



WHO AM I?

*Being Vulnerable to Share Your Story in Order to
Become a Leader People Trust*

People follow others because they understand who those leaders are, what they stand for, what is behind the decisions they make, and why they are asking followers to take their lead. The quickest and most scalable method for letting people know who the leader is, is the use of the **"Who am I?"** story.

But to tell a revealing personal story takes a willingness to reflect, which can only happen after you do the work to unearth the stories that have shaped you.

Uncovering Your Leadership History

List the key events or people from your past that have shaped the leader you are today. These people and events could be positive or negative. At this point, there is no reason to exclude, just write freely. Then in the second column, explain how that person or experience influenced your leadership qualities.

IMPORTANT PERSON OR EVENT	IMPACT ON YOUR LEADERSHIP	+/-
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

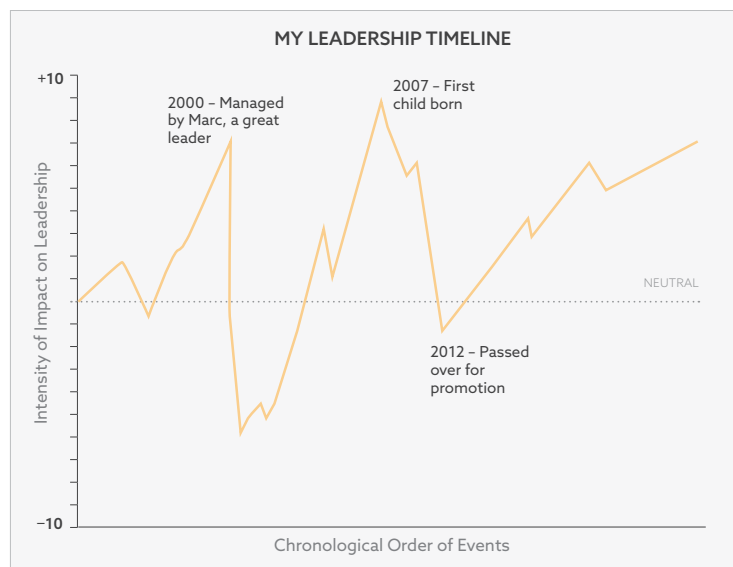
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

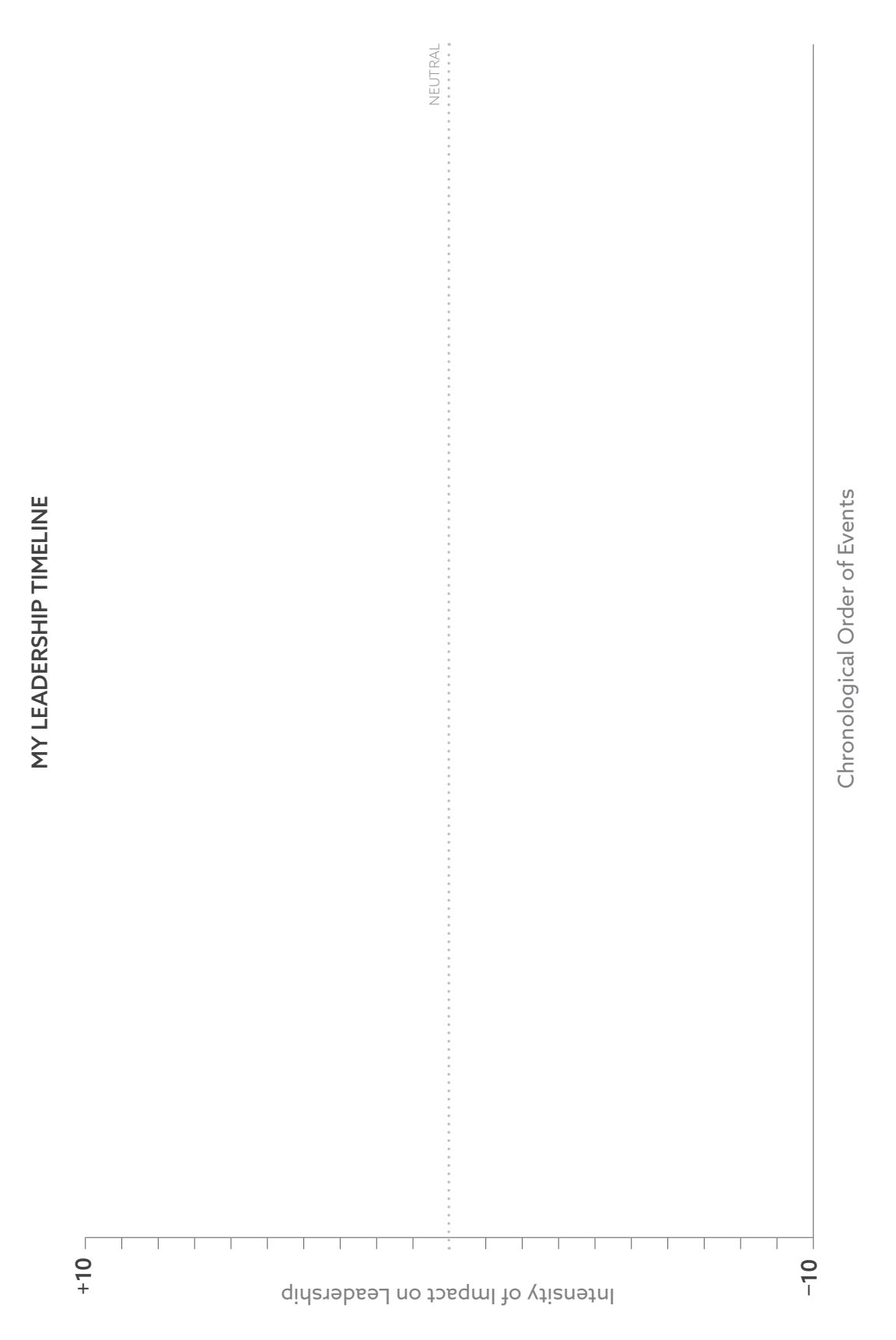
Now rate each of the above people or events as positive (+) or negative (-) by marking it with the correct symbol.

Building Your Leadership Timeline

- Using the graph on the next page, plot the people and events as points above and below (based on intensity of positive/negative influence) the neutral line in chronological order. For an example, see the graph below.
- Draw a line that follows each of these points chronologically to form a line graph: "My Leadership Timeline."

Example





Constructing Your Leadership Principles

As you look back on the people and events that inform your leadership ability, you should see a portrait of yourself and the leader you strive to be. You have a unique set of leadership priorities that make you powerful in the lives of others. Take a moment to list this set of *Leadership Principles* in the space below. What are your goals? How do you aim to help others through your leadership? What makes your leadership different from other leaders? What can you share with the world from your distinct perspective?

1 _____

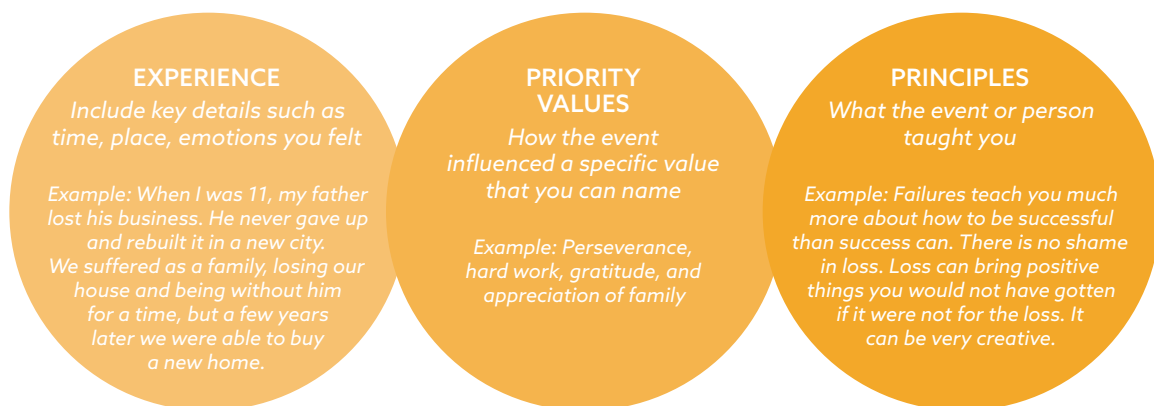
2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Brainstorming Your Leadership Narrative

Choose two of the most influential points from your *Leadership Timeline* (these will probably be some of the lowest or highest points on your graph). Circle these two points on your timeline. Consider the reasons these particular experiences are important to you, what they taught you, and what you hope to teach others by sharing this story. Complete the chart below to begin planning your *Leadership Narrative*.



Title: *Life Success from Failure*

EXPERIENCE	PRIORITY VALUES	PRINCIPLES
<i>Title:</i>		

EXPERIENCE	PRIORITY VALUES	PRINCIPLES
<i>Title:</i>		

Reflecting on Your Leadership Influences

Before actually writing, take another moment to reflect on each of the possible narratives you will share using the questions below:

- 1 What happened just before this event?
- 2 What smells, music, and sounds do you associate with this event?
- 3 What were the emotions you or others had at the time?
- 4 What happened just after this event?
- 5 What events were occurring in the larger world around you?
- 6 What fuzzy memories do you have in and around this event?
- 7 Chronologically list all of the important moments involved in this experience.

