

**Some employers believe that job applicants' social skills are more important than their academic qualifications. Do you agree or disagree with this opinion?**

There has always been ~~always~~ a great discussion revolving around what criteria should be considered to recruit staff and employees. This criteria has been never constant and changed according to the changes and needs of industry. In the following paragraphs, I will discuss why social skills are more crucial than an academic degree.

To begin with, the vital element of a successful company is teamworking and also team working means how to communicate with other group members. People having great social skills are a prime target for working in the group because they are easy-going and flexible people, they can bounce off their ideas easily and make the best decisions without any resistance against each other's opinions. In fact, it is obvious that the development of a group can be stunted due to the presence of tough and uptight people. Furthermore, social people are able to communicate with strangers better and attract people's attention to what they are talking about and convince them. Otherwise, they can convey a great first impression. So these people are the best choice to be entitled to sell the products of a company or public relations.

Second, although some people claim that academic qualifications are a pre-requisite of recruitment, many human resources experts believe that all staff can be trained in all skills that are needed in their jobs and the only thing they need is intelligence, talent and soft skills that involve social skills. For example, if there are two candidates for a position, given that their abilities are the same, one of them has a higher academic degree and another has better social skills, they have equal chance to be hired.

To conclude, because today learning and education is not limited to the universities and there are many resources people can use them to learn, so the sole criterion is not higher education. In other words, companies are establishing and applying new criteria that are based on personality features.