

Which future persona inspires you?

WORKSHEET: IMAGINE YOUR FUTURE SELF

Archetype: 1) a guiding example, 2) a mythic character who embodies an essential truth or life path, 3) a model for action.

As humans, we often organise our lives around guiding images. The fireman or doctor or accountant of the past not only inspired us to learn but also told us how and what we should learn. Those are archetypes that shape our lives, and today, we need a new set of archetypes to guide our work+learn paths in a very different future. The Institute for the Future provides nine such archetypes as a result of the Global Future Skills study.

Now **choose one or two or even three of the archetypes** that most closely match who you are or who you want to be.

CONTESTANT

The future is a contest—or a whole lot of contests and challenges, online and off, that are growing more complex every day. Contestants recognize that collaboration is the winning strategy for both learning and earning the jackpot prizes, and they're just as good at assembling global teams as they are at creating winning solutions. [Read more](#)

CLIMATE CHANGER

Climate Changers are the first responders to climate change events: wildfires, floods, droughts, food crises, and all the human displacement such events produce. Wired with things like sensors and high-resolution tools for analyzing the environment, they build the science of climate action while helping humans adapt to the challenges of 21st century life. [Read more](#)

STARTUP ARTIST

Startup Artists understand that startups are all about finding new business models that can scale up to something big. They continuously launch all kinds of new startup organizations and turn them into classrooms for themselves and for others, too. And someday soon, they will get credit for all their learnings and even failures. [Read more](#)

AUTOCONSCIENTE

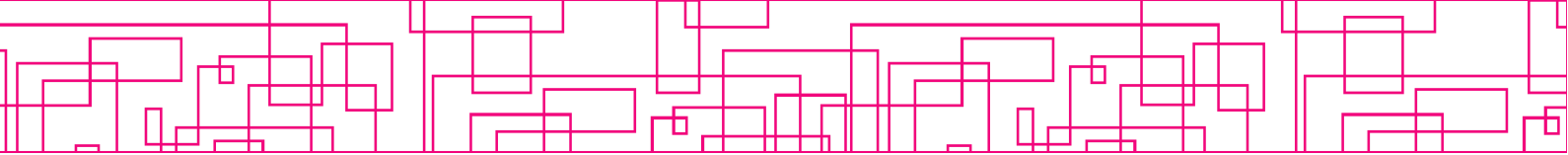
In Spanish, autoconsciente means someone who is self-aware. Autoconscientes place a premium on self-knowledge, tapping both science and personal experience to understand the human mind, body, and future as a foundation for everything else they do in life. [Read more](#)

SPEEDRUNNER

In the world of electronic games, a speedrunner is someone who beats the game by playing rapidly through all levels in record time. In real life, Speedrunners turn their lives into games, using simulations to continuously test next steps in their work+learn paths. [Read more](#)

TRANSITIONIST

Transitionists are practical futurists: they see both the challenges and opportunities in the current global transition to a new economy and society. As masters of change, they help individuals, organizations, and especially cities design workable, learnable paths to the future. [Read more](#)



DJ

DJs are skilled at curating culture—especially pop culture—to create meaningful experiences for groups of people, large and small, online and off. They help others achieve celebrity through their own celebrity. [Read more](#)

GLOBAL CITIZEN

As humans figure out how to become a truly global society, Global Citizens are learning what it means to act globally and locally at the same time. And they're working to create, build, and teach the new rules and structures that will allow everyone to participate with equal opportunity in a new global work+learn economy. [Read more](#)

ECO-MAKER

Eco-makers blend the DIY culture of the “maker” with a passion for the future of the planet. They learn and earn by making the most efficient use of resources, including waste materials. They also make efficient use of human resources with co-ops and socially sourced online instruction. [Read more](#)

OTHER, SPECIFY

A work+learn archetype is a guiding image that feels true to who you are and shapes your actions as you earn and learn.

Global Youth Skills toolkit has [nine archetypes—fictional stories](#) about exemplary young people in the work+learn world of 2030. Yes, each one is a possible future you! The archetypes all have different paths for each of the five peak performance zones that fit their backgrounds, their passions, and their goals. They have different learning stacks: the key resources that stack up to support their peak performance skills.

Play with the archetype cards. Explore the stories. Look at the different paths that the archetypes have built in their peak performance zones. See how their learning stacks support their paths.

Why did you choose a **specific archetype(s)** and how they inspire your future in 10 years?