Reading Tarot and Social Inductive Reasoning

As a tarot reader, I've always gone out of my way to make sure I am not cold reading my clients. I try to focus only on what's coming through from the divinatory medium and how I'm to be interpreting the signs. I do not think consciously about my clients' appearance or body language (also these days, the majority of my readings are done by email, where I never see the client). I've always prided myself in being all about sacred divination.

Lately I've been hearing a lot about professional tarot readers integrating neuro-linguistic programming (NLP) into their readings. To see what the fuss was all about, I began reading and studying more into NLP. The more I read, the more I thought it sounded like cold reading when applied to tarot reading sessions. To verify, I then began to study cold reading, since I knew nothing about it prior to the commencement of these studies.

There certainly is a lot of overlap. In both NLP and cold reading, much buzz is made about "social intuition" and I started to wonder what does "social intuition" even mean? Perhaps it's what we all seem to "know" but can't articulate how we know, yet such "knowing" can be deconstructed through still other techniques, such as the Chinese practice of face reading (quite woo-woo) and reading body language (less woo-woo and oft used by negotiators). So I looked into deconstructing "social intuition" to see how the common techniques of social inductive reasoning fit in to a successful reading session.

After all my study, I was taken aback by how closely all the renowned or so-called psychics and mediums seemed to follow these consideration points. I was also frightened by how much I unwittingly followed these points myself, without being aware of or with any intent to be scammy. Prior to my study, in my tarot readings that I thought were on "pure intuition" without any social inductive reasoning whatsoever, I was still following so many of these consideration points to a tee. Yet I swear I wasn't cold reading or implementing NLP techniques. I thought I was using sacred intuition.

That got me wondering: can sacred intuition be deconstructed into concretized points of social inductive reasoning? Is intuition and psychology more closely linked than we'd like to acknowledge? Is there a correlation between cold reading and NLP to so-called intuitive or psychic ability that we don't want to confront? Why does authentic, genuine psychic reading (because I do believe that exists) mirror social inductive reasoning to such startling degrees?

After reading over a dozen books, taking notes, organizing those notes, creating outlines, and then comparing what I've learned with footage of renowned psychics, mediums, and even tarot readers, I believe the following matrix of consideration points (some scammy and some that are actually good tips to implement) covers all the fundamentals you would want to know about social inductive reasoning, i.e., cold reading and NLP. Please, please use your knowledge of these techniques for good, and never evil.

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GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS

1 | Self-Confidence.

You must exude confidence and hold yourself out as an expert in your field. Never explicitly say you know more about the client than the client knows about him or herself, but with your demeanor, convey and imply that you probably know more about the client than the client knows about him or herself. Convey expertise. Convey possession of higher intuitive, spiritual, or metaphysical knowledge.

Appearances Matter.

It's not about dressing to impress; it's about dressing in a way that inspires your self-confidence. Dress to impress *yourself*. If you would be impressed by someone dressed that way for this particular occasion, then that's the way you should be dressing for the occasion.

2 | Smile and Make Eye Contact.

Do not underestimate the importance of a genuine smile and making eye contact with the client. The purpose of doing so is also to set the client at ease. Make sure every aspect of your demeanor and speech during the greetings and introduction will put the client at ease and allow the client to feel comfortable around you.

3 First Positive Association.

After initial greetings and name introductions, compliment the client. E.g., comment on how the client's name evokes positive or honorable associations. Find some aspect of the client to compliment.

Placebo Attribution.

When a client is made ready to believe in the skills and success of a practitioner, a placebo effect kicks in and the client perceives a cure or efficacy in the practitioner's session.

Child Ego - Parent Ego.

In a client-practitioner relationship, the client takes on the child ego, subconsciously seeking nurture, comfort, assurance, authority, and answers from the practitioner. Thus, the practitioner must adopt a parent ego to provide those elements to the client.

The Power of Visualization.

Envision a luminous golden aura growing stronger and more intense around your head. The aura emanates throughout the duration of the reading session and you can feel the bright energy, vibrancy, and power of that aura throughout your body, all the way down to your feet. You feel powerful, confident, and connected to the greater Divine.

The Psychology of Eye Contact

Eye contact conveys the sense that the client is the center of attention, which is a feeling that comforts most of us—knowing that we have the other person's undivided attention and care. Offering eye contact also offers to the client a chance to see through you and feel your sincerity.

The Psychology of Compliments.

A compliment adjusts the client's state positively, which then affects the environment positively. A compliment is also a sign to the client that you are paying attention to him or her. Remember: an artful compliment has to be: (1) specific, (2) genuine, (3) acknowledge the client's character, and (4) demonstrates your appreciation for that character trait.

4 Remember the Client's Name.

Pay close attention during the introductions when the client gives you his or her name. Remember the client's name. Be sure to repeat the client's name at least 3 times during the reading session.

Positive Association.

One of the most important words to any person is his or her own name. Repeating the client's name a few times during the session will, on a subconscious level, convey to the client that you see him or her as someone important, someone significant, someone whose name is worthy of being remembered. That positive association builds rapport and will also leave the client with a positive memory of you.

5 What's in a Name?

Rudimentary name analysis up front using the dominant letters of the client's first name can help to establish positive rapport. Without disclosing what they're doing, many psychics use name analysis techniques to talk about the client's character, and then says that the psychic is getting this information from reading the client's aura.

Example. JAMES

[Touch on some of the main points for the letters in the name that stand out the most to you.]

"Ah, I see that you have the presence of a cautious leader, with a military general quality to the way you lead. You're assertive, confident, though also a homebody, with a strong love of home and family. You have a fiercely overprotective nature when it comes to your loved ones. You try to come across as tough and resilient, so people don't often realize just how emotionally sensitive you are. You hide your vulnerabilities very well. There also seems to be a strong love for arts and culture that people often miss or overlook about you."

Α	Born leader. Assertive. Confident. Motivated.
	Independent thinker. Builds solid foundations, then
	reaches for the sky.

- B Sensitive. Helpful. Motivated to help others. Benevolent. A dreamer. Giving. Decisive, but gets hostile and defensive when decisions are challenged.
- C Sociable. Friendly. Kind. Motivated by happiness.
 Tendency to be inattentive or forgetful. Some narcissism, but only because Cs truly have radiant personalities.
- D Born teacher or mentor. Honest. Sincere. Pragmatic. Possesses common sense.
- E Versatile and inspirational. Interested in spiritual matters. Quick-thinking. Does not handle monotony well.
- F Humanitarian. Cheerful. Creative. Sanguine. Tendency to be dogmatic. Open-minded and intuitive.
- G Reserved thinker. Often misunderstood. An uncommon personality. Idiosyncratic.
- H Success in business and finance. Strong financier skills and savvy.
- I Sensitive. Intuitive. Emotional. Deeply perceptive of others and surrounding.
- J Leader, but tends to be very cautious and risk-averse as a leader. Industrious. Dependable. Have qualities of a military general, or someone who could really influence and lead others during times of distress.
- K High potential for achievement. Inspires others. Intuitive. Emanates with great élan. Intrepid. Radiant personality. Lights up a room.
- L Expresses the joy of living. Original thinker. Aptitude for complex problem solving. A good writer. Articulate.
 Astute. Incisive. Impatient. Impetuous.
- M Love of home. Protective nature. A keeper. Protective over family and friends. Sensitive. Idealistic. Finds pleasure in art, design, and poetry.
- N Always seeking excitement and variety. Spontaneous.
 Adaptable to shifts in life. Thoughts-oriented rather than

			physical or emotional.
		0	Responsible. Efficient. Accomplished. Proper. Adroit. Refined character. Can influence others through use of emotion.
		P	Introspective. Great depths of perception. Can be secretive about deeply personal matters.
		Q	Distinct and often eccentric. Generous. Unstable relationships. Open-minded and intuitive.
		R	Selfless. Benevolent. Humanitarian. Cosmopolitan. Serves the public good. Great people skills. Refined.
		S	Spiritual roots often expressed in unorthodox ways. Independent. Assertive. Opinionated. An adaptable leader. Have great mental and cerebral flexibility.
		Т	Enjoys peace. Will often yield to majority rather than stir trouble. More traditional than others might assume. Strives to be well-informed.
		U	Struggles to find balance. Inconstant. Impulsive. Mercurial. Effervescent. Often alluring. Details matter; consistency, not so much. Mood-motivated, rather than logic-oriented.
		V	Capable of vast accomplishment. One of most powerful vibrations in alphabet. Highly creative. Resentful of restrictions. Rebellious. Strong social consciousness.
		W	Power of persuasion. Excellent verbal and communication abilities. Good general vitality. Reaches fact-based conclusions rather than emotion- or intuition-based.
		X	Takes on many responsibilities. Emotional, yet emotionally resilient. Strong convictions.
		Y	Committed to uncovering mysteries and the hidden to bring understanding.
		Z	Extremely dynamic. Capable of great achievements.
6	Seeking Cooperation I.	Exar	nnles of Phrases to Use.

6 **Seeking Cooperation I.**

One way to ensure a client enters with the right mindset for a successful reading is to ask for the client's cooperation. Explain to the client that you are like a messenger, translator, or interpreter, and so while you can read the signs for him or her, the client needs to help you make sense of those signs.

Observed Example. Almost every psychic or medium I've observed

Examples of Phrases to Use.

- "It's important that you remain open and receptive to whatever might come through during our session."
- "I see my role today as a messenger, or interpreter. I can read the signs that come through, but I can't always make sense of the signs I'm getting. Often, that final step of a reading is up to you."
- "Typically the messages I get in these readings are like fragmented images, focused on one bright, clear spot, but then around it, fuzzy edges. I may need your help to clarify those fuzzy edges."

does this. To an extent, as a tarot reader, I was using this technique, too, without consciously realizing that's what I was doing.

- "What happens is I see the signs and get the message of the reading, but I don't know what I'm talking about exactly, and it's going to be a lot clearer to you than it will be to me. It's going to be like someone who has never seen an elephant before describing the sight of an elephant to someone who knows all about elephants."
- "The cards are always right, but sometimes as an interpreter, prone to human error, I might interpret them incorrectly. So try to connect directly to the cards and read beyond what I'm saying. Contribute your own intuition. Does that make sense?"

7 The Power of Ritual.

Many tarot practitioners incorporate prayer or ritual into the opening of a reading session. Even when there is a sincere religious belief in the power of ritual, there is also an undeniable psychological effect. Ritual bonds the practitioner with the client and later, that bond will be hard to break. Thus, ritual establishes positive rapport between practitioner and client right from the start of a session.

Observed Example. An angel reader started the session by closing her eyes and praying aloud, inviting the angels and Spirit to come forth. It was a very effective way of setting the right tone and opening up the audience's receptivity to her angel messages.

Optional Opening Rituals

- A prayer or invocation that is spoken aloud by you, and incorporate the client's name into the prayer or invocation to convey a sense of participation and engagement
- Set the tarot deck on the table and have the client touch one end of the cards while you touch the other, so the two of you are in effect connected through the cards. Recite a quick prayer or invocation (aloud or close your eyes and quietly to yourself—either way will be effective, as the common touching of the cards already establishes participation and engagement)

THE READING SESSION:

8 **Body Language**.

Is your client open and thus connecting to you? Or is the client skeptical, closed off, and out to test you? Many of these body reading techniques can also help you induce a client's social status, level of

Eye Blocking
(Squinting or
Shielding the Eyes
While Speaking)

- Client does not like what he or she is hearing
- Client isn't comfortable with the present course of conversation

Crossed Arms

May be a bit skeptical

education, profession (white collar, blue collar, etc.), and even personality traits.

Note: Establishing an individual's baseline is the most critical part of effective body language reading. Without a baseline as a point of reference, body language reading can be inaccurate, because, as you may have surmised, each individual is different, and body language can vary from culture to culture. Nonetheless, the table at right provides generalizations on body language in Western society.

Note: Body language that conveys unease or discomfort can be either physical or emotional discomfort, and is often difficult to tell which it is without more information. Thus, an indication of discomfort in a client's body language doesn't necessarily mean he or she is uncomfortable with the reading session; it could very well be indications of physical pain or health issues.

	 More likely to withhold information Someone who tends to build up strong walls and defense mechanisms Client is not comfortable (whether physical, e.g., the room is too cold, or emotional, e.g., feeling guarded about his or her personal space)
Hands on Lap or Resting on Table (Open Arms)	 Eager to experience your reading session Subconsciously wants you to like him or her, or think positively of this client Seeks to be accommodating
Wiping Open Palms on Lap	Client is nervousEmotional discomfort with present situation
Leaning In, Toward You	Engaged and attentiveListening closely to what you have to say
Leaning Out, Back Against Chair	 Uncertain about what to expect from you Trying to maintain "realistic expectations" for the reading session Generally, leaning away is an indication of discomfort or disagreement
Both Feet Pointing Directly At You	 Engaged and attentive Eager to experience your reading session Is interested in what you have to say
One Foot or Both Pointing Away From You	 Has someplace better to be right now May have been pressured by someone else to get this reading from you Is likely skeptical of you Will be more critical of your reading
Crossed Legs	• Relaxed

	Interested and open-minded
	about the reading
Interlocked Ankles	InsecurityUncertaintyFeeling guardedWithholding emotional vulnerability
Tall, Great Posture Or Chest Puffing	 Confident in his or her own opinions Trying to establish his or her dominance and command of situation Seeks control Must bring compelling evidence for this client to believe you However, is far more likely to believe your compliments than your criticisms
Slouching Posture	 Can be very self-critical Self-aware More likely to believe your critiques than your compliments May get embarrassed or bashful if you compliment too much
Weak or Loose Shoulders	 Discomfort Insecurity Subconsciously giving up control to other party
Strong Shoulders	ComfortConfidenceMore extroverted
Tense Face Knitted brows, slightly contorted facial features, furrowed forehead	 Discomfort with present situation Uncertain May be feeling defensive Trying to make decisions on the spot; immersed in thought
Relaxed facial features; relaxed eyes and lips full	ConfidentOpen and receptiveNot presently analyzing any aspect of the conversation

			Listening openly to what you have to say
		Covering the neck area with hand or playing with a necklace or necktie	Insecurity Emotional discomfort
		Neck Touching of any Kind	 Emotional discomfort Uncertainty What you're saying is either making the client uncomfortable or is not resonating with him or her
		"Happy Feet" Foot or lower leg that wiggles or bounces with joy, paired with relaxed, open face	 High level of confidence Positive emotions Positive response to what is being said Contrast with jittery legs paired with nervous or tense face
		Sudden Leg Kick	However, in contrast to "happy feet," if there is a sudden leg kick in response to what was said, then client is displaying discomfort
		Hands Behind Back	 Does not want you to approach or come near Believes he or she is of higher status Self-segregating gesture
		Thumbs Outside Pocket; Fingers in Pocket	 High status Confidence Sends a message of control and authority
		Thumbs Inside Pocket; Fingers Outside	Low statusLack of confidenceSends a message of submission
		Tilted Head	Comfort in situationListening attentivelyOpen and receptive
9	Introvert vs. Extrovert. Determine whether the client is an	INTROVERT • Simple dress	EXTROVERT Dress stands out
	introvert or an extrovert by the	Less talkative	More vibrant colors in

client's clothing choices and behavior.	 Poor eye contact Appears reserved Prefers solitude to group Personal hobbies: reading, writing Cerebral careers 	clothing • Multiple pieces of jewelry • Many acquaintances • Opinionated • Expressive • Socially interactive careers
10 Vin ve Vene Beneauslities		_
10 Yin vs. Yang Personalities . In the way Western cold reading		g Features
techniques begin categorizing personalities by introverts versus extroverts, Chinese cold reading might subdivided between yin and yang personalities. By determining whether your client has a yin- dominant or yang-dominant personality, you can gain a better grasp of his or her disposition and how that disposition might affect the choices the client makes, which will affect the client's life path. Keep in mind that each person is a combination of both yin and yang traits. However, considering the	 Yin Personality Wider set eyes Brows slant away from nose bridge Long, large nose Large mouth or full lips Softer, rounder features Lank, slender, or curvaceous figure Horizontal lines on face rather than vertical Paler complexion; skin seems translucent Fall, Winter births 	 Yang Personality Eyes close together, deep set, or narrow Bows slant toward nose bridge Strong, pronounced cheekbones Long, square jaw Angled or chiseled features Square or boxy body shape Smaller mouth or thin lips Vertical lines on face rather than horizontal Sun-kissed complexion Spring, Summer births
totality of factors, one will seem to dominate over the other. For	Corresponding F	Personality Traits
instance, even if an individual was	Yin Personality	Yang Personality
born in the winter, i.e., yin, if his physical features all point toward yang, then yang will dominate in his personality. Thus, he would be considered yang-dominant despite having a winter birth.	 Introverted A seemingly sweeter or quieter disposition Creative, intuitive Tend to be more influenced by the moon Seeks understanding Writer, researcher, teacher, designer, architect, artist Diplomatic, empathic Open-minded, perceptive Theory-based Cool, cold 	 Extroverted A more fiery temperament Progressive, innovative Tend to be more influenced by the sun Seeks glory Engineer, soldier, actor, musician, salesman, entrepreneur, business Authoritarian, argumentative Ambitious, sensory Fact-based Warm, hot

		Persuasive	
11	Color Dominance in Outfit Choice. Note the color dominance in the client's outfit choice, which include the dominant color in the client's outfit, but more significantly, in the client's choice of jacket or outerwear	BLACK	 Reserved, pensive Appreciates formality Often conceals what he or she is thinking and feeling Compartmentalizes his or her emotions
	color, the client's handbag color, and the client's shoe color.	Brown	 Stable, reliable Not interested in the spotlight or standing out A homebody Must be in control; uncomfortable when he or she loses control of a situation Realist; sees life as a struggle
		WHITE	 Precisionist; hides flaws Strives for the impression of perfection Immaculate; can be prudish Far-sighted; well-balanced Possesses a great deal of self-control Can come across cold or detached to others
		Beige/ Ivory	 Prefers simplicity or minimalism Graceful. Dignified Complacent; can be a follower rather than a leader Doesn't want to lead or get noticed, for fear of failure or disappointing others Secretly insecure or lacks confidence
		GRAY	 Cerebral Conservative Practical Middle-path individual A fair and objective critic Self-sufficient; dislikes relying on others Often lives a private life
		RED	Extroverted, assertiveVivaciousA go-getterSexual and sensual

			ImpulsiveCan have an overactive ego
		Pink	 Affectionate Seeks social acceptance Flirtatious or playful nature
		Orange	 Creative, innovative Enthusiastic Wants to be seen as being original or different Thrives on social contact Open-minded, accepting
		YELLOW	 Optimistic Active, full of vitality Brave, daring, adventurous Analytical and methodical Tend to conceal true emotions Innate skills with technology
		GREEN	 Often nature-loving or interested in outdoor activities Quick learner, intelligent Tendency to gossip or quick to judgment of others Strong need to belong Compassionate, sense of social justice Darker green: Power, class Lighter green: Casual, cheerful
		BLUE	 Seeks stability A traditionalist Strong moral compass Strong emphasis on knowledge-seeking Intellectual, philosophical, or deeply spiritual Can be overly cautious
		Purple	 Creative Spiritual, intuitive Free-spirited, idealistic Highly sensitive to environment Can be impractical Difficulty with routines
12	Choice of Accessories. How a person accessorizes can speak volumes about that person's	Expensive Wa	He or she is willing to spend substantial money on non-essentials. More likely to try to buy happiness.

character traits. Knowing key traits can inform you on how best to persuade or influence such an individual. For example, you are more likely to persuade an individual wearing an expensive watch to buy the non-essential goods or services that you're selling. In contrast, someone who chooses to wear no jewelry at all may be more tightfisted with finances, and so it will be more difficult for you to convince such a person to buy non-essential goods or services.

Lack of Jewelry	Simple, unmaterialistic tastes. Less likely to spend money on nonessentials. To appeal to this individual, must appeal to sense of necessity and value.
Heavy Amounts of Jewelry and Accessorizing	Likes to preen him or herself. Likes to be seen, likes to be envied, and wants to be popular. To appeal to this individual, appeal to his or her ego and sense of fame or prestige.
Simple Wedding Band Only	Aside from noting marriage, she had a simple wedding ceremony and is generally disinterested in materialism. Not someone who cares too much about what others think of her social status. To appeal to this individual, you must be sincere and authentic.
Solitaire Diamond Engagement Ring	Ring likely represents a substantial amount of money relative to the couple's earnings. She cares about what others think of her, her social status, and her spouse's social status. Spouse is likely to be a hard-working, industrious individual.
Engagement or Wedding Ring Encrusted with Diamonds	If she is dressed professionally and carries herself well, she and her spouse make about the same amount of money. She comes from affluence or a well-educated, well-to-do background. Father was likely to be a highly influential and emotionally supportive figure in her life. If she is young and dressed fashionably, her spouse may be substantially older than her; she married into affluence.
Woman with Diamond Ring on Right-Hand Ring Finger	She is declaring her independence. She wants to be seen as self- sustaining and successful in her own right.
Designer Accessories with Logos	This individual cares a great deal about what others think of him or her. Make appeals to this individual by appealing to social status and sense of belonging.
Multiple Rings	Artistic, creative nature; likely to be

		T	
		on Fingers	more intuitive or empathic than others. Typically makes decisions through emotions. Make appeals to this individual by way of emotions.
		Plain, Discrete, Inconspicuous Footwear	More introverted, thoughtful, intellectual. Seeks personal accomplishment.
		Bold, Colorful, Decorative, or Noticeable Footwear	More extroverted, energetic, emotional. Seeks attention, glory, status. Sensitive to what others think of him or her.
13	Gender Assumptions.	How client wants	to be described.
	Note common social gender	Female	Male
	assumptions and using inductive reasoning, determine whether those gender assumptions apply to the client.	 Caring, nurtu Intuitive Too self-critich Underapprech Resilient Stronger that give her cred 	 Brave Good problem solver intelligent Physically and mentally strong
14	Age. Estimate the age of the client and what common life experiences, hopes, and fears might be attributed to the client because of age.	Age Ty 18-22 •	Seeks independence Secret fear of whether will be successful in life Uncertainty about what he or she wants out of life Wants to know what peers think of him or her Still learning to have a positive rapport with him or herself; making sense of personal identity
		22-29 • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Optimistic about career path Experiencing initial professional difficulties Wants to find a career he or she loves and is passionate about Seeks recognition for accomplishments Beginning to better define what he or she wants and to define "success" and aspire toward it

• Fe	2: Have Young Children eeling trapped by present rcumstances
In Fe Ex ar Type Ei Ov St th al Ca In St ea W of Si sh re re Se ar Or wi M pl Iir Cir Pi	seel like he or she has hit a plateau a life path seeling overworked and exhausted over present financial concerns and worries 3: Pampered sther a "trust fund baby" or an overachiever crong family support, whether nat's financial or emotional (not ways both) areful, a planner stelligent because educated crong intellectual foundations in arly childhood vants life to have meaning, to be a value to the world in some gnificant way questioning the choices he or ne made earlier on in life with egard to both career and elationships seeking long-term investments, shether that's with regard to elationships or financial seets/property ensory acuity: more analytical and rational about what is going in personal environment and that is happening to him or her say feel like he or she is on a lateau, unable to get beyond miting conditions or reumstances ines for a childhood or youthful ream or ambition that has fallen
dr to no	ream or ambition that has fallen the wayside and he or she has ot pursued in years
	egrets past choices

		43-60	 Dwindling physical health and vigor Awareness of personal limitations Feeling more "true" to his or her self-identity than ever Feeling tired, worn out, and underappreciated at work Seeking to reorganize life in a dynamic way Sensory acuity: more analytical and rational about what is going on in personal environment and what is happening to him or her Often the most rewarding time in life Time in life to "go for it" If single during this age, fear of loneliness, isolation Reflective of choices made in young adulthood leading to this particular life path Often feel that in life, he or she has had to learn lessons the hard way Often feel like he or she has had to work really hard for what he or she has; nothing was handed on a silver platter (if client appears well-
			to-do, add, even if at times it might
		60+	 have appeared that way to others) Hyper-aware of declining health More disciplined about healthy habits Oftentimes more pessimistic (or realistic) about life and humanity Has had to learn the "hard way" what "unconditional love" means Desire to help the new generation; desire to teach or mentor the younger up and coming generation Desire to contribute and be useful to family, society, or community in some way
15	Reading the Eyes.	LARGE	• Gregarious, generous
		_	,

This is a Chinese face reading technique that might offer you some initial insights into a client's personality and disposition.	OPEN EYES	 Adaptable Often lead an easier life than others because people view them as attractive and likeable More direct forms of communication social expression: verbalization often mirrors body language
	SMALL EYES OR CAT EYES	 Generally quiet, mild disposition More indirect with forms of communication and social expression: will need to read client's body language for cues, rather than rely on what client verbalizes Outwardly appears agreeable, but inwardly remains highly skeptical Less trusting of others' intentions. Ironically, those with small eyes "see everything," every last detail, and remember everything. They can hold a grudge. Often have a high guard up and strong, reinforced defense mechanisms.
	LARGE, ROUND EYES	 Creative, expressive Naïve; tend to trust people too easily Great communicator Seeks attention and social acceptance
	EYEBALLS REST IN UPPER TWO-THIRDS OF EYE; CAN SEE WHITES OF EYES BELOW THE EYEBALL	 High social standing Can be an elitist Intellectual, cerebral Note: To be distinguished from eye-rolling. This indication is for eyeballs in resting position.
	SLIGHTLY CROSS-EYED OR BOTH EYEBALLS SEEM TO FOCUS NEAR CENTER OF FACE	 Sensitive, emotive, but perhaps not as cerebral or analytical May experience greater risk of

			physical health complications in life • Often from a family with a strong, indomitable patriarch (father or grandfather)
		High-set Eyebrows	 More observant; more pensive Will take a longer time to make a decision More trusting of other people's intentions Often lead an easier, more privileged, comfortable, well-supported life Tend to be born into easier fates, and so do not have to try as hard More generous in matters of the heart More transparent with his or her thoughts and emotions
		Low-set Eyebrows	 More critical Tends to make decisions quickly; can be judgmental Processes information very quickly Willful, stubborn Ambitions, determined Often lead a more difficult, troubled, challenging life Tend to be born into more difficult fates, and so must work hard and exert greater willpower for achievement More reserved and guarded in matters of the heart Will often conceal what he or she really thinks and feels
16	Reading Face Shape. This is a Chinese face reading technique for assessing an individual's fate or fortune. There are five main face shapes that are associated with the Wu Xing, or Chinese five metaphysical elements (Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal, and	• Org • Per • Oftd • Ide • Pio	ellectual, quick-minded ganized esuasive en have strong verbal skills alistic, a visionary neers in life nevolent spirit

Water). FIRE Entrepreneurial Assertive, outgoing Innovative, creative Natural born leaders Care about propriety Values bravery and power Suppresses emotions Willful, prideful May be prone to extremes Can be very stubborn and bull-head
 Assertive, outgoing Innovative, creative Natural born leaders Care about propriety Values bravery and power Suppresses emotions Willful, prideful May be prone to extremes
- San be very stabboth and buil near
EARTH • Determined • Reliable, steadfast • Cautious, prudent • Values fidelity, honesty, and loyalty others • Acts with integrity • Can become a misanthrope • Finds security in routines
METAL (GOLD) • Caring, compassionate • Righteous and ambitious • Fiercely independent • Analytical, knowledgeable • Can come across cold or detached • May have innate musical talent
WATER • Affectionate, tender • Sociable, empathic, intuitive • Sensitive to others • Optimistic • Nurturing, motherly • Strong diplomatic abilities • Can be mercurial • Emotionally manipulative
17 Understand the Narrative Arc. Main Themes Minor Themes
Every reading session consists of one Love Life Changes
or more of the Main Themes, which are then developed into Minor Relationships Hopes and Dreams
Themes as threads or offshoots of the Finances Fears; Fear of Change
Main Themes. There are also three main components to every reading: Career Education, Knowledge

(1) discussing the client's prevailing character traits and disposition, (2) discussing life events and circumstances, and (3) forecasts, projections, or predictions of what is to come for the client.

Making a Difference	Health Ma	king a Difference
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Main Components of a Reading		
Character Traits	Describe the client to him or herself. Note the client's prevailing traits. This anchors the reading toward the client's ego.	
Events, Circumstances	Describe events, facts, and experiences in the client's life. This provides context and also allows for the client to fill in your general reading with his or her own specificities, ultimately leaving the client with the sense that your reading was very specific and personal.	
Forecasts or Projections	The whole point of a reading for most clients is to hear forecasts and projections. Harness the power of suggestion and set the client's frame of mind toward observing future patterns that the client can associate back to your forecasts.	

18 | **Seeking Cooperation II.**

Recall "Seeking Cooperation I" in the greetings and introductions. During the reading session, end some of your sentences with a question to invite participation or validation. Doing so establishes rapport, builds your confidence so you can operate at your best, and psychologically, conditions the client toward positive feedback and responses.

Negative Phrasing for Immediate Confirmation Response.

When you're not sure about what meaning a card is taking on, phrase it as a negative. If the client says yes, that's true and confirms what you said was true, even though you

Sample Phrasing

- "[Statement]... does that make sense?"
- "[Statement]... do you know what I mean?"

Negative Phrasing for Confirmation Response

- Observe what it was <u>not</u>. "This wasn't like... [state what the situation was <u>not</u> like], was it?"
 - Example. "Here I see the Two of Coins, which is about having to juggle two different responsibilities and having to multi-task. This isn't related to two jobs you're juggling at the same time, is it?"
 - Client says "Yes." Nodding, you respond with, "Yes, that's the sense I got and juggling both jobs is sort of like the cause to all these other peripheral effects going on in your life. Does that make sense?"
 - Client says "No." Shake your head and confirm, "No, I didn't think so. The Two of

phrased it as a negative, nod, mimicking the client's affirmative response, and now repeat the meaning as a positive statement. If the client says no, then also shake your head and confidently state that you didn't think so, that you knew it was something else.

- Coins here is really about just two distinct obligations in your life that you're trying to bring to balance. Do you know what I mean by that?"
- Example. "This is the Knight of Swords. A male energy with an Air sign, like Gemini, Libra, or Sagittarius, doesn't resonate with you, does it?"
 - Client says "Yes." Nodding, you respond with, "Yes, that's exactly what I thought when I saw the Knight of Swords. The suit of Swords is related to Air signs in astrology. [Proceed to describe the traits of the Knight of Swords.] Does that resonate with your understanding of this person?"
 - Client says "No." Shake your head and confirm, "No, I didn't think so. Court cards are in tarot can take on a literal or figurative meaning. Literal is when it's an actual person. Figurative is when it represents a facet of yourself or something that's about to happen. [Proceed to describe figurative meanings for the Knight of Swords.] Does that make sense to you?"

19 | Pacing.

Establish rapport with the client by mirroring the client's gestures and mannerisms. This has an impact on the client's subconscious, giving the client a sense that you two are alike. Remember: it has to be subtle. If the client notices that you are mirroring his or her mannerisms, then the technique will not work.

Pacing Behavior

- Arm crossing
- Posture
- Rhythm of speech
- · Tone of voice
- Blinking patterns
- Speed and frequency of hand gestures
- Specific hand gestures while the client is speaking (if you observe this, remember the client's gesture, wait, and a few moments later when it's your turn to speak, mimic that specific gesture)
- Repeating unique vocabulary (if client happens to use a unique or distinct word during conversation, remember it, and repeat it back to the client at a later time during the session)

20 **Vague Facts That Become Specific.**Offer a factual statement that is phrased vaguely and open in scope to then invite the client to respond with factual specifics.

Medical Generalities		
	Throat Chakra Issues around the mouth and throat area	

Observed Example. A well-known celebrity psychic medium to a 20something woman in the audience: "The throat. She's pointing to the throat area for some reason. Does that mean anything to you?" Woman: "I'm a singer!" The celebrity psychic is confident, nods, and says, "That's exactly what I was getting. That's why the throat area." The celebrity psychic then proceeds to talk about music and singing talent, supplementing with generalities, such as "just can't seem to catch a break...have the talent, but always missing opportunities to show that talent..."

Letter	Freq	uency.
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An oft-used technique of giving out a letter in a name that the client then connects to is little more than applying statistical analysis. After the practitioner gives out a letter, the client often jumps in and immediately offers possibilities, which the practitioner can then utilize further through cold-reading techniques. The client ends up convinced that the practitioner successfully named the precise name in question.

Observed Example. Well-known celebrity psychic: "I'm seeing a man, very confident with himself, kind of puffing his chest out a bit, J... J sounding name, like Jah- Joh- Jeh-..." Man: "That's my brother Jack!"

Age 36-50	Heart Chakra Chest area; respiratory or nervous system
Women	Fatigue, low energy, physical issues with exhaustion
Men	Bothersome, recurring allergy symptoms that seemed to have intensified in recent years that weren't so bad before
Tall, Slender Figure	Back troubles; issues with your back; unaccounted for aches and pains in the back area
General (Past)	Childhood accident that involved water [Urge client to follow that memory and the emotions that memory evokes to the real heart of the matter, or the greater personal significance arising from that memory.]

Most Popular First Initials in English Language				
	J	16%		
Males	R	10%		
Maies	D	8%		
	M	7%		
	M	11%		
	J	8%		
Females	S	7%		
remaies	С	7%		
	A	7%		
	L	7%		

21 Applying the Milton Model.

Milton H. Erickson was a psychiatrist and hypnotherapist who taught about the power of verbal suggestion. Vague affirmative statements that

Sample Milton Model Statements

• Lately you've begun to notice physical changes or physical symptoms in your body that are stronger than they used to be. [Follow up with: That's your body connecting to your intuition subconsciously

sound or are perceived as specific by the client can be used to move the client toward positive changes. A classic Milton Model example is, "You are beginning to notice sensations in your body."

Look at the cards drawn during a reading and assess how the card meanings can be phrased as vague affirmative statements per the Milton Model.

Observed Example. Well-known celebrity psychic combines the Milton Model technique with medical generalities. To a woman client: "Lately you've been noting feeling more tired than usual, experiencing a lot of fatigue that you can't really explain. It feels out of the ordinary for you, this exhaustion." The client lights up. "Yes! How did you know? And I'm usually so healthy, so it's definitely been peculiar." Celebrity psychic nods confidently and continues, "That fatigue is a form of psychic drain, where spirit entities around you are drawing on your strength and vitality. That's why you've been feeling more drained than usual. There a strong spirit or spirits around you." Client: "It must be father. He passed 6 months ago." Celebrity doesn't miss a beat and nods, "It's your father. He's coming through because he's worried about you."

- and trying to alert you to significant changes to come in your life path.]
- Ex. For the Hierophant: You are just beginning to make sense of what role you serve within a particular institution, whether it's a government, civic, religious institution, or even the institution of marriage, and experiencing an acute fear that maybe you don't quite belong here. This part of your life is about trying to make sense of your relationship with that particular relationship. It doesn't seem to be about people or individuals exactly, but about the institution itself.
- Ex. For the Eight of Swords: A situation related to words, writing, ideas, ideologies, communication, or community is tying your hands behind your back, or at least that's how it feels to you. But there is a creative solution available to you to get out of this feeling of false imprisonment. You feel helpless, but you're not. It's a matter of changing your perspective. [proceed to describe the Eight of Swords and using the blades to cut away the bondage]
- Ex. For the Queen of Cups: Lately your emotions have been tied to themes of creativity or fertility, whether that is manifesting as a creative or spiritual endeavor, heightened intuition, or even simply motherhood, maternal instincts, and taking on a parent-ego.

22 Touch Upon the Truths of Human Nature.

Consider which human flaws or shortcomings come up as most applicable to the client per the cards drawn during the tarot reading.

Most Common Human Flaws

- 1. We want something for nothing. We want to do the least amount of work to get the most amount of reward.
- 2. The hardest part is motivating ourselves toward completing a task.

		 We know who anyway. It's easier for to wait for de know delayed. We experience motivation to must do that We procrasting. We overspended we are hyper criticism toog. We use excus personal failing. 	nate. d our money. rsensitive to criticism and take personally. es and alibis to rationalize our
23	Grass is Always Greener Whatever positive attribute, achievement, or life circumstance the client possesses, the client will pine for the counter-positive and inwardly wonder the "what if" about possessing the counter-positive. This is a variation of the "grass is greener on the other side" condition. An effective reading technique is to validate what the client possesses, note what the client secretly pines for, and then circle back and confirm to the client that the path he or she chose was the correct one, and that there is no need to pine for what might have been.	If Client Has Successful professional career	"By most accounts you've had a very successful professional career. Yet in the back of your mind you do wonder what it might have been like had you pursued a more intimate family life instead, or devoted more time to the domestic sphere. While balance is key and you want to temper both spheres in your life, I do think that career is so important to your sense of self that you're already making all the sacrifices you can. It's through your career path that you make the most contributions to the world."
		Jet-setting world traveler or peripatetic	"So you've been kind of a jet- setter and seen much of the world, done much, have led an active, adventurous life that most can only dream of. But you seek stability, and you inwardly pine for just one single place to unequivocally call 'home.' I think doing what you love, always, but also having that very strong,

		Spent entire life in one hometown Housewife; Stayat-home mother	anchoring sense of where exactly home is for you is important." "You're a very traditional, values-oriented person and have a strong sense of what you stand for. Yet you've always dreamed what it would be like to jet set around the world and be a nomad, be crazy, though ultimately, you know that where you are now is exactly where you are supposed to be. So you never wander too far from that. It's an amazing thing, you know, a gift, to have such a strong sense of who you are and what you stand for." "You've always wondered what it would have been like had you pursued personal glory and chosen career or family, but it's just a fleeting thought.
24	Crediting the Client Note personality traits, talents, gifts, or skills that the client possesses, characterizing these assets as innate, inherent, or latent. A well-worn example is crediting the client with innate intuitive, psychic, or clairvoyant abilities and then urging the client to use or further develop those abilities.	 Ultimately, you know you chose correctly. You chose love." Sample Phrasing "There is an inherent ability for" "You possess a latent talent of" "I don't know whether you're aware of this, but you" "Did you know you have the potential for?" 	
25	Second Positive Association. During the reading session, remind client of a happier time in his or her life. This helps to establish a positive subconscious connection or impression between the client and you. This also helps to alleviate the	Installing Pleasure. Note the First Positive Association during greetings and introduction. Raising positive associations during a reading session will help establish positive emotional anchors in the client's subconscious long after the session is over. Later on, when the client thinks of the negative situation, the client is also more	

client's tensions, stress, and worry. Psychologically, the positive memory can help to neutralize present negativities or feelings of conflict in the client's life. After the reading session, when the client thinks about the negative present/future matter, will also subconsciously simultaneously recall the positive memory. Slowly, the client will adjust negative associations to positive and the effect is a feeling that your tarot reading session improved the negative situation.

likely to remember your reading session and recall that positive memory or happier time that was raised. The feelings experienced from recalling the happier time will slowly replace the darker feelings from the negative situation and at the subconscious level, adjust the client's mental state toward more positive associations.

The Power of Suggestion.

Narrate visions with the client that implant positive associations and allows the client to reflect on his or her dreams, aspirations, and fantasies.

Also, phrasing your sentences about future projections in a way that invites the client to visualize desired outcomes reinforces that future possibility in the client's mind and can even become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Sample Phrasing

- "Imagine..."
- "Remember when you believed..."
- "If you were to imagine yourself..."
- "You must have wished..."
- "How would you feel if you could..."
- "Visualize [describe desired future outcome or forecast, using second person, i.e., "you"]
- "Focus on [note positive sign in card imagery that prognosticates positive future outcome] in this card. That's your future. That's what is to come. Imagine this scene again, but with you in it as the subject."
- "The message of this card is coming through loud and clear."

27 | **Pregnant Pauses**

Occasionally during the reading, assert a statement based on the cards drawn, and then take a pause. Stop and look up to make eye contact with the client.

Establishing a Strong Connection.

When you oblige the client to speak and offer personal or even confidential information, the client feels a sense of trust or closeness to the practitioner, establishing a stronger connection between the two. Also, people like to hear themselves talk, or often have feelings they need to get off their chests, so talking gives them the chance to do so. By being the one who lets the client do so, the client forms positive associations about you.

28 Consider Common Items in Every Home.

As you read the cards, note whether

- Unsorted box of old photographs
- Expired medicine
- Books, toys, or mementos from childhood

any of the imagery or symbolism in the cards call to mind common items that might be in the client's home. If yes, note this to the client and indicate that the reference may be significant, or may be a sign pointing the client in the right direction toward something that *is* important.

- Jewelry gifted or once worn by a deceased family relative
- Pack of cards, usually with a card or two missing
- A book on a hobby or interest the client was once interested in but is no longer actively pursuing

Example. Seeing the Seven of Cups or Eight of Cups might compel you intuitively to think about unsorted boxes of old photographs. Note: "I'm also seeing an unsorted box of old photographs. Now, I don't think that by itself is significant, but I do sense that it's a sign pointing you in the right direction toward what is going to be emotionally and maybe even spiritually significant for you."

Example. Seeing the Six of Cups might compel you intuitively to think about mementos from childhood. Note: "I'm also seeing mementos from your childhood that you've kept in your home, never too far out of reach, and maybe there's a deeper subconscious reason why that is. Whether seeing this memento right now is significant, I'm not sure, but I am absolutely positive that it's a sign pointing you in the right direction toward what is going to be significant for you."

29 | Statistically Probable Projections.

Although they may seem vague, in real time during a reading session, they can sound quite specific to the client. Consider statistically probable projections or predictions.

- A minor accident involving a family member this coming year
- Broken or falling glass
- Unexpected expenditure of some importance
- A change in your personal circumstances that will affect the way you approach your job or career
- A long journey ahead; travel plans this year or next
- Meeting someone new
- Family get-together "that I'm seeing as being significant in some way."
- An active interest in or exploration of East Asian spirituality, and it seems to be related directly with your karmic path.

Commonly Asked Questions

Q: Will I have a successful career in the future? **A:** [*Note the positive innate character traits or natural talents of client that lead to success.*] But for you, it's going to be a matter of location, location, location. Can you be at

the right place at the right time? I don't know, to be honest. The way you are, it's really hard to say. But just remember that for you, it's going to boil down to location.

Q: Will I get the raise or promotion I want? **A:** It's a very competitive, cut-throat environment you work in and it's not always a merit-based promotion scheme. You're qualified, if not over-qualified for a promotion and a higher position, but those in authority don't always see what you do. Be more visible with your accomplishments. If you can be more visible with your accomplishments, then you can get that promotion.

Q: Will I have children in the future? **A:** There's two of something. There's one to the left and one to the right. I can't tell whether they're all from the same marriage, biological, stepchildren, twins, or what, but I do seem to get the sense of 2.

CLOSING THE READING

30 | Final Moment of Positive Rapport.

Closing a reading with human touch, such as a hug or hand holding builds trust and emotional intimacy between you and the client, which the client will then subconsciously associate with the reading session, which leaves the client trusting everything you've said during the session.

Again, the self-fulfilling prophecy

That trust creates positive affirmations within the client's mind, and in many ways, can lead to a "self-fulfilling prophecy" effect, where the client visualizes and believes your forecast so intensely that the client in effect wills the forecast to come true. That final moment of rapport does not need to be physical touch, however. Verbalizing your faith or confidence in the client will also help to establish that trust and emotional intimacy.

31 **Persuasion Through Reverse Psychology**.

This is also known as the "pink elephant principle." If I say, "Don't think about a pink elephant," the one thing that you think about is a pink elephant. Concluding a reading session with this technique can help to leave a client believing in everything you've said.

Sample phrasing

- "Don't believe everything I say."
- "Don't just trust what I have to say. What does your own intuition tell you?" [Paradoxically, this statement elicits a client to then trust what you had to say over his or her own intuition.]
- "You don't have to believe in any metaphysical or supernatural powers of tarot."
- "Don't think too much about what was said today."

MATRIX OF THE MOST COMMON TECHNIQUES

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