

Anecdote

'Curiosity kills a cat' they always said and I never understood why. I never quit being curious and I never quit asking questions. My school and college professors were sweet enough to clear all my doubts with utmost patience, and half my life was spent believing that asking questions was good. It's a given that the person who asks most questions is the teachers' favourite. Moreover, my learning style was such that I never missed a single lecture – not bragging, but it was my weakness. I could learn only when I saw and heard people say something out loud, had a photographic memory of actions combined with words. But I could never understand or remember stuff I read on paper. For this reason alone, I never bought a single book through the five years of my college life and I never set foot inside our college library, but attended every single lecture of every professor.

Then, I started working for a top-notch company. Like a sponge I wanted to absorb everything there was to gain knowledge of, but every time I asked anyone a question, they would look at me different, make a face and walk away without a word. Once, I went to my supervisor and requested him to teach me to make reports. I could see it in his eyes that he didn't want to teach me anything. But I really wanted to learn the skill and I stuck my ground. When he saw that I couldn't be rid of that easy, he sighed and turned to the computer. In two minutes flat, he made reports for the entire quarter and the screen looked as if he had super-fast-forwarded a video. I could hardly even see the colour of a screen before he would jump onto the next. There was no explanation whatsoever, of course, and he didn't even tell me how to bring up those screens that he worked on.

"There!" he said with a smug expression and waited for me to go away. Lucky for me, I had photographic memory of actions and I remembered the exact positions the mouse pointer took on each screen when he switched. In the next five minutes, on the same computer, I gave a demonstration of what I had understood. When I finished and looked up, I caught him staring at me with his mouth open.

Moral: What you think is your weakness may turn out to be a boon in other circumstances.

P.S.: When I changed my industry, I realized that in some industries people may actually love to help you learn and grow. So don't lose hope.

Rupali Rotti is a Patent Holder, ITIL Certified, Six Sigma Yellow Belt Certified, and Kaizen Champion. She has 14 years' experience working with big companies as well as smaller ones. The bigger companies gave her exposure of quality and best practices whereas, the smaller companies gave her the skill of handling contingencies & formulating business strategies. She has experience in marketing, Customer Relationship Management, customer service, employee engagement, operations, service delivery, vendor management, knowledge management,

handling conflicts, recruitment, MIS & Reporting, budgeting, Kaizen, ISMS/ITIL, Six Sigma & Incident/Change management. She has undergone the Leadership Development training three times and has handled On the Job Trainings, Rewards & Recognition & Recreation and Event Management. She has experience working with people from various countries in the continents of America (USA & Canada), Europe (UK, Germany, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Sweden, and France), Asia (China, Korea, Philippines, Japan, and India), and Australia. After 8 years of job, she decided getting into business and started a company in Pune. Then she started writing a business blog, through which she got a project of setting up a subsidiary of a Swedish IT company here in India. Now she is pursuing her passion of writing for the past 6 years.
