

Using motivational quotes to develop staff and organisations

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Quotes are frequently placed at the start of a book or to introduce a chapter; to be a **strap** in a journalistic piece or a **splash** for a presentation. Motives for using quotes vary but as a mechanism for human resource development, they are woefully underused. Here are a few possibilities.

Methodology:

1. Members read extracts out with feeling, so as to develop public speaking and presentation skills.
2. Groups or pairings discuss the quotes, selecting the ones most appropriate for developing themselves, or the organisations they come from.
3. Individuals select seven quotes which they are going to have for each day of the coming week, so as to motivate themselves and to alter their mindset.
4. Team members place the quotes in appropriate groupings covering topics i.e. leadership, presentations, alternative thinking, integrity, team-working, initiative and others.
5. Members allocate quotes to colleagues with whom they work, so that the organisation can improve.
6. In pairs or small groups discuss the quotes to assess the truth or otherwise of what is said.

Quotes

- The leaders who work most effectively never say 'I'; they think 'we'; they think 'team.' **Peter Drucker.**
- "I know where I am going and I know the truth and I don't want to be what you want me to be. I'm free to be what I want." **Muhammed Ali.**
- Men occasionally stumble over the truth but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing has happened." **Sir Winston Churchill.**
- "If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music he hears however measured and far away." **H.D. Thoreau.**
- "Everyone's a star and deserves the right to twinkle." **Marilyn Monroe.**
- "Learning without thought is labour lost." **Confucius 500 BC.**
- "If you do things well, do them better. Be daring, be first, be different, be just." **Anita Roddick- Body Shop.**
- "Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen." **Sir Winston Churchill.**
- "Tell people what to do not how. You will be surprised by their ingenuity." **Gen George Patton. 1944**
- "In order to be irreplaceable one must be different." **Coco Chanel.**
- "The fact that an opinion is widely held is no evidence that it is not utterly absurd." **Bertrand Russell.**
- "No one can make you inferior without your consent." **Eleanor Roosevelt.**
- "Don't be afraid to take a big step when required. You can't cross a chasm in two small steps."
David Lloyd George.
- "I will not be pushed, filed, stamped, indexed, briefed, debriefed or numbered. My life is my own." **The Prisoner.**
- "It is amazing how many cares disappear when you decide not be something but to be someone." **Coco Chanel**

- “Drowning in data,yet starved of information.” **Ruth Stanat**
- “Hell, if that is all that is holding us up, I’ll drive the rig.” **Yul Bruyner - The Magnificent Seven**
- “I keep six honest serving men (They taught me all I knew); Their names are What and Why and When and How and Where and Who..” **Rudyard Kipling.**
- “Racing is life. Anything before or after is just waiting.” **Steve McQueen.**
- It is not good enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well. **Rene Descartes.**
- “It’s not the years in you life that count, it’s the life in your years.” **Abraham Lincoln**
- “Other people glean your authority and power from the way you act and sound, rather than from any words you use.” **Marie Tempest Early C20th Theatre critic.**
- “If you always do what you’ve always done, you’ll always get what you always got.” **Anon**
- “Management is doing things right; leadership is about doing the right things.” **Peter Drucker**
- “Communication comes not through words and writing alone, but by example and body language.” **Sir John Harvey Jones Chairman ICI**
- “Networking is not about who you know, it is about who knows you.” **Anon**