

# I have graduated. Now what?

**You've invested time in formal education to get the qualifications for a career pathway. Now that you are facing the crossroads, how do you take a step when there are too little *(or too many)* options up ahead?**

# What do youths say?



**“My biggest concern for my future pathway is the inability to see what is possible in the next 5 years. I can imagine starting my first job, but have no idea what opportunities are out there for me in terms of career progression. I feel like a frog in a well, having limited perspectives to my career mapping.”**

**JOEL LIM, 23, SMU**



**“There are so many career options available out there, and I have not even figured out what I really want to do. What if I do not know which career pathway is the ‘best’ one for me, how do I begin planning my future?”**

**ANNABELLE LIM, 22, NUS**

# What do youths say?

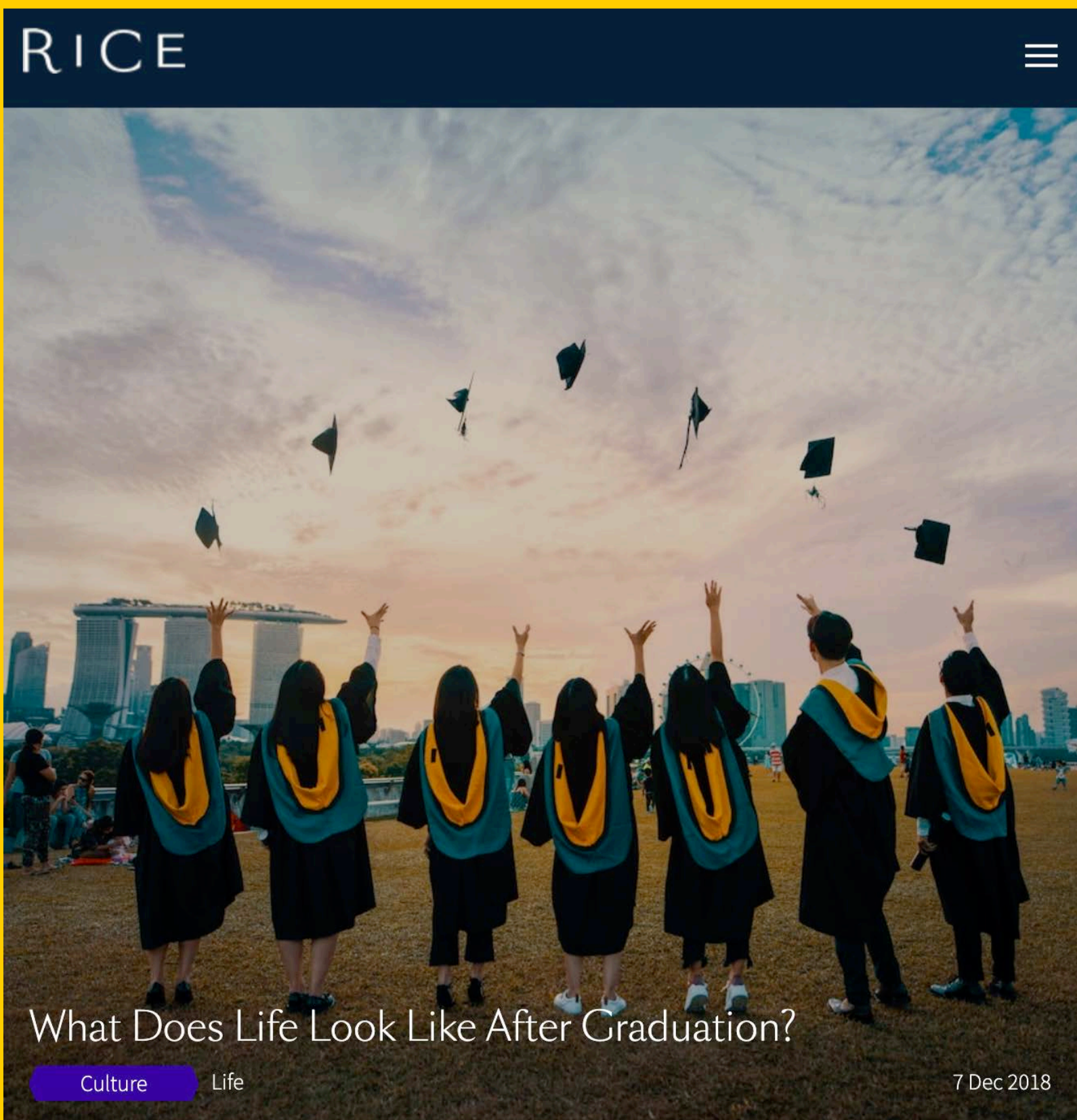


**“What if the career pathway that I wish to get into is not related to what I studied in school?”**

**GORDON SHIAU, 26, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

## *Commentary by Rice Media:*

<https://www.ricemedia.co/culture-life-life-look-like-after-graduation/>





**What can shine bright externally is what's within.**

**We believe in the innate potential you have, and challenge you to take on positive mindsets and ownership in what you do.**

**Whichever challenges come your way, take the opportunity to develop your competencies, to be a stronger leader of your own life!**

# Unpegging the Issue – I have graduated. Now What?

## TIP 1

### Do your own Market Assessment

Worrying about taking up a job unrelated to your course of study? Statistically, *half* of Singaporeans work in jobs unrelated to their degrees. Most industries are changing and evolving faster than formal education can. How much should you rely on your course of study as your key reason for finding a good job fit?

#### *Read:*

<https://sg.yougov.com/en-sg/news/2019/10/03/half-singaporeans-work-jobs-unrelated-their-degree/>

### Half of Singaporeans work in jobs unrelated to their degrees



**Unpegging the Issue –  
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**TIP 1**

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**Do your own Market Assessment**  
*Skillset in practice: Critical Thinking*

**Do this:**



**List of 3 working adults you can reach out to for a short chat!**

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**Through the conversation, find out:**

- **How much does knowledge from their course of study play a part in their field of work?**
- **What is the real knowledge/ expertise/ value that companies seek in their employees?**



## Unpegging the Issue – I have graduated. Now What?

### TIP 2

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## Think beyond conventional options

What do - Data scientists, Zumba instructors, SEO specialists and social media managers have in common? These are just some jobs that did not exist ten years ago.

New jobs exists because there are new demands to be met. You can seek out opportunities by anticipating where new demand can emerge, where unaddressed problems still exist.

### *Read:*

<https://www.masterstudies.com/article/eight-jobs-that-didnt-exist-ten-years-ago/>

## Eight Jobs That Didn't Exist Ten Years Ago

Alyssa Walker January 10, 2019

[Home](#) > [Articles](#) > Eight Jobs That Didn't Exist Ten Years Ago

Think you've got it all figured out? Know what you want to do with your life? Hold up. There are jobs out there that didn't even exist a decade ago. So how do you know what's in store for you?

You don't. In fact, what's here today could change in just a few short months. What's the catalyst? Technology, the flow of information, our growing screen-dependency, and a desire to do the things we've always done in new ways.

The fields remain the same: marketing, finance, transportation, communication, programming, health, fitness, and education are at the forefront of the economy. What folks do is essentially the same, too. It's how they do it that's different.

Here are eight jobs that didn't exist ten years ago.



**Unpegging the Issue –  
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## TIP 2

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### **Think beyond conventional options** *Skillset in practice: Resourcefulness*

#### **Do this:**



**Brainstorm around industries that are close to your heart – ageing population, data security, rise of e-commerce etc.**

- **Use the **PESTLE** framework to guide your ideation! **Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, Environmental.****
- **List four to five career tracks you can explore given your current area(s) of interest. Do this with a friend for a more expansive discussion!**



**Speak with an adult in HR or in management. What are trends he/she anticipates and what new demands or unmet needs would that create? How would the job market evolve?**





## Unpegging the Issue – I have graduated. Now What?

### TIP 3

## Enduring the rough patches

In times of recession, it will be challenging for some to get their dream job; many people will also face multiple rejections in the job search process.

Do not lose heart. Recalibrate your expectations and keep persevering. Your tenacity will pay off in the longer haul, if you stay the course.

### *Read:*

<https://www.straitstimes.com/business/economy/singapore-headed-for-deeper-recession-and-more-job-losses>

## Singapore headed for deeper recession and more job losses



There is still considerable uncertainty and the country must be prepared for more retrenchments, said a Ministry of Manpower official. PHOTO: ST FILE

**Unpegging the Issue –  
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**TIP 3**

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**Enduring the rough patches**

*Skillset in practice: Resilience & Grit*

**Do this:**



**Not getting your “dream job” immediately does not mean you cannot work towards this goal over time. Take a step back, pen the top three qualities in your “dream job” that you wish to attain.**

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- **Map some job alternatives that help you attain at least one of these three qualities.**
- **Get started with a job that meets at least one of these attributes, you will be able to work on your subsequent career moves to get closer to your “dream job”**



## Unpegging the Issue – I have graduated. Now What?

### TIP 4

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## A step forward is better than inaction

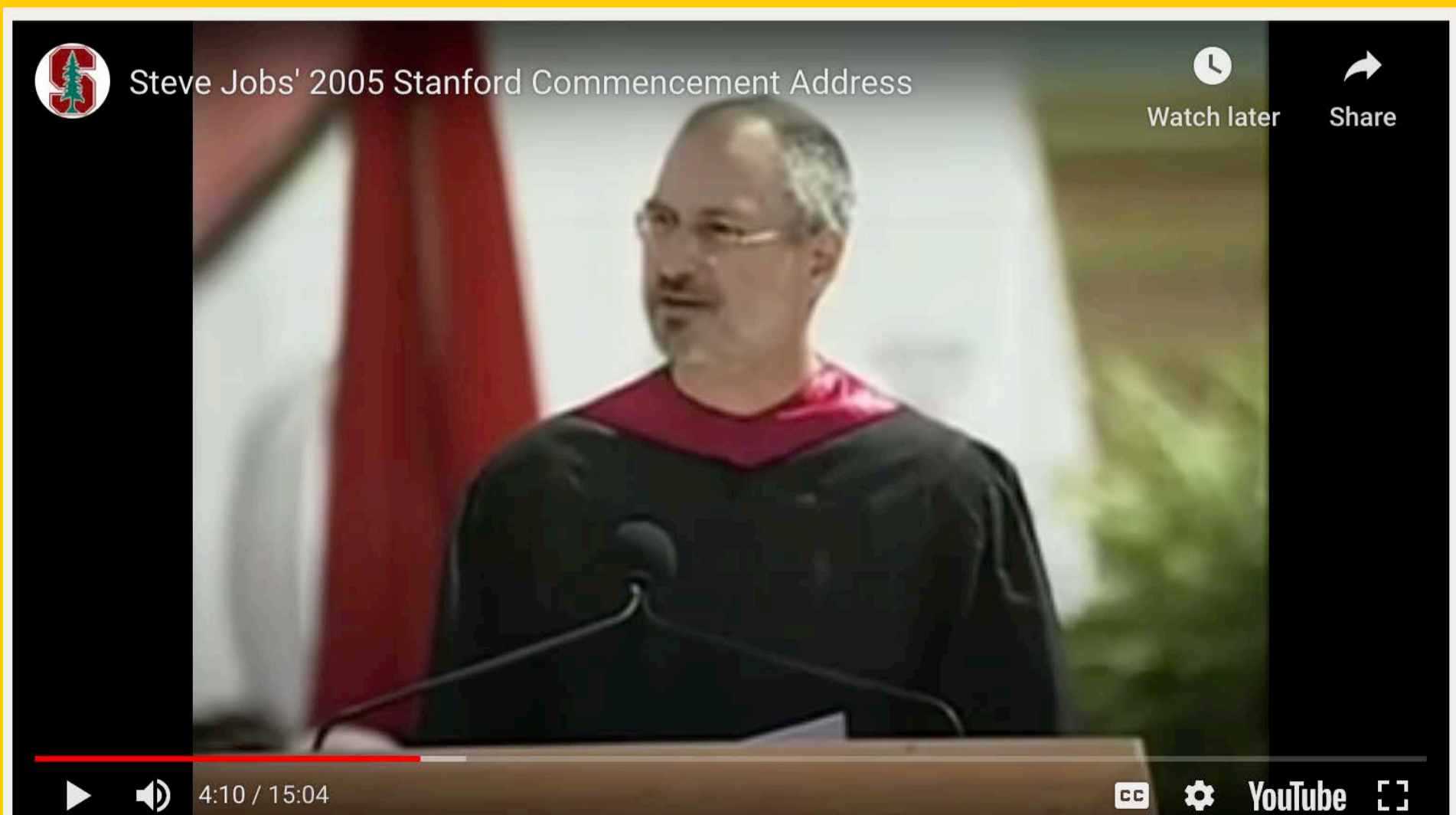
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There can analysis paralysis with the options laid out in front of you. Making a decision can be difficult if you're looking into the crystal ball trying to come up with the one, best, and *only* answer to your pathway.

There may not be a “right” answer to your road ahead - a step forward can perhaps bring you more experiences that give clarity to your next move.

### *Read:*

<https://news.stanford.edu/2005/06/14/jobs-061505/>



Video of Steve Jobs' Commencement address on June 12, 2005.



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**TIP 4**

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**A step forward is better than inaction**  
*Skillset in practice: Risk Taking*

**Do this:**



**Make a list of the career decisions/ choices you can make, as well as the best & worst case scenarios that can happen:**

<b>Decision/ Choice</b>	<b>Best case scenario</b>	<b>Worst case scenario</b>

**Evaluate these scenarios charted out. Are there any scenarios that are permanently damaging that you should avoid?**



**What are some of the fears holding you back from making any move? At which point in time will not making any move be potentially more damaging? Use this to also set a time frame to make a decision.**



Glean in!  
**Here's what our  
coaches/mentors  
have to say!**



**“You don’t have to have it figured out! It’s totally normal not to know what you want to do, but don’t let that paralyse you from taking a step forward. Trust that there are no missteps: even a step that makes you discover that you don’t enjoy something helps you take another step in the right direction next - it’s all part of the process.”**

**LIM ZHEN TING, FELLOW AT GENERATION,  
ASSOCIATE AT MCKINSEY & COMPANY**



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**“It was tough watching friends and classmates going straight into their desired careers and grad schemes, when I had no idea what I wanted to do myself. I’m really pleased that I resisted following suit because I felt I had to. I took my time, kept my options open and I’ve now found my desired path in the non-profit sector.”**

**DEAN THOMSON,  
PROJECT MANAGER, TALENT TRUST**



**START  
WHERE  
YOU ARE.**

**USE WHAT  
YOU HAVE.**

**DO WHAT  
YOU CAN.**

***– ARTHUR ASHE***



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- ③ **Access our content pieces and educational resources to enrich your world view**
- ③ **Sign up for our complimentary Career Roundtables and Mentorship Programmes to invest in your personal growth**

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