA formatting, if needed.

Discussion questions requiring response:

1. Create a table similar to the below example. Then, list the soft skills you identified in each article.

Article 1	Article 2	Article 3	Article 4

2. Below your table, using a bullet point format, define each of these soft skills in your own words.
- This is an example.
3. Each article may use a different term to identify a similar skill. Identify which of the soft skills seem to be similar across the four articles. Given this, why do you believe these different writers and articles discuss the same skill(s). How are they important in today's business environment?
4. Using a selected or potential career path (job upon graduation), choose a soft skill that you believe is most important for that role. Explain why you believe it is more important than others for success.
5. What is the one soft skill that you believe is least important? Why is it of such minor relevance?
6. Using information from the last article in the packet, "How to Master a New Skill," as a guide, develop a plan for you to master one new skill or one you wish to build. Be specific.