



Quiz: Do you have what it takes to work overseas?

1. When driving somewhere, traffic slows to a stop on the highway. Do you:
 - a.) sit swearing until traffic begins to move again
 - b.) Turn up the music and get to know the folks beside you
 - c.) Get out the map, inch to the next exit, and take another, unknown route
2. You offer to volunteer for a local literacy program. You arrive to discover that you will be doing paperwork rather than reading with participants (not what you requested). Do you:
 - a.) Quietly leave and plan not to return
 - b.) Fold fliers cheerfully, happy to help in any way
 - c.) Express your disappointment, then fold fliers as requested
3. You carefully researched library rearrangement plan is summarily rejected by your new director. Do you:
 - a.) Be politely vocal in your disappointment, and continue to pursue your vision
 - b.) Return to your job without complaint
 - c.) Ask the director for his vision, and then attempt to meld the two plans together
4. A patron comes to see you seeking advice on a career change. Do you:
 - a.) Enthusiastically share your midcareer change story.
 - b.) Direct her to the careers section as well as locate local and online materials.
 - c.) Take an extra five minutes to discover what she is specifically interested in pursuing, and then direct her to those resources as well.
5. A coworker is insistent about her vegetarian lifestyle. She insists that no meat products be eaten around her at any employee function. Do you:
 - a.) Ignore her request as it's selfish and tramples on the rights of others
 - b.) Ask everyone to bring only vegetarian dishes out of respect for her beliefs
 - c.) Set up a separate meat dish section in another room.

There are no right and wrong answers to this quiz!

“A” answers are strong, sometimes necessary choices, but don’t necessarily reflect tolerance or adaptability.

“B” answers reflect submissive, peaceful solutions but do not always resolve the situation or promote self-worth.

“C” answers involve viewing the situation from a different point of view and thus allowing acceptance without loss of confidence or self-worth.

While “C” answers are optimum. Having few or none does not mean you are not a good candidate. **Knowing** how **you** would answer these questions is the real key to success!

Prescott, S. (2009) Going international! An experienced expat librarian shares what to know about working overseas, how to go, and why you should do it. *Library Journal*. Retrieved from <http://libraryjournal.com/article/CA6703380.html>.