The Ordering of 51 Work Values

In "*Values and Teaching*" authors Rath, Harmin, and Simon offer a representative list of work values upon which this list expands. Read the entire list, then

Check off the work values that are important to you
Rank the top ten work values that you have identified

Achievement Adventure	Successfully accomplish targeted results through personal effort and contribution Have work duties which involve frequent risk-taking
Aesthetics	Be involved in studying or appreciating the beauty of things, ideas, etc.
Artistic Creativity	Engage in create work in any of several art forms
Authenticity	Behave/ present myself accurately and genuinely in the work environment
Belonging	Feel that I am a welcomed part of the group
Challenge	Perform work that is emotionally or intellectually demanding, stimulating
Change and Variety	Have work responsibilities which frequently change in their content and setting.
Community	Live in a town or city where I can get involved in community affairs.
Competence	Demonstrate sufficient skill and ability
Competition	Engage in activities which pit my abilities against others where there are clear win-and-lose outcomes.
Cooperation / Collaboration	Engage in activities which combine my abilities with others to achieve mutually agreed upon outcomes.
Creativity (general)	Create new ideas, programs, structures, or anything else not following a format previously developed by others.
Cultural Identity	Behave publicly according to characteristics of family or origin or other group affiliation
Excellence/Quality	Deliver service/product/results of highest possible quality
Excitement	Experience a high degree of (or frequent) excitement in the course of my work.
Flexibility	Adaptability of work conditions or expectations

Friendships	Develop close personal relationships with people as a
Growth/Learning	result of my work Develop existing skills or personal qualities and
Harmony	acquire new ones Get along with most co-workers in the work
Help Others	environment without major sources of friction Be involved in helping other people in a direct way, either individually or in small groups
Help Society	Do something to contribute to the betterment of the world I live in.
Humour/Fun	Enjoy time for laughter in the workday
Independence / Self-Direction	Be able to determine the nature of my work without significant direction from others; not have to do what others tell me to do.
Influence People	Be in a position to change attitudes or opinions of other people.
Integrity /	Feel that my work is contributing significantly to a set
Moral Fulfillment	of moral standards which I feel are very important.
Intellectual Status	Be regarded as a person of high intellectual prowess
Knowledge	or as an acknowledged "expert" in a given field. Engage myself in the pursuit of knowledge, truth, and
Location	understanding. Find a place to live (town, geographical area) which is conducive to my lifestyle and affords me the
Make Decisions	opportunity to do the things I enjoy most. Have the power to decide courses of action, policies,
Open Communication	etc Communicate freely among all levels of personnel
Other	A value not already represented elsewhere on this list
Other	A value not already represented elsewhere on this list
Pace:	Work in circumstances where work must be done
Fast or Relaxed	rapidly / at a very comfortable pace.
Physical Challenge	Have a job that makes physical demands which I
	would find rewarding.
Power and Authority	Control the work activities or (partially) the destinies of other people.
Precision Work	Work in a situation where there is little tolerance for

Predictability	errors. Know in advance what is expected or required
Profit/Gain	Have a strong likelihood of accumulating large amounts of money or other material gain.
Public Contact	Have a lot of day-to-day contact with people.
Recognition	Be recognized for the quality of my work in some visible or public way.
Satisfaction	Attain pleasure in fulfillment of desired objectives
See Results	Recognize outcomes and positive consequences of my work
Stability	Be assured of keeping my job and receiving a reasonable financial reward.
Structure	Work in an organizational arrangement that defines and delineates available activities, expectations, and communications
Supervision	Have a job in which I am directly responsible for the work done by others.
Teamwork /	Have close working relationships with a group; work
Work with Others	as a team toward common goals
Time Freedom	Have work responsibilities which I can work at according to my own time schedule; no specific working hours required.
Trust	Be assured that others have confidence in me, my abilities and my work, and vice versa
Work Alone	Do projects by myself, without any significant amount of contact with others
Work under Pressure	Work in situations where time pressure is prevalent and/or the quality of my work is judged critically be supervisors, customers, or others.

Work Values Card Sort

Questions

- 1. Now that you have had a chance to reflect on and identify some key work values, what have you learned about yourself?
- 2. Any surprises? Any new insights? Have some of your values changed? How?

3. How do your highest ranking values match up to your present work situation (even if you don't have a job right now)?

4. If they do not match up, is there a way to up the notch of a value (or values) at your current or most recent work situation?

5. How does knowing this impact your current career situation, and any decisions you are considering?