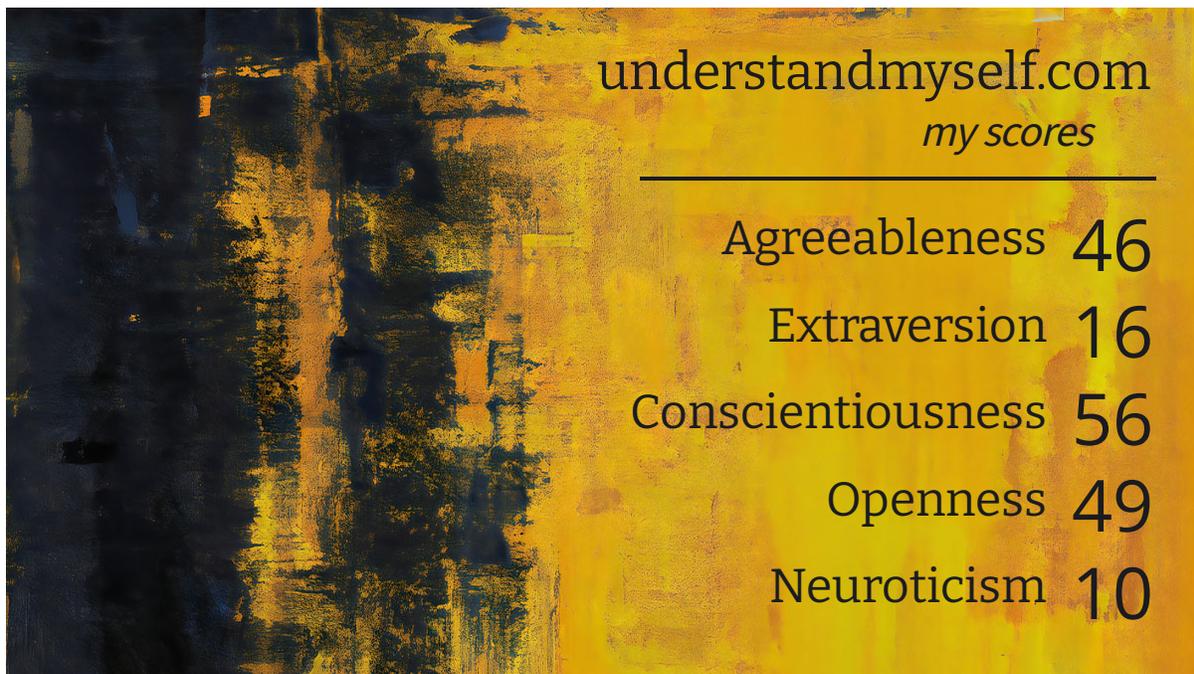


Understand Myself

Personality Assessment Report

Prepared for **Gavin Medeiros**

The Understand Myself personality assessment and report is based on the Big Five Aspects Scale, the scientific model that describes your personality through the (Big Five) factors and each of their two aspects. This report describes where you stand in comparison to others in the general population on these traits and aspects.



The traits and aspects of the Big Five personality model are:

- Agreeableness: Compassion and Politeness
- Conscientiousness: Industriousness and Orderliness
- Extraversion: Enthusiasm and Assertiveness
- Neuroticism: Withdrawal and Volatility
- Openness: Intellect and Aesthetics

In the original Big Five Aspects Scale model, the openness factor was entitled "Openness to Experience," and its aspects were called "Intellect" and "Openness". For the sake of clarity, we have deviated from this, and use "Openness" or "Openness to Experience" to refer to the factor level trait and "Intellect" and "Aesthetics" to refer to its aspects.

Our systems have compared your-self-ratings to those of thousands of other people. You are being compared to men and women of all ages. This means that if you are young, your scores on neuroticism will be higher and on agreeableness and conscientiousness will be lower than if you were compared to people of your own age (with the reverse being true for older individuals). For men, their scores on agreeableness and on neuroticism will be lower than if they were just being compared to men. We decided to make the comparisons simple, so that you know where you stand in comparison to the typical person (with age and sex regarded as irrelevant).

Your scores are presented as percentiles. A percentile indicates where you stand on a particular trait with respect to the population. A percentile score of, say, 63, indicates that your score is as high or higher than 63% of the population.

Remember that each personality trait and aspect (and your relative position with respect to them) has advantages and disadvantages. It is for that reason that variation exists in the human population: there is a niche for each personality configuration. Much of what constitutes success in life is therefore the consequence of finding the place in relationships, work and personal commitment that corresponds to your unique personality structure. Good luck with your expanded self-understanding!

Note also that if you find the descriptions harsher than you might consider appropriate this may mean that you were more self-critical than necessary when completing the questions (remember, the results are based on your own self-report, compared to that of others). This can occur if you were feeling temporarily or chronically unhappy or anxious, or hungry, angry or judgmental when you completed the questions.

Agreeableness: Typical or Average

You are typical or average in agreeableness, which is the primary dimension of interpersonal interaction in the Big Five personality trait scientific model. The two aspects of agreeableness are compassion and politeness.

Your score puts you at the **46th** percentile for agreeableness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in agreeableness than **46** of them and lower in agreeableness than **53** of them.



Agreeableness is a very complex trait, with marked positive and negative elements all along its distribution. Because of this, higher scores and lower scores need to be explained at the same time. People high in agreeableness are nice: compliant, nurturing, kind, naively trusting and conciliatory. However, because of their tendency to avoid conflict, they often dissemble and hide what they think.

People low in agreeableness are not so nice: stubborn, dominant, harsh, skeptical, competitive and, in the extreme, even predatory. However, they tend to be straightforward, even blunt, so you know where they stand.

People with typical levels of agreeableness are seen by others as somewhat cooperative, warm and considerate. They look for and even sometimes see the best in others, and are reasonably interpersonally tolerant (an attitude that is much valued by agreeable people). They are no more sensitive than average to seeing someone's feelings get hurt and, although sometimes concerned about the emotional state of others, don't always prefer peace and harmony to conflict. They strike a good balance between submissiveness and dominance.

People with average levels of agreeableness are somewhat forgiving, accepting, flexible, gentle and patient. They sometimes feel pity for those who are excluded, punished or defeated. However, they are less likely than highly agreeable people to be taken advantage of by disagreeable people or those with criminal or predatory intent. They can be skeptical. They believe in cooperation, but also feel that competition, with its losers and winners, has its valid place. They are less likely to lose arguments (and will not typically avoid discussion) with less agreeable people. They can be quite good at bargaining for themselves, and at negotiating for more recognition or power. They are likely to have somewhat higher salaries and earn more money, in consequence. This may mean they are less likely to suffer from resentment or to harbour invisible anger, although this tendency may be increased, if they are high in neuroticism. In addition, because of their tendency to engage in conflict, when necessary, typically agreeable people are less prone to sacrifice medium- to long-term stability and function for the sake of short-term peace. This can mean that problems that should be solved in the present are often solved, and do not accumulate counterproductively across time.

Women are higher in agreeableness than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 61.5. For men it is 38.5. The fact that men are lower in agreeableness than women helps explain their much higher rates of criminal incarceration (90% male). The primary difference between criminals and non-criminals is disagreeableness. If the typical criminal is more disagreeable than 98% of people in the general population, then almost all those criminals will be male. This difference in agreeableness between men and women is largest in countries such as Norway and Sweden, where the most has been done to ensure equality of outcome between the sexes. This provides strong evidence that biological factors rather than environment and learning account for the dissimilarity.

Agreeableness, per se, is not strongly associated with political liberalism or conservatism, but this is because the aspects of agreeableness predict such political belief in opposite ways, and cancel each other out. Liberals are higher in aspect compassion, and conservatives in aspect politeness. However, alliance with the category of belief that has come to be known as politically correct is strongly predicted by agreeableness (particularly compassion). What this appears to mean is that agreeable people strongly identify with those they deem oppressed, seeing them, essentially, as exploited infants, and demonize those they see as oppressors, seeing them as cruel, heartless predators.

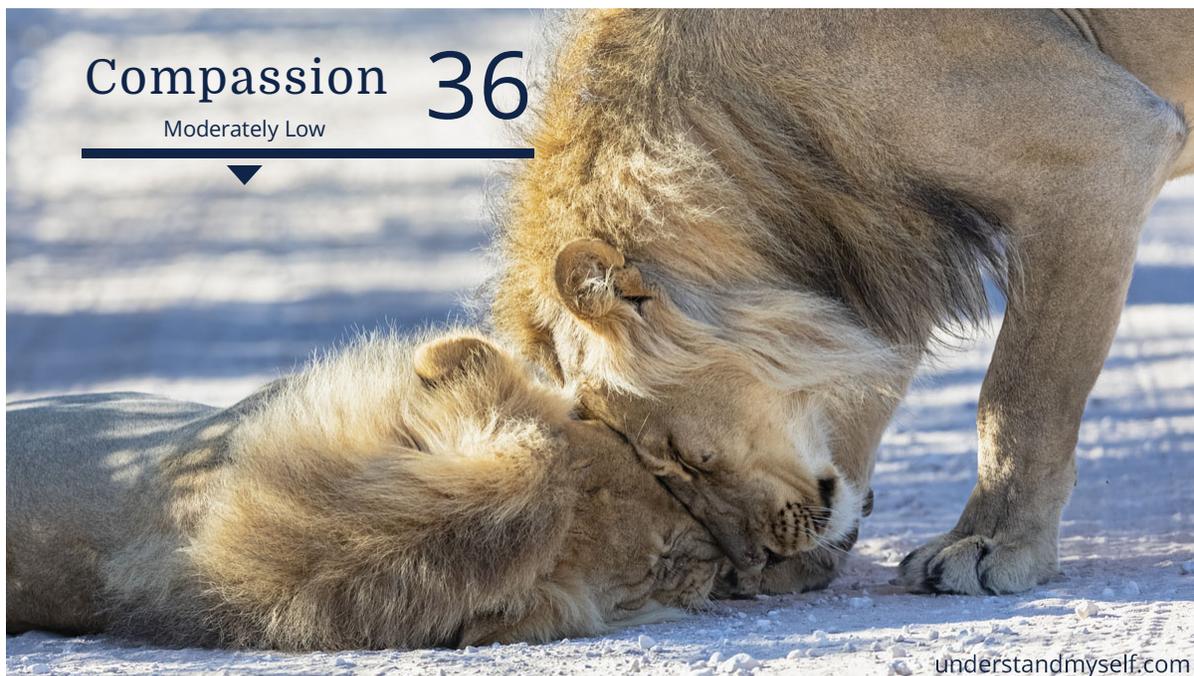
There are large differences between men and women in terms of spontaneous interest, and these also appear associated with agreeableness. Agreeable people, caring as they do for others, are more likely to enter professions associated with people, such as teaching and nursing, which are dominated by women. This is true even in the Scandinavian countries, where attempts to produce gender-equal societies has reached a maximum.

Disagreeable people, by contrast, appear to prefer systematizing over empathizing, and are more interested in things – machines and technology. In consequence, professions such as engineering and trades associated with construction and machinery tend to be dominated by relatively disagreeable men.

Compassion: Moderately Low

You are moderately low in compassion. Compassion is an aspect of agreeableness. The other aspect of agreeableness is politeness.

Your score puts you at the **36th** percentile for compassion. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in compassion than **63** of them and higher in compassion than **36** of them.



Less compassionate people are not primarily oriented towards the problems of other people or other living things. They are less swayed by cuteness. They are willing to make other people experience negative emotion by engaging in conflict and competition. They like to win, and are less concerned about helping other people.

They make sure their own needs and interests are attended to, and are less likely to sacrifice for the sake of other people. This can make them appear harsh and unsympathetic. People might turn to them for the truth, but not for a soft, patient, eternally-listening ear. They are not markedly empathetic and caring. However, because they are not primarily other-oriented, they can often negotiate effectively on their own behalf, and are likely to get at least what they deserve (for their hard work, for example). In consequence, they are unlikely to harbor feelings of resentment or hidden anger.

Those who are liberal, politically, score somewhat higher in compassion than conservatives.

Women are also higher in compassion than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 61. For men it is 39.

Politeness: Typical or Average

You are typical or average in politeness. Politeness is an aspect of agreeableness. The other aspect of agreeableness is compassion.

Your score puts you at the **58th** percentile for politeness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in politeness than **58** of them and lower in politeness than **41** of them.



Typically polite people can be deferential to authority, but can also be challenging, when necessary. They are not particularly obedient. They can be respectful, but will also push back if pushed. They are not made uncomfortable by the necessity of standing up to other people. Typically polite people will avoid conflict, reasonably, but are not completely averse to confrontation.

Those who are liberal, politically, score somewhat lower in politeness than conservatives (the opposite pattern is seen with compassion).

Women are higher in politeness than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 59. For men it is 41.

Conscientiousness: Typical or Average

You are typical or average in conscientiousness, which is the primary dimension of dutiful achievement in the Big Five personality trait scientific model.

Your score puts you at the **56th** percentile for conscientiousness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in conscientiousness than **56** of them and lower in conscientiousness than **43** of them.



Conscientiousness is a measure of obligation, attention to detail, hard work, persistence, cleanliness, efficiency and adherence to rules, standards and processes. Conscientious people implement their plans and establish and maintain order. The two aspects of conscientiousness are industriousness and orderliness.

People of average conscientious levels generally do their duty, although they are not sloggers. They are reliable, but waste some of their time and have some proclivity to procrastinate (particularly if they are also above average in neuroticism). Most of the time, however, a person of average conscientiousness will deliver what he or she promises, and usually close to or on time and schedule. They are reasonably decisive, neat, organized, future-oriented, and reliable. They can maintain focus, but have some trouble fighting off distraction.

Typically conscientious people tend to obtain more moderate grades in academic settings (unless they are also highly intelligent). They make reasonably competent administrators and managers. Their performance in such situations would be improved by more diligence and focus, and through the use of careful scheduling. They mildly prefer to have everything in its proper place, but are by no means obsessed with detail.

Typically conscientious people are not particularly prone to guilt (although they may let things slide to the point where they have something to feel guilty about), and they are relatively free of shame, self-disgust and self-contempt.

Individuals who are typically conscientious do not react too negatively to failure. They can let themselves off the hook, and tend not to be too judgmental about their own faults, or those of others. They will suffer some shame and guilt when unemployed or otherwise unoccupied, particularly when that occurs through no fault of their own. People of average conscientiousness are reasonably committed to personal responsibility, but also believe that there is more to life than diligence, orderliness and duty. They think that those who work hard should and usually will be rewarded, but also note that luck and chance play their role. They are not excessively preoccupied with hygiene, moral purity or achievement, and are unlikely to be micro-managers or over-controlling.

People with typical levels of conscientiousness are no more likely to be political conservatives or liberals (although they will tilt towards the former if low in openness and the latter if high).

Women are very slightly more conscientious than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 51.5. For men it is 49.5.

Industriousness: Typical or Average

You are typical or average in industriousness. Industriousness is an aspect of conscientiousness. The other aspect of conscientiousness is orderliness.

Your score puts you at the **50th** percentile for industriousness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in industriousness than **50** of them and lower in industriousness than **49** of them.



People of average industriousness are somewhat likely to be successful in school and in administrative and managerial positions (particularly if they are intelligent). They do not live to work, however, and do not always have to be doing something useful. They like their leisure time.

Typically, they will do their duty, but they can put things off, and sometimes mess them up. Usually, but not always, they finish what they start, and they do it more or less on schedule, with some exceptions. They are no more concerned than average with efficiency or savings. They can focus on the task on hand, when there are high levels of motivation or pressure, but often find themselves distracted by something more entertaining, or interesting, or worrisome.

People of average industriousness are not particularly judgemental to themselves or others. They like to live and let live. They are somewhat likely to believe that people fail because they don't apply themselves or work hard enough, but know that other considerations play a role. They tend to feel guilty, but not to an overwhelming degree, if they do not do their duty. They can, however, find themselves in a guilty position because they failed to perform a task on time or properly.

Those who are liberal and those who are conservative appear equally industrious.

Men are slightly more industrious than women. The mean percentile for men in a general population (women and men) is 51.5. For women it is 49.5.

Orderliness: Moderately High

You are moderately high in orderliness. Orderliness is an aspect of conscientiousness. The other aspect of conscientiousness is industriousness.

Your score puts you at the **60th** percentile for orderliness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in orderliness than **60** of them and lower in orderliness than **39** of them.



Moderately orderly people can be somewhat disturbed—even disgusted—by mess and chaos. They would rather keep everything tidy and organized. They think in comparatively black and white terms: things are basically good or bad, acceptable or unacceptable, with less room for grey areas. They tend both to make and stick to schedules.

They like everything where it should be—and are happier if it stays where it should be. They are somewhat detail-oriented but tend not to be obsessive. They are generally aware of social rules and tend to abide by them. They like routine and prefer the predictable. They can be good at ensuring that complex, sensitive processes are managed properly and carefully.

Orderliness can constrain creativity, however, as creative endeavours often require mess, disruption and intervening periods of chaos, so moderately orderly people who are high in openness may have some trouble letting go enough to indulge in their creativity.

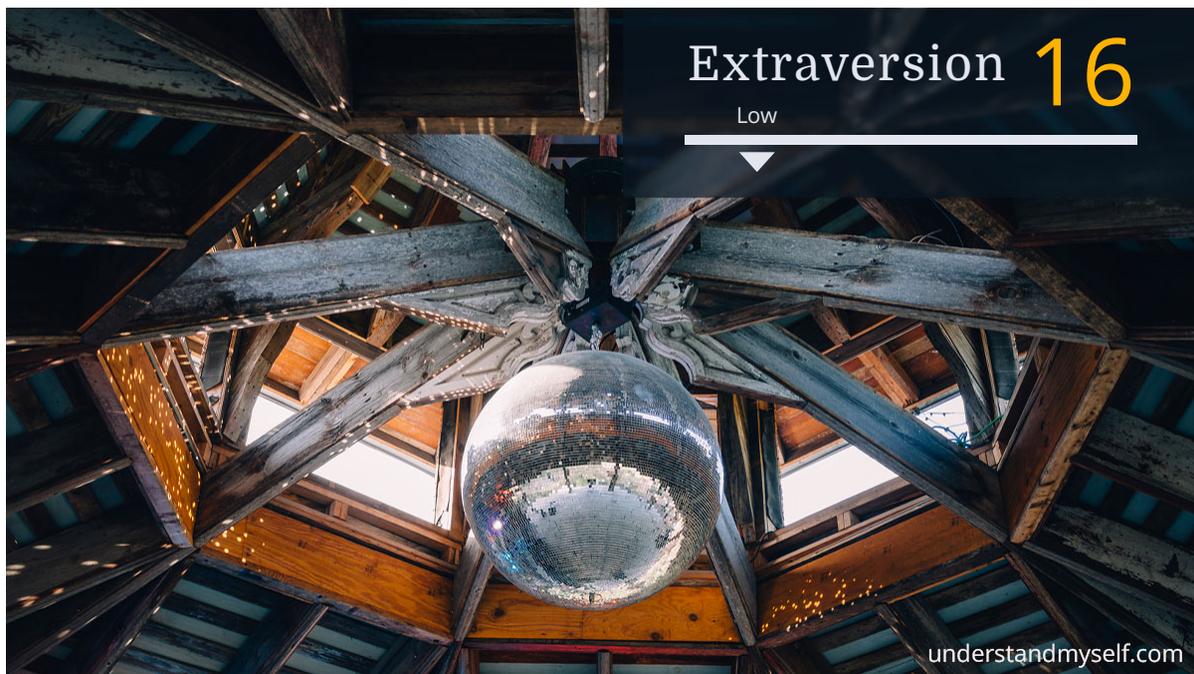
Those who are moderately orderly are more likely to be political conservatives, particularly when low in openness. The latter is the best predictor of conservative belief, while the former plays an additional determining role.

Women are more orderly than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 54.5. For men it is 45.5. This may account for some of the trouble in relation to housework between women and men. Since women are, on average, more orderly, household disorder will trigger disgust and discomfort in them faster. This may happen with sufficient frequency so they end up doing a disproportionate share of such work (even though if they waited a bit longer their less orderly partners, often men, might end up equally troubled and motivated to fix the problem). Orderly people are more likely to have items such as event calendars, drawer organizers, laundry baskets, irons and ironing boards in their immediate environments.

Extraversion: Low

You are low in extraversion, which is the primary dimension of positive emotion in the Big Five personality trait scientific model. Extraversion is a measure of general sensitivity to positive emotions such as hope, joy, anticipation and approach, particularly in social situations. The two aspects of extraversion are enthusiasm and assertiveness.

Your score puts you at the **16th** percentile for extraversion. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in extraversion than **83** of them and higher in extraversion than **16** of them.



Since extraversion and introversion are poles that denote the ends of the spectrum for this trait, you can also think of yourself as high in introversion.

People with low levels of extraversion are much less enthusiastic, talkative, assertive in social situations, or gregarious. They find social contact somewhat draining and tiring, and crave time alone to recharge. They are much less likely to plan parties, tell jokes, make people laugh, or volunteer for community activities. They are more likely to be depressed and to have lower levels of self-esteem (particularly if they are high in neuroticism). They tend to be much less optimistic about the past, present and future.

People who are low in extraversion find it easy to keep things to themselves. They are by no means compelled to share everything with everyone. They are not self-disclosing and do not warm up quickly to other people. They are much more comfortable with one-to-one interactions than in a group-oriented situation. They rarely speak up in meetings, and are particularly unlikely to speak first, although they will express an opinion if asked. They are much less likely to captivate and convince, especially in groups, and will rarely be the first to act in an ambiguous situation.

People who are low in extraversion are much better suited to occupations that require working alone or with a few other well-known individuals (such as computer programming or accounting). Jobs involving sales, persuasion, working in groups and public speaking are quite unlikely to appeal to them, and they are less likely to be successful at such things (particularly if they are also high in neuroticism).

People low in extraversion are unlikely to be impulsive, even when offered the opportunity to do something exciting or fun. They are therefore unlikely to sacrifice the future to the present, when something social or group-oriented beckons. They find it relatively easy to be alone to study and work. They are not easily distracted by opportunities to chat, joke and socialize. This is particularly the case if they are also high in conscientiousness. However, when people are introverted and conscientious, they are less productive than when extraverted and conscientious, perhaps because they have lower levels of energy. When introverted and comparatively unconscientious, however, they are more productive than when extraverted and unconscientious.

People low in extraversion are less dominant in social situations, particularly when they are also low in agreeableness. Less agreeable extraverts tend to be self-centered – something that can be made worse if they are also low in conscientiousness. More introverted people are somewhat protected against such tendencies.

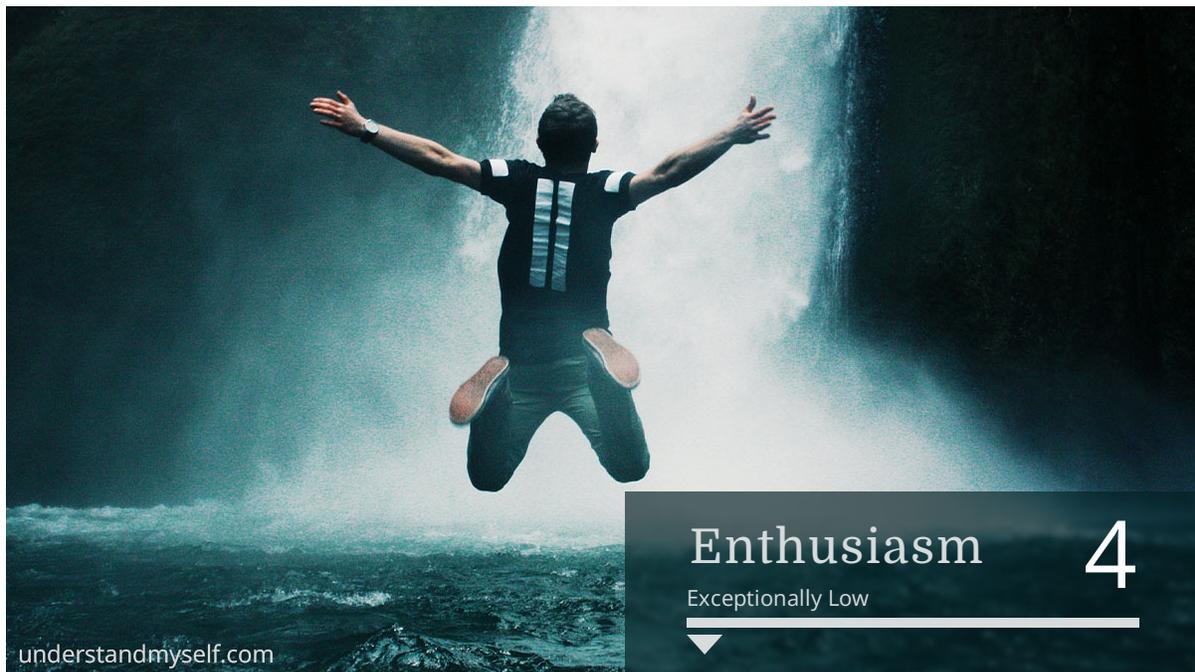
Those who are politically liberal are slightly less extraverted than conservatives.

Women are slightly more extraverted than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 52. For men it is 48.

Enthusiasm: Exceptionally Low

You are exceptionally low in enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is an aspect of extraversion. The other aspect of extraversion is assertiveness.

Your score puts you at the **4th** percentile for enthusiasm. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in enthusiasm than **95** of them and higher in enthusiasm than **4** of them.



Individuals who are exceptionally low in enthusiasm are very quiet and remarkably unexcitable. They can be extremely hard to get to know, as they are neither chatty nor bubbly. When they do talk – and they do so rarely – it tends to be about things in which they find exceptional interest.

They open up to other people with great difficulty, particularly in larger social gatherings or parties. They laugh very much more rarely than others. They clearly prefer solitude and find it difficult to enjoy themselves around other people. At most, they can handle social contact in tiny doses. They are extremely private people, on the loner side of the distribution, and are neither positive nor optimistic. They very actively avoid the spotlight and, if creative, may find performing aversive and draining. They seek out stimulation, excitement, activity or fun extraordinarily rarely (and, if they do so, very much prefer quieter activities). People exceptionally low in enthusiasm are highly solitary, finding it uncommonly difficult to generate a felt sense of excitement when offered the opportunity to engage in something that others might find engaging or entertaining.

Enthusiasm is not strongly associated with political preference, either conservative or liberal.

Women are higher in enthusiasm than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 55. For men it is 45.

Assertiveness: Typical or Average

You are typical or average in assertiveness. Assertiveness is an aspect of extraversion. The other aspect of extraversion is enthusiasm.

Your score puts you at the **47th** percentile for assertiveness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in assertiveness than **47** of them and lower in assertiveness than **52** of them.



People of average assertiveness will sometimes take charge, spontaneously, but often let others step in first. They can put forward their own opinions but do not feel compelled to do so. They are not particularly dominant and do not generally strive to control social situations.

At times, they can act in an influential or captivating manner, but it is not habitual. They can act, in ambiguous situations, but will often let others lead the way. They tend not to be particularly impulsive, and tend not to act without thinking.

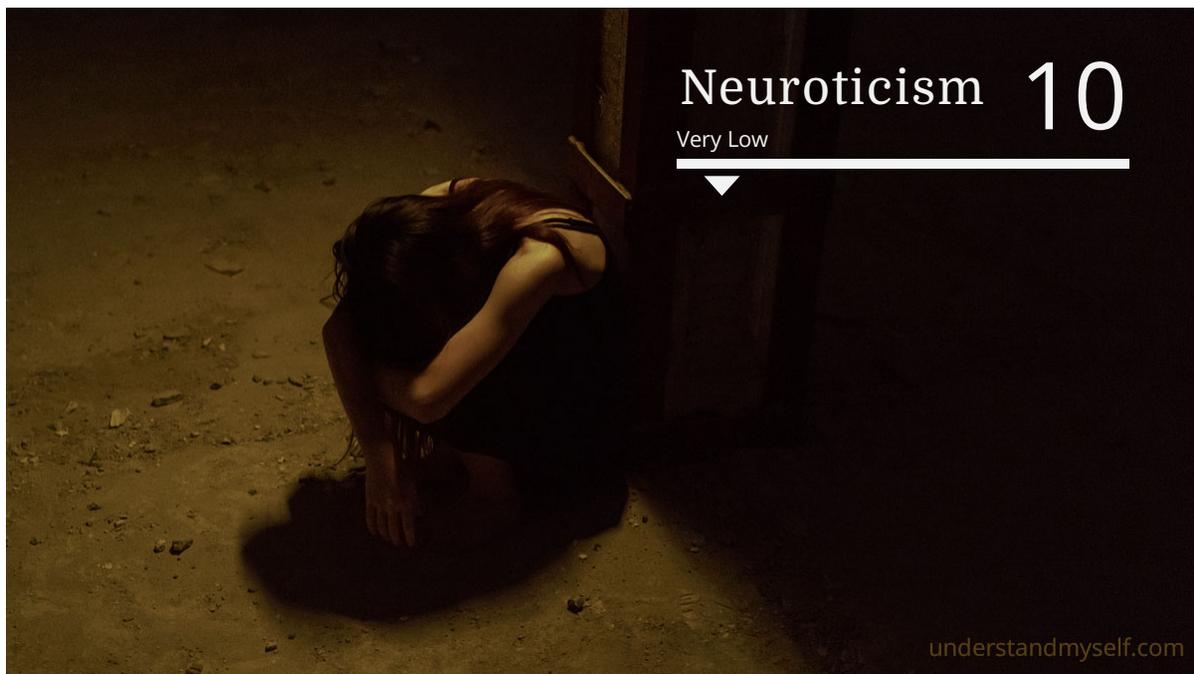
Liberals tend to be slightly less assertive than conservatives.

Women are slightly less assertive than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 48. For men it is 52.

Neuroticism: Very Low

You are very low in neuroticism, which is the primary dimension of negative emotion in the Big Five personality trait scientific model. Neuroticism is a measure of general sensitivity to negative emotions such as pain, sadness, irritable or defensive anger, fear and anxiety. The two aspects of neuroticism are withdrawal and volatility.

Your score puts you at the **10th** percentile for neuroticism. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in neuroticism than **89** of them and higher in neuroticism than **10** of them.



People with very low levels of neuroticism almost never focus on the negative elements, anxieties and uncertainties of the past, present and future.

It is very rare for them to face periods of time where they are unhappy, anxious and irritable, unless facing a serious, sustained, complex problem. Even under the latter conditions, they cope very well, don't worry, and recover quickly. They're very good at keeping their head in a storm, and they almost never make mountains out of molehills.

They have very much higher levels of self-esteem, particularly when they are also average or above average in extraversion. They are at much lower risk for developing anxiety disorders and depression (again, particularly if average or above in extraversion).

When good things happen to them, people with very low levels of neuroticism can appreciate it, without questioning whether or not they deserved it. They are unusually satisfied with their relationships and careers. Overall, they are very tolerant of stress, and can much more easily accept failure and setbacks as part of life. Very low levels of neuroticism are associated with markedly decreased concern about mental and physical health, far fewer physician and emergency room visits, and very infrequent absenteeism at work and at school (particularly if accompanied by average or above levels of conscientiousness).

People with very low levels of neuroticism can handle risk strikingly better. If they are average or high in extraversion or openness, they may even enjoy it. They are simply far less affected by uncertainty. They can much more easily handle recreational, career, financial and social situations where the possibility of loss is higher. They can consider and implement career changes and other transformations that could enhance their lives very easily.

Neuroticism is not a powerful predictor of political belief, either conservative or liberal.

Females tend to be higher in neuroticism than males. The typical woman is higher in neuroticism than 60% of the general population of men and women combined. In part, this may be why women report more unhappiness in their relationships, at work, in school and with their health than men, on average, and why women initiate 70% of all divorces. This difference in neuroticism between men and women appears to emerge at puberty. It is largest in countries such as Norway and Sweden, where the most has been done to ensure equality of outcome between the sexes. This provides strong evidence that biological factors rather than environment and learning account for the dissimilarity.

Withdrawal: Moderately Low

You are moderately low in withdrawal. Withdrawal is an aspect of neuroticism. The other aspect of neuroticism is volatility.

Your score puts you at the **23rd** percentile for withdrawal. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in withdrawal than **76** of them and higher in withdrawal than **23** of them.



Individuals moderately low in withdrawal tend not to suffer from nor be impeded by anticipatory anxiety. They can handle new, uncertain, unexpected, threatening or complex situations quite well. They are not more likely to avoid or withdraw in the face of the unknown and unexpected.

People with moderately low levels of withdrawal occasionally feel sad, lonesome, disappointed and grief-stricken, but not too deeply, and not for too long. They experience lower than normal levels of doubt and worry, embarrassment, self-consciousness and discouragement in the face of threat and punishment. They are not particularly sensitive nor worried about social rejection, and don't easily feel hurt or threatened. Even when hurt, frightened, or anxious, they recover with relative ease and speed. People with moderately low levels of withdrawal are not particularly concerned that something bad is going to happen. Technically, withdrawal has been associated with activity in the brain systems that regulate passive avoidance.

Those who are liberal, politically, are slightly higher in withdrawal than conservatives.

Women are higher in withdrawal than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 60. For men it is 40.

Volatility: Very Low

You are very low in volatility. Volatility is an aspect of neuroticism. The other aspect of neuroticism is withdrawal.

Your score puts you at the **5th** percentile for volatility. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in volatility than **94** of them and higher in volatility than **5** of them.



Individuals very low in volatility are highly stable and predictable in their moods. They are almost never irritable, and feel very little disappointment, frustration, pain and loneliness. People find them easy to be with and can very frequently relax around them.

They almost never express their frustration, disappointment and irritability and appear very reasonable when they do so. Even on those infrequent occasions where they become stirred up, upset, angry or irritated, they calm down very quickly. They are not at all argumentative and very rarely lose their composure.

Even if highly provoked in a dispute, a person of very low volatility will rarely react in kind (particularly if also high in agreeableness). Such people remain calm and unperturbed even when highly stressed.

Volatile people tend to get upset if something bad does happen, while people high in withdrawal (the other aspect of neuroticism) tend to be concerned that something bad might happen. Technically, volatility has been associated with activity in the brain systems that regulate fight, flight or freeze.

Volatility is not strongly related to political preference, either liberal or conservative.

Women are higher in volatility than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 57.5. For men it is 42.5.

Openness: Typical or Average

You are typical or average in openness, which is the primary dimension of creativity, artistic interest and intelligence (particularly verbal intelligence) in the Big Five personality trait scientific model. Openness is a measure of interest in novelty, art, literature, abstract thinking, philosophy as well as sensitivity to aesthetic emotions and beauty. The two aspects of openness are intellect and aesthetics.

Your score puts you at the **49th** percentile for openness. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in openness than **49** of them and lower in openness than **50** of them.



People with typical levels of openness are as smart and creative as others, on average. They are not generally characterized as exploratory or visionary,

but have their moments of insight and realization. They are sometimes interested in learning for its own sake and show some interest in acquiring new abilities and skills. They are not overwhelmingly curious, and are not strikingly interested in abstract thinking, philosophy, or the meaning of belief systems and ideologies. They will attend cultural events such as movies, concerts, dance recitals, plays, poetry readings, gallery openings and art shows, but do not find themselves compelled to do so. They sometimes enjoy writing and will occasionally enjoy encountering and trying to solve a complex problem, or explore abstract ideas.

They tend to read an average amount – but more mainstream material. They have a normal range of interests, and a reasonable vocabulary. They can think and learn reasonably quickly. They sometimes find themselves formulating new ideas, and are articulate enough to get their thoughts across (particularly if average or above in extraversion). People average in openness now and then see old things in new ways, but are also satisfied with the tried-and-true. They can solve day-to-day problems well, and sometimes seek out a more difficult challenge.

People who are average or typical in openness can adapt reasonably well to situations or occupations that are routinized and predictable. They have little trouble fitting in at the bottom of hierarchies. They can be better suited than those who are more open to entry-level, repetitive, rote positions, because they aren't compelled to think up new ways to do things. They are not uncreative thinkers, but are less commonly known as creative or revolutionary. They rarely shake things up, particularly if they are also agreeable and less assertive.

Individuals average in openness may be entrepreneurial in spirit, but they also appreciate conventional employment. They have no more than average interest in creating new ventures, whether for profit, curiosity, or personal transformation. At least moderately high levels of openness appear necessary to the formation and leadership of business and other forms of complex organization, although conscientiousness appears required for the attention to detail and process management that such organizations also always need.

People typical in openness have an average range of interests. This makes it relatively easy for them to settle on a single path in life, to specialize to a necessary degree, and to create an integrated identity (unless they are very high or above in neuroticism and/or very low or below in conscientiousness). People characterized by the combination of moderately high openness and very high or above levels of neuroticism can undermine their own convictions and beliefs by questioning and making themselves lost and anxious. Open, unconscientious people tend to be "under-achievers" (particularly if also above average in neuroticism). Such people appear to have the capability to succeed, can learn quickly, and are creative, but they can have some trouble implementing their ideas.

Openness is the dimension that best predicts political allegiance (with conscientiousness, particularly the aspect of orderliness, coming in at second place). Those who are liberal, politically, are very much more likely to be high in openness than conservatives.

Women and men differ very little in openness at the trait level, although there are differences in the aspect levels.

Intellect: Low

You are low in intellect. Intellect is an aspect of openness. The other aspect of openness is aesthetics.

Your score puts you at the **14th** percentile for intellect. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be lower in intellect than **85** of them and higher in intellect than **14** of them.



Note: Do not confuse the personality aspect of Intellect with IQ. Intellect is a measure of interest in abstract ideas, essentially, while IQ is a measure of processing speed, verbal ability, working memory, and problem solving capacity, and is better measured with a formal IQ test. It is perfectly possible to have a high IQ and a low score on the personality trait of Intellect.

People low in intellect are unlikely to be engaged with ideas and abstract concepts. They are less interested in learning philosophical concepts, seeing little use in them. People low in intellect do not appreciate too much information, particularly if it is complex. They are substantially less intellectually curious, and infrequently tackle and solve complex abstract problems. They are unlikely to engage in issue-oriented discussions, or to enjoy reading idea-centered books. They can be less articulate (particularly if average or lower in extraversion), experiencing some trouble formulating and communicating their ideas. They tend to have a vocabulary of less than normal breadth and depth, and are likely to stick with the tried-and-true, rather than learning new ideas and skills. They are less likely to enjoy being exposed to novel, creative concepts and are relatively uninterested in adapting to or seeking out new experiences and situations.

People low in intellect rarely find complex, rapidly changing occupations to their liking, and are therefore more likely to fail at them (unless very high in conscientiousness and very low in neuroticism). They are much better suited to stable, straightforward and more traditional occupations, where the rules for success are well-defined and tend not to change.

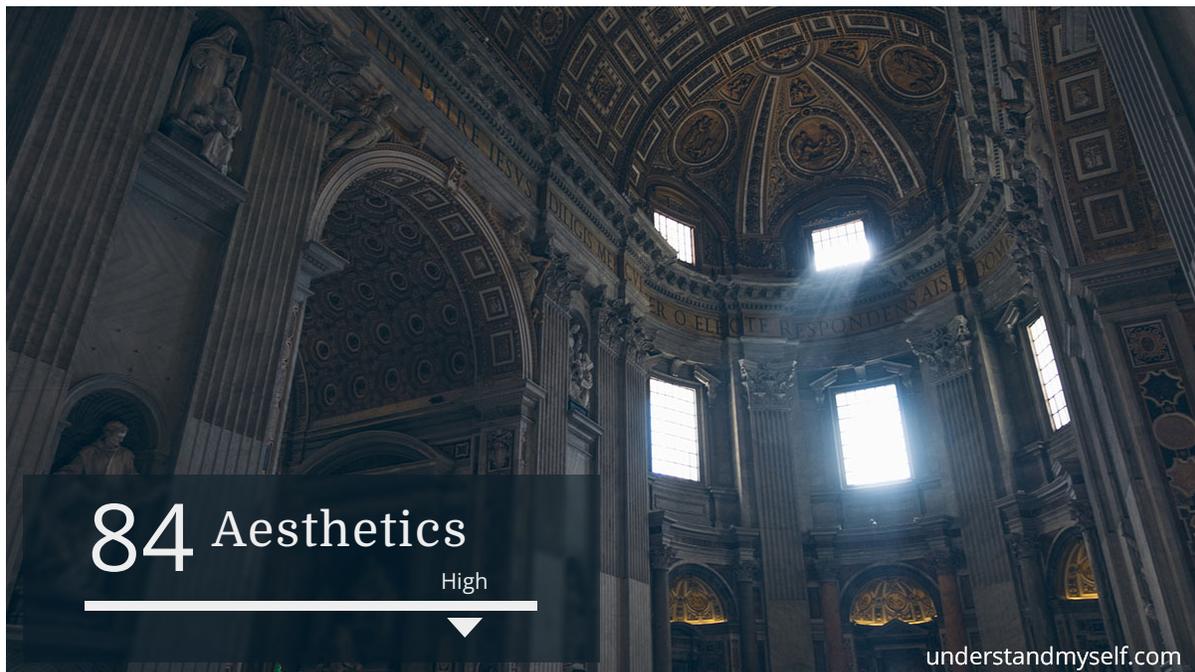
Liberals are higher in intellect than conservatives (although the biggest difference between the two is openness at the trait level).

Women are lower than men in intellect (although not in IQ). This is probably a difference in interest: people high in intellect, compared to aesthetics, are more likely to prefer the sciences to the arts. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 45. For men it is 55.

Aesthetics: High

You are high in aesthetics. Aesthetics is an aspect of openness. The other aspect of openness is intellect.

Your score puts you at the **84th** percentile for aesthetics. If you were one of 100 people in a room, you would be higher in aesthetics than **84** of them and lower in aesthetics than **15** of them.



In the original Big Five Aspects Scale model, the openness factor was entitled "Openness to Experience," and its aspects were called "Intellect" and "Openness". For the sake of clarity, we have deviated from this, and use "Openness" or "Openness to Experience" to refer to the factor level trait and "Intellect" and "Aesthetics" to refer to its aspects.

Generally speaking, a person's aesthetics score reflects their creativity. People who are high in aesthetics love beauty. They need an outlet for their creative ability, or they have difficulty thriving. They want to be surrounded by art or beautiful crafts. They are sensitive to color and architectural form. They like to collect things. They are imaginative, and like to daydream and reflect on things. They are affected comparatively deeply by music, often of many genres, and may be musical or artistic themselves (both of these are rare in the general population). They can get thoroughly immersed in a book, or a movie, or in their own thoughts, and become somewhat oblivious to the outside world. They respond strongly to beauty, creativity and art.

They can be impractical and flighty, however (particularly if low in conscientiousness). It can be extremely difficult to transform creativity into money, or into a career. High levels of creativity are, furthermore, necessary for entrepreneurial success, and often prove useful at the top of hierarchies, even in very conservative occupations such as banking, accounting and law, which need creative people in leadership positions to provide new vision and direction.

Liberals are higher in aesthetics than conservatives (although the biggest difference between the two is openness at the trait level).

Women are higher in aesthetics than men. The mean percentile for women in a general population (women and men) is 56.5. For men it is 44.5.