

From Undecided to Open-Minded: Reframing Uncertainty as Opportunity



**"The real voyage of discovery is not in
seeing new landscapes,
but having new eyes."
-Marcel Proust**



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Sentence Relay Activity

Each person will go up to the board and write one word to start a sentence. Without speaking to one another, the next person will go to the wall and add another word. When each person returns to the line, the next person may go. At the end of one minute, the goal is to have one long, complete sentence created together as a group.



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"The Question"



*What do you want to be when you grow up?

*What are you going to do with that major?

*What are you doing to do after graduation?

Two Career Metaphors



Happenstance Learning Theory

happenstance definition:
something that happens by chance



Examining the two extremes of how we can tend to approach our careers.

*It all depends on luck
*It all depends on one's plans and actions



Reflect:
What is an unexpected or unplanned event that helped positively influence one of your major career or life decisions?



Considering how happenstances have impacted our own careers can help reveal us and reinforce the strength of not having life completely planned out.

"The Question"



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Happenstance Learning

happenstance learning



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"This book is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the study of luck and chance. It is a well-written and accessible book that provides a comprehensive overview of the field. I highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in the study of luck and chance." - [Name]

Balancing the two extremes of how we
can tend to approach our careers:

- *It all depends on luck
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What is
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Disclosing h
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Making the M
in Your

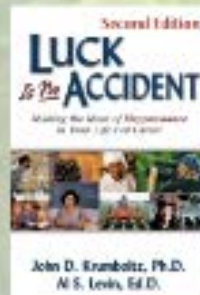


John D. K
Al S. L



Happenstance Learning Theory

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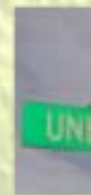
Now available in paperback, this book is a practical guide to understanding and making the most of happenstance in your life and career. It includes a new chapter on the importance of luck in the workplace and a new chapter on the importance of luck in the classroom.

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"Every situation can be seen as presenting **potential opportunities if individuals can recognize them and then take action to capitalize on them. The interaction of planned and unplanned actions is so complex that the consequences are virtually unpredictable and can best be labeled as happenstance."**

~John Krumboltz

Two Career Metaphors



Theory

Essential to have in your "leadership operating system":



Reflect:
**What is an unexpected or
unplanned event that helped
positively influence one of *your*
major career or life decisions?**



Disclosing how happenstances have
impacted our own careers can help
normalize and reinforce the concept of
not having life completely planned out!

Using HLT In Your Leadership Development



Lead By Keeping Options Open



- **Liberate** yourself from the pressure of committing to one path since:

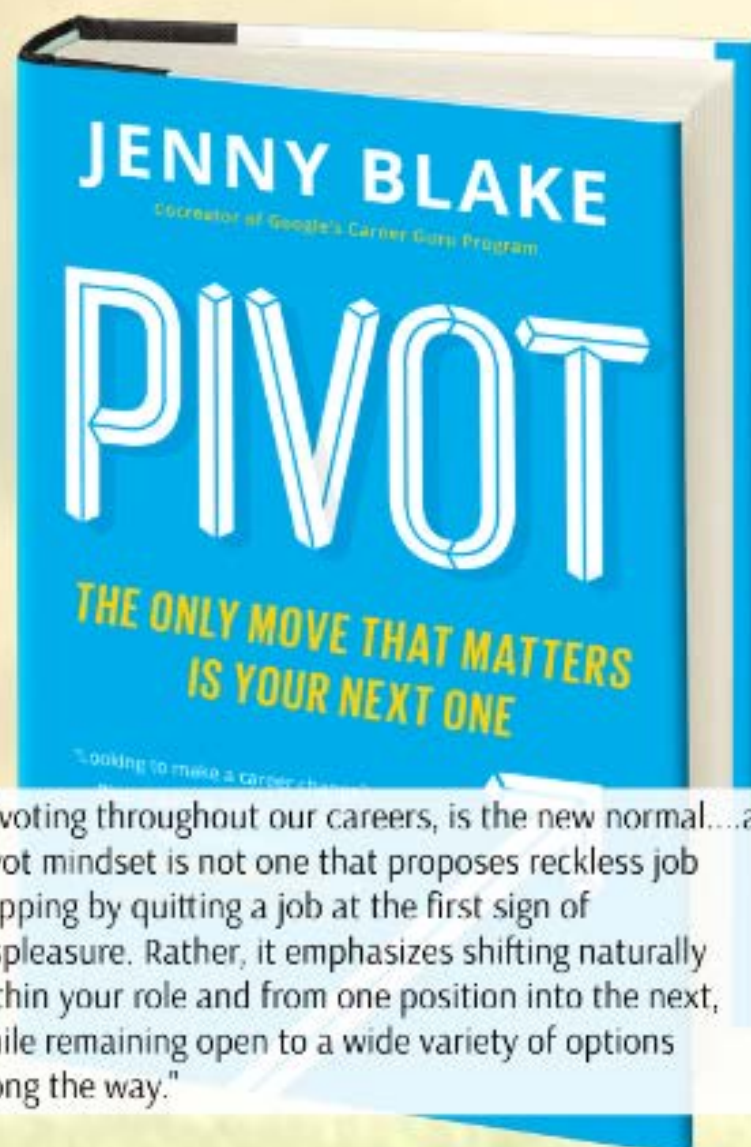
a) we as people change - abilities, interests, education, life circumstances, etc.

b) the new economy and world of work is constantly changing

- **Pivot is the new normal**

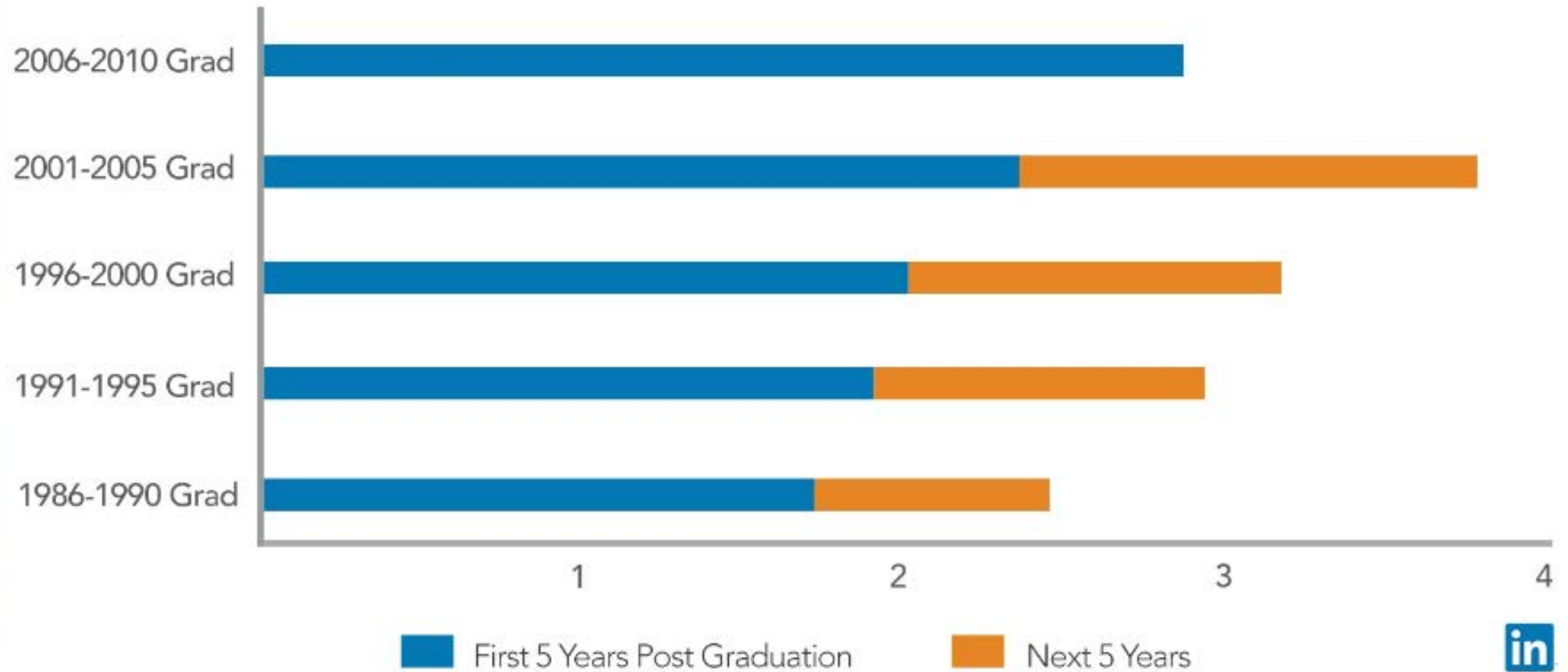


ormal



"Pivoting throughout our careers, is the new normal....a Pivot mindset is not one that proposes reckless job hopping by quitting a job at the first sign of displeasure. Rather, it emphasizes shifting naturally within your role and from one position into the next, while remaining open to a wide variety of options along the way."

Average Number of Companies Each Group Work For



- <https://youtu.be/lzFjoBQHGVM>

Road Trip Nation: Combining Interests



<http://roadtripnation.com/leader/ana-hortillosa/ana-hortillosa-interview>

Lead By Taking Risks

- Be proactive in the face of uncertainty--one small step at a time
- Doing something is usually better than doing nothing
- Recognize the future starts NOW
- Reframe mistakes into valuable learning opportunities
- Move forward by trying again or try something else
- Celebrate your victories along the way

Risks that Paid Off



Adapted from "Luck Is No Accident" by John Krumboltz and Al Levin, 2010, Impact Publishers

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Risks that Paid Off



Make Mistakes

Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're **Doing Something**.

Adapted from "Luck Is No Accident" by John Krumboltz and Al Levin, 2010, Impact Publishers

- <https://youtu.be/97Gw0sTVLZc>

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Risks that Paid Off



Nickle Baldwin, Founder of Blue Skincare

<http://www.cisco.com>
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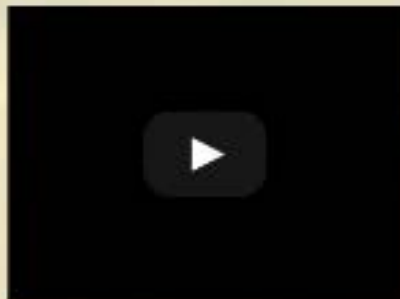
Haengh Song, President
of LHM Liberty for
North Korea

How do you get the most out of this book? Here are some suggestions:

Howard Schultz, CEO of Starbucks

<http://roadtoposition.com/ease/howard-schultz/howard-schultz-grey-line-between-success-and-failure>

What stands out to you most from these stories?



**Hannah Song, President
of LiNK (Liberty for
North Korea)**

[http://roadtripnation.com/
leader/hannah-song/
hannah-song-jump-or-be-
pushed](http://roadtripnation.com/leader/hannah-song/hannah-song-jump-or-be-pushed)



**Nicole Baldwin, Founder of Biao
Skincare**

[http://roadtripnation.com/
leader/nicole-baldwin/nicole-
baldwin-shark-tank](http://roadtripnation.com/leader/nicole-baldwin/nicole-baldwin-shark-tank)



Howard Schulz, CEO of Starbucks

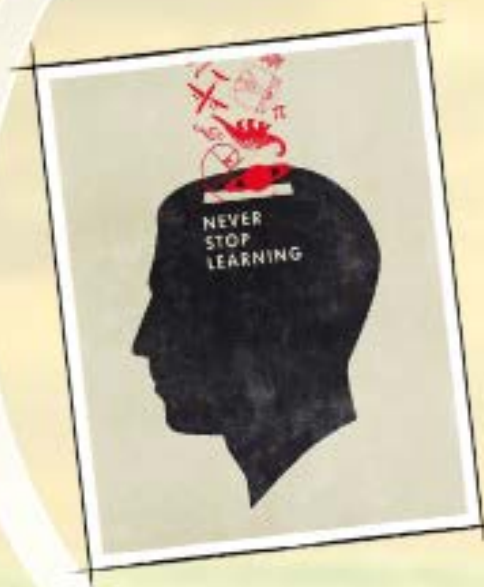
[http://roadtripnation.com/leader/
howard-schultz/howard-schultz-
grey-line-between-success-and-
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- <https://youtu.be/aOmfvna1CTI>

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a purple top, is shown from the chest up, speaking at a podium. A green banner at the bottom of the frame contains the text "PETER D'AMICO".



Cultivate Curiosity



- professional development is ongoing (podcasts, TED talks, workshops, etc.)
- research areas of interests (ICC, O-NET, etc.)
- View internships with a happenstance filter
- The Steve Jobs approach → taking classes outside of major

Cultivate Connections

Informational interviews- Find someone who is passionate about their job and ask questions about their career journey (Road Trip nation approach)

At every social function, challenge yourself to speak to one new person

Use family, friends, faculty as resources

Attend UCD Career Fairs!



Cultivate Other Experimental Wanderings

Take up a new hobby

Study/work in a new place (in
the US or abroad)

Volunteer with an organization
that aligns with their values
and/or interests

Join a campus club or
professional association

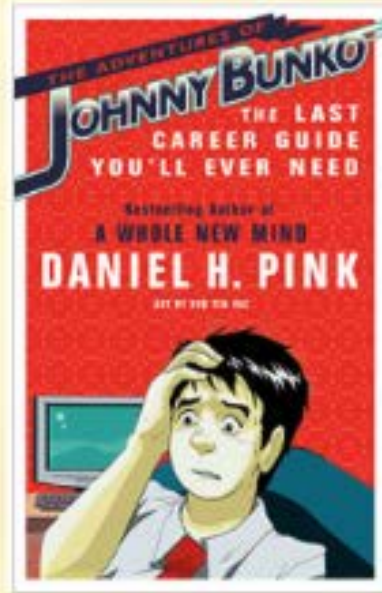
Help to organize an event



What else???



Life is Not An Algebra Problem



- <https://youtu.be/BauFlpkvbxQ>

Embrace opportunities, be a leader by being open-minded, and enjoy the journey!



We must be willing to let go of the life we planned so as to have the life that is waiting for us.

Joseph Campbell



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