

# Decoding the Generations

## Age can say a lot about work style

With some people starting their first part-time job at age 16 and many others working well past traditional retirement age, the workplace can bring together four generations of Americans. Each generation brings their own set of values and priorities to the job, too. Take this quiz to see if you can identify each of the generations and their work style.

### The Millennial Generation

1. Born between
2. Defining traits
3. Biggest work style strength
4. Potential work style shortcoming
5. Attitude toward technology
6. Famous members of this generation

### Generation X

1. Born between
2. Defining traits
3. Biggest work style strength
4. Potential work style shortcoming
5. Attitude toward technology
6. Famous members of this generation

### Baby Boomer Generation

1. Born between
2. Defining traits
3. Biggest work style strength
4. Potential work style shortcoming
5. Attitude toward technology
6. Famous members of this generation

### The Silent Generation

1. Born between
2. Defining traits
3. Biggest work style strength
4. Potential work style shortcoming
5. Attitude toward technology
6. Famous members of this generation

Answers:  
Millennials: A C D B B A  
Gen X: B B A D C C  
Baby Boomers: C A C C A B  
Silent Generation: D D B A D D

### Born between

- A. 1982 – 2002
- B. 1961 – 1981
- C. 1943 – 1960
- D. 1925 – 1942

### Defining traits

- A. Idealism and creativity
- B. Skepticism and individualism
- C. Civic purpose and upbeat attitudes
- D. Sensitivity and a modest attitude

### Biggest work style strength

- A. Informal, self-reliant, risk-takers
- B. Detail-oriented, logical
- C. High-achieving, strong sense of mission
- D. Collaborative and open-minded

### Potential work style pitfall

- A. Risk-averse, dislike conflict
- B. Accustomed to schedule planned and organized by others
- C. Workaholic, can be self-righteous
- D. Slacker attitude

### Attitude toward technology

- A. I master the essentials and keep up-to-date
- B. It's as important as air
- C. I'm very tech savvy
- D. I think it's over-rated, but I'm comfortable with the basics

### Famous members of this generation

- A. Venus and Serena Williams, Mark Zuckerberg, Scarlett Johansson, Justin Timberlake, Freddie Adu, Lindsay Lohan
- B. Mick Jagger, Meryl Streep, Bill Gates, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Oprah Winfrey, Steven Spielberg
- C. Barack Obama, Johnny Depp, Richard Linklater, Kurt Cobain, Eddie Vedder, Larry Page, Sergey Brin
- D. John Lennon, Ray Charles, Jane Fonda, Jack Nicholson, John McCain, Woody Allen, Neil Armstrong