A quick survey to determine your suitability for (or interest in) systems engineering

Please note that this is NOT a scientific survey. Collect points as you go over this survey and check out what your total means at the end. Have fun!

1. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I don't feel like I am interested in one particular engineering field. I like to work on technical stuff but I don't want to limit myself with only one engineering discipline. I want to be knowledgeable about how to make technical projects better. (2 points)
   b. I am not very interested in how business works. I'd like to work primarily in hands-on technical projects. And I think I know which traditional engineering program to choose (such as electrical & computer, civil, or mechanical). (1 point)

2. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I'd like to see the "big picture" of things. I'd like to examine all aspects of a project (not just technical). If I'm working on a project, I'd like to have a say in the planning step and how the end result should be. I'd like to improve things. (2 points)
   b. I'd like to work on limited parts of a project and be done with it. I am not very interested in how we should plan it in the beginning. Tell me what to do, and I'll do my best. (1 point)

3. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I like teamwork and want to improve even more on that. I also like managing teams. (2 points)
   b. I do ok with teamwork. I am not so interested in management though. (1 point)

4. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I'd like to have an education on management and business tools and techniques so that I get an early start to my faster-than-usual career climb. I don't plan to stay a pure engineer for a long time. (2 points)
   b. I love the traditional engineering discipline that I already plan to choose here. I hope to do that job for a long time. I'll think about management issues if/when I'm in that position. (1 point)

5. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I am (or I want to be) an outstanding communicator. I find that oral and written communication is very important for a successful career. (2 points)
   b. I don't feel the need for improvement in oral and written communication. I am satisfied with what I have. (1 point)
6. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. Independent thinking and creativity are very important qualities that I have. And I plan to improve on that by exploring non-technical as well as technical aspects of engineering projects. (2 points)
   b. Although I am creative, I’d like to direct that creativity towards a traditional engineering area. (1 point)

7. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I am very interested in learning how companies operate in today’s globalized world. (2 points)
   b. I am not interested in global business. (1 point)

8. Select one of the statements below that suits you best:
   a. I’d like to work on making projects more effective (how to decrease cost, meet schedules, etc.). (2 points)
   b. I’m not that interested in making projects more effective. (1 point)

10 – 16 points: You should seriously consider systems engineering.

8 - 9 points: You are probably more suitable for a traditional engineering field (such as electrical & computer, civil, or mechanical).