

I believe that there are three skills that are needed to be successful in the global market. “Thinking outside the box” is one such skill; it is the skill to question even the small things, to not take things for granted, to have unusual ideas, and to think differently and in an unconventional way. Another necessary skill is “flexibility”, the ability to adapt to any situation in which you may find yourself. Finally, the “open-mindedness” to take into account many ways of thinking in order to develop your own viewpoint is a necessary skill to communicate in the global market

One example for explaining thinking outside the box is Sir Isaac Newton, who was a mathematician and physicist and who discovered the universal law of gravity. He was one person who had the skill to think outside-the-box. While wondering why apples fall straight from the trees to the ground, he was inspired to develop the universal laws of gravity. This small question resulted in a massive revelation for the world afterwards. Who else has wondered why apples fall from trees? I assume most people have not because it’s “common sense” for most people. However, Newton was able to think outside the box which made him look at something in different way.

Steve Jobs – the CEO of one of the world’s greatest modern companies, Apple – was also someone who demonstrated the ability to think outside-the-box. Jobs expressed his individual mindset in a speech to Stanford University graduates:

Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Don’t be trapped by dogma – which is living with the results of other people’s thinking. Don’t let the noise of others opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.

He was not the typical person we often see in our lives, not only in his great achievements, but in his background and way of thinking. You may expect he graduated from a good University; but the truth is that he dropped out of college. When he went to the college, he couldn’t see how it was worth spending so much money and time going to college. He didn’t think he could find what he wanted to do in his life from college and so he decided to not take classes which were not interesting to him and take only the classes which were. The knowledge he gained from the classes helped a lot in creating Macintosh which was the first widely sold personal computer. Jobs said that, “it was pretty scary at the time, but looking back it was one of the best decisions I ever made”. Although he had a different career, he achieved greatness. Therefore, I argue that you don’t need to be the same as others and you don’t need to do same things as others do. In choosing individuality, we can change the world as Jobs did.

Next is about flexibility. One of the biggest reasons why I believe that you need to have that skill is because in the global market, you will see the diversity which means there are many kinds of cultures and you have to respect and understand them. Have you ever felt your own way

of thinking or doing things clash with someone else's based on cultural differences? For example, in Japan, public transportation, such as trains and buses, always come on time. But a lot of Japanese people have experienced frustration at how train or bus schedules can be inaccurate in other countries. Japanese people are really strict about time in general. For example, if you have an appointment with Japanese friends and are late, they will almost certainly be angry. These small frustrations can grow, and some can begin to feel uncomfortable in accommodating differences; however, building understanding of those differences can provide an opportunity to broaden your own mindset

The last skill is the ability to be open-mindedness. In the global market, you will have many opportunities to share your opinion in various situations. It's important to be open-mindedness in order to develop your own opinion.

So, why do we need to have these skills in the global market? The world is constantly changing. I believe that the world needs us to have innovations. If the way of thinking and acting do not change, neither will the results, and progress will be limited. Also, in the global market, you can't avoid to live in diversity. There will be many situations in which you may not yet have found yourself. To work through those new experiences, you will be better off taking an interest in many things and becoming flexible for situations to come.