Are You Headed for an Energy Crisis?

Please check the statements below that are true for you.

Body

__ I don't regularly get at least seven to eight hours of sleep, and I often wake up feeling tired.

___ I frequently skip breakfast, or I settle for something that isn't nutritious.

___ I don't work out enough (meaning cardiovascular training at least three times a week and strength training at least once a week).

___ I don't take regular breaks during the day to truly renew and recharge, or I often eat lunch at my desk, if I eat it at all.

Emotions

___ I frequently find myself feeling irritable, impatient, or anxious at work, especially when work is demanding.

___ I don't have enough time with my family and loved ones, and when I'm with them, I'm not always really with them.

___ I have too little time for the activities that I most deeply enjoy.

___ I don't stop frequently enough to express my appreciation to others or to savor my accomplishments and blessings.

Mind

___ I have difficulty focusing on one thing at a time, and I am easily distracted during the day, especially by e-mail.

___ I spend much of my day reacting to immediate crises and demands rather than focusing on activities with longer-term value and high leverage.

___ I don't take enough time for reflection, strategizing, and creative thinking.

___ I work in the evenings or on weekends, and I almost never take an e-mail-free vacation.

Spirit

___ I don't spend enough time at work doing what I do best and enjoy most.

____ There are significant gaps between what I say is most important to me in my life and how I actually allocate my time and energy.

____ My decisions at work are more often influenced by external demands than by a strong, clear sense of my own purpose.

___ I don't invest enough time and energy in making a positive difference to others or to the world.

How is your overall energy?

Total number of statements checked: ____

Guide to scores

0-3: Excellent energy management skills

4-6: Reasonable energy management skills

7–10: Significant energy management deficits

11–16: A full-fledged energy management crisis

What do you need to work on?

Number of checks in each category:

Body ___ Mind ___ Emotions ___ Spirit ___

Guide to category scores

0: Excellent energy management skills

1: Strong energy management skills

2: Significant deficits

3: Poor energy management skills

4: A full-fledged energy crisis

From: The Power of Full Engagement: Managing Energy, Not Time, Is the Key to High Performance and Personal Renewal by Jim Loehr and Tony Schwartz