



The 'Shape Your Destiny' seminar is a unique experience. We have been involved in countless study/motivational seminars but none have been as innovative and managed to hold the students attention as well as this. Right from the beginning, students were captivated by the message and the style of delivery presented.

The students were presented with different styles of learning and planning strategies. By the Year 12 stage of their academic career, students are jaded about having to sit through another 'study skills/my future' type presentation. However, the methods Darren employed through the seminar demonstrated that this is anything but a static presentation. The students were involved right from the outset. This participation in the process means that they pay greater attention and get more out of the program. Even students who, in their evaluation, were not totally positive about the 'energy' of the presentation were able to recall the important points presented and expressed their willingness to participate in the 'Massive Action Award' follow up to the program.

A further student evaluation of the seminar was conducted two days after it was held. Approximately 80% of the students were very positive about the motivating aspects of the seminar. The key now is whether this positiveness is translated to student involvement in the 'Massive Action Award'. At the school level, we have followed up the seminar with daily Bulletin messages regarding this award. As co-ordinators, we would have liked a little more time devoted to explaining the types of goals students could be looking at as well as a little more time to write their goal up. This part of the program flashed by a little too quickly for some of our students.

Nevertheless, student appreciation of the seminar was very high. Here are some of the comments gathered in our follow up evaluation;

'The presentation was very entertaining and motivating and really helped me to come to the realisation of what I want to do in the future. Darren was awesome.'

'I feel that this presentation was needed by the students. After the presentation there was a lot of talk about the motiving aspects of the presentation.'

'I was expecting the seminar to be very boring but it was the best one I've been to. I think that this has been the best way to teach these skills.'

'It was good that Darren spoke on our level. He made it enjoyable so we listened and did not become bored.'

'The presentation was excellent. I definitely enjoyed myself. It was very motivating and it helped me find a way to do my homework and revision.' (This is what every coordinator wants to hear!)

'We should have more speakers like this one.'

'Darren reinforced how to do well in VCE and life in a fun and different way.'

Yours sincerely

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(Head of Senior School)

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