

The Tim Ferriss Show Transcripts

Episode 51: Tim Answers 10 More Popular Questions From Listeners

Show notes and links at tim.blog/podcast

Tim Ferriss: I am drinking coffee and I am very excited because it's getting light out.

Good morning, good afternoon or good evening wherever this finds you on the globe. This is Tim Ferriss and welcome to another episode of The Tim Ferriss Show. This is an in-between-isode and that means that it is a shorter format. It is composed of your questions, which you've submitted and then voted up or down. Thousands of you have done this. So I'm going to answer between 10 and 20 questions.

If you're looking for the normal longer format interviews where I dissect excellence and try to extract the tools and tips and so on that you can use from world class performers, whether they be billionaire investors like Peter Thiel or chess prodigies or philosophers or professional athletes then I suggest you go to iTunes or your podcast player of choice and check out all the other episodes. You can also go to fourhourworkweek.com/podcast to find all the episodes. All spelled out: fourhourworkweek.com/podcast.

I am in Iceland at the moment. I'm so thrilled. It is about 10:00 in the morning. It is just getting light outside. So I feel like I've been very diligent in getting up at 5:00 a.m. because the sun is rising as I speak. I'm here with family for the holidays. We've been very lucky to see the Northern Lights for two out of three nights now and it's just brilliant. I find this country fascinating. 300,000 or so people in the entire country.

Very difficult language, but I'm staying at a hotel where they have a very itinerant, rotating staff of international folks from Malta or Poland or other places, so I'm like a kid in a candy store with the language learning. But let me first mention – before we get to the questions – sponsors, very briefly.

Now moving on to the questions. The first question is from Scott in Australia: Can you please spec out the first hour of your day, as you asked of Tony Robbins? My Tony Robbins episode was a two-parter and you can certainly check that out if you like. It is one of the more recent episodes, 37 and 38. We talked about morning routines and everything else and how important that is. For me, typically I go to bed very, very late. I do my best synthesis, my best – really, composition, if I'm on a book deadline, very late at night.

I've tried to fix this without much success. So I typically do my best writing very late at night between – and I'm going to get to the morning, but this impacts it – between 11:00 p.m. and about 3:00 or 4:00 a.m. I'll have one glass of Malbec, ideally, with the yerba

mate, throw a movie on loop – and that, historically, has been anything from Casino Royale to The Bourne Identity. You can see a theme there. But then there's stuff like Babe, oddly enough. I'll put it on mute and just loop those movies over and over again so I don't feel as lonely as I would sitting in my house, in the dark, writing. And then I'll play music – typically Pandora in headphones. So that leads to waking up on the later side. Typically, I'll wake up around 10:00 a.m. and as soon as I wake up, I will brush my teeth and then consume supplements or any type of medicine that is best absorbed without food, on an empty stomach, or with low insulin levels.

That could range from pre- or pro-biotics. Probiotics – the usual type of lactobacillus stuff. Prebiotics like inner-eco, which you can check out, or beetcavass. I'll oftentimes put just a dollop or, I should say, a tablespoon of apple cider vinegar in there as well, which I find really helps immune function. I'll consume that. It could be something if I'm being supervised by doctors post-surgery, it could be an injection of human growth hormone, for instance – Norditropin or something like that. Never use that without doctor's supervision, of course. But there are certain things that are just really best done with low insulin and glucose levels.

Then I will meditate. I'll do that on an empty stomach, typically, more or less. And that's ideally 20 minutes of transcendental meditation. There are many different types of meditation. For me, that is what has stuck. Then I will get up, turn on Pandora on to classical music, typically Mozart, and I will start boiling water.

As the water is boiling – I think I'm using a metal Cuisinart electric kettle these days that can be set to a specific temperature whether it is for black tea, green tea, or anything else. So you can set the temperature. I usually set it to 185 degrees. Then I'll make my tea as this is boiling. My tea, almost always without fail, in the morning, is composed of – I think it's rishi, ginger, and turmeric tea combined with some Pu-erh tea combined with a very small amount of green tea – basically a three finger pinch for those people who have read the *4-Hour Chef*. Then I'll make my tea. I'll get a cold glass of water and I'll sit down. I will write or work on the podcast or a blog post. This is a creative writing session that will very oftentimes take me to lunch. That's when I'll have – in this particular instance, when I'm optimizing for writing, I will have my first meal around lunch. First real meal.

If I'm in sports training, that changes completely. But for right now, that is the first one to two hours of my day. Long answer, but there you have it.

Next, we have a related question. This is from – it looks like Cinema, oddly enough: How do you limit or moderate your media consumption? TV, radio, Twitter, internet, et cetera. Well, like a lot of the world, increasingly poorly would be the short answer. But there are a few things that I've found very helpful. No. 1 is screen-free Saturdays. I try to go Saturdays without iPhones, laptops, any type of screen.

If I'm with someone else, I try to do the same, if possible. For instance, a girlfriend – no screens in the bed or bedroom. I think the bed is for sleeping or fucking and that is it.

Shouldn't be for checking your email. No screens in the bed or bedroom. I don't want the sanctity of that environment to be associated with work because that will produce insomnia, especially if you're prone to insomnia anyway, as I am.

If I'm walking or eating a meal, my phone is on airplane mode for reasons that we've talked about in the *4-Hour Body* – not keen to microwave my testicles even if there's some controversy over that point. On my iPhone, I do not have email notifications or social notifications of any type. So there's no number count associated with my Facebook app, my Twitter app, or mail because I don't have mail set up. Another way that I try to minimize email is walking and talking. What does this mean? This means that as I specced out the first part of my day – then I will walk to lunch. When I walk to lunch and then after lunch, I will have put together a list of phone calls the day before that I need to make. So I'll have a list of 10 to 20 people to call and I will just walk for anywhere from three to seven miles or even more and make phone calls.

I find this is a great way to get in the zone, improve fitness of all sorts of types, while getting a lot done outside of the inbox. Okay. That is pretty much it. We'll talk about some other email management techniques a little bit later on.

The next three questions, basically – actually, do you know what? I'm going to jump around a little bit. The next question I'm going to answer is from a TKO Farrell in Seattle: What are some of the best things you can purchase for less than \$100 that will have the greatest immediate impact? I take that to mean impact on your life. This is, of course, a variant of a question that I've asked a lot of my guests on the podcast. Offhand, there are just a few things. I'll keep this answer short. The first is using either TaskRabbit or Zipcar or just your own car for a Goodwill trip to donate goods.

Of course, if you're outside the US, you don't have access to a Goodwill. Decluttering and getting rid of 30 to 50 or more percent of everything that you own. If it has a higher value to someone else, on a scale of 1 to 10, than it does to you, give it away. For instance, if I'm looking at a jacket and I'm like, "What is the value to me? How much have I worn this in the last six months? On a scale of 1 to 10, how important and valuable – how much utility does this have?" If it's a three and I could ask myself the same question, "How much would it have for someone else in need?" Seven, eight, nine. It goes away. That would be item No. 1, which is really an action. Then you have *The Five Minute Journal*. This is often something that I will do during my writing phase – prior to working on a podcast or a blog post or a book chapter – is fill out *The Five Minute Journal*. I've talked about this at length before so I'm not going to go into it.

The next is the rishi, ginger, and turmeric tea. Those are three right offhand but I think that less is more when it comes to consumerism.

Alright, the next set of questions. This was very interesting. You all voted these up or down and submitted them and three questions ended up in sequence that are very, very, very similar. So the first is: You read a lot of books; how are you able to retain all of that knowledge? This is from Jadz in London. Then the next one is: When you read books,

how do you take notes? That was Mike in Newcastle, England. Then the next one is: How do you approach the learning process to internalize long-term ideas, arguments, et cetera from a book such that it becomes part of the toolbox in your life? That is from Phil in Oklahoma. Actually there's a fourth one, which is from Kahle, I guess, in Norway: You read a lot of books but you're also a very productive guy; how fast do you read and when do you fit reading into your day?

Let me start in reverse order. How fast do I read? I'd say most people read between – most Americans read between 150 and 250 words per minute. That's just an estimate. I used to be much more on top of all these stats. I probably read at 500 to 700 words per minute, which is two to two and a half pages a minute. I used to be much, much faster. With training, you can consistently get to the point that you are reading at five, six, seven pages per minute without too much trouble. You can triple your reading speed in about 20 minutes. If you want proof of that, just search – I think it's "how to triple your reading speed" and my name "Ferriss" and it'll pop right up. Just go to the blog and you can find it or just search on Google and it should be the first thing that pops up.

So that's the speed. But the speed is not the most important thing here. Where do I fit it in? Sometimes in the morning. When I'm doing my writing session, I'll do ten minutes of reading something that is not pragmatically oriented.

So I might read some Walt Whitman or I might read some poetry or something to basically just diffuse any sense of feeling rushed to get things done, which ironically or maybe paradoxically, allows me to get more done once I diffuse that feeling of being reactive or in any way rushed. Then there's bedtime – that's when I'll usually reserve things for fiction. But in transit – so if I'm reading on my iPhone, on the subway, in line for anything if I happen to be in line for anything, on airplanes – usually in transit is when I do the vast majority of my reading. I should point out that you don't find time for anything. If you're a type A driven personality, you make time for it. You have to prioritize it and block out time or just simply have it associated with a certain cue like I do with transit. Okay. Now the note taking question because these are all related to taking notes.

How do I retain all that knowledge? I don't. I don't retain all of that knowledge. There are some great anecdotes – or they might be apocryphal stories – of Henry Ford, who is ridiculed by someone at one point – some type of highfalutin muckety-muck guest for not being able to recall certain facts and figures off the top of his head. And he said, "That's why I have a library" – in short. When I read books that I intend to have as references – I'd say there are a couple of things. No. 1 – and this is borrowed from Kathy Sierra who's a very fascinating, smart woman – I try to focus on just in time information, not just in case information.

So the further away the time horizon of acting on that information in the book, the more likely you are just to forget everything and have to reread it. So I really focus on either reading for pleasure or just in time information whenever possible. But there are going to be cases where you're seduced into reading something that is intended for far future use.

I try to create basically a map of things or people I might need quickly by composing an index at the beginning of every book that I read, assuming that it's a paperback or hardcover. With Kindle, I'm going to be putting in highlights that I can then export as a text file. I'm not going to spend a ton of time on this because I geeked out at length in two places. The first is my interview – or conversation, really – with Maria Popova who runs Brain Pickings. She puts me to shame, by the way, with this type of note taking. That's episode 39 in the podcast. Definitely check it out. If you want to nerd out on note taking and just distillation of information, that's where you want to go. There's another place. I think it's called "How to Take Notes like an Alpha-Nerd" or something like that on the blog. If you do a search, you can see scans of some of these indices that I've created in the past and you might have some fun with that.

Next question is from Jarad or Jared – I apologize if I'm mispronouncing that – in Vancouver: Do you waste time? If so, what do you waste the most time on? Of course I waste time. I'm absolutely a fallible human being. It's part of the reason that I don't typically want journalists to follow me for a typical day. That's a common request that I get. I think they'd look at 90 percent of the time that I spend and they'd ask themselves, "What the fuck is this guy doing? He is the most disorganized, unproductive son of a bitch I've ever seen." Now that's a separate conversation perhaps.

I think that if you focus on being effective i.e. doing the right things instead of being efficient – doing things well – if you just view things through the lens of picking the right things, you can futz away a lot of time and still sort of outpace the vast majority of the population. If you're competitive with someone's who's equally effective, of course, the more efficient person is going to win.

But there a few things I'd say about wasting time. No. 1 is if you're having fun and that's your goal, you're not wasting time. If you're playing PlayStation or watching a movie and the objective is to have fun, you're not wasting time. I'm forgetting who said this, but, "There's more to life than increasing its speed." I think that might be Thoreau. Could have been Gandhi. Who knows? But you don't have to spend every waking moment trying to just build bigger castles in the sky. There's a lot more to life than just that component. However, when you waste time, I think, from a definition standpoint, is when you want to do one thing or you plan to do one thing and then you end up doing another. You're trying to be productive to get x done – say, record a podcast and instead you're getting pulled into the rat hole of Facebook notifications or amusing videos on YouTube, et cetera.

When your intention is one thing and you end up diverted into another, I view that as wasting time because you're not purely having fun, you're not purely being productive, you're in the limbo in between that gives you neither of those things. But if I had to point to something very specific, I would say that with email, specifically replying to things I should ignore is where I waste a lot of time – where I end up creating work that is not high priority. There are a number of tools that – that's specifically true when you have sort of VIP type people, from a relationship standpoint, reaching out to you for things that

could be best answered in blog posts I've already written or podcast episodes I've already recorded. I feel conflicted about protecting those relationships so they don't feel miffed or dismissed while still protecting my time because I covered the goddamn topic. This can be a very dicey situation.

In my particular experience, what I use for that – there are a couple of things that can be very helpful. The auto-response is helpful. I provide, for instance, book marketing advice and links to very comprehensive articles. “How to Write a Bestseller This Year” is just a monster post that you can check out related to that. That covers everything I have to say about book marketing and launching and writing.

Then I combine that with Boomerang. What Boomerang allows me to do is send email responses in the future. So I cannot send the response now but send it in a week or seven days. What this does is it minimizes the likelihood of catalyzing an instant messenger-like exchange. What I don't want to do is reply right away, especially if I know this person wants to talk. I might put them on the phone call list if I think this is going to be a big problem. But if I think it's going to engage – if I think, for instance, I'm going to reply back and say, “Hey. Check out this article. This is what I wrote. Here are a couple more tips.” And then they'd respond back with, “Oh cool. How was your weekend?”, “Oh great. How is your family?”, “Oh, how are things?”

I don't want it to digress into a 20-email small talk back and forth. By delaying your response time, using Boomerang or something like it, I find it to be very, very effective in cutting down on the volume of email in the inbox.

Next question. This is from Alex in London: Now that you have 50 episodes under your belt, have you noticed anything common across the interviewees? I'm paraphrasing this question but characteristics, habits, or methods. There are a few things that I've noticed. The first is, even more than I anticipated, even good friends I didn't know this about, the vast majority – I mean, literally, I'd say 80 percent of the people I've interviewed in very diverse fields from FBI futurists to athletes to chess prodigies to professional investors or traders, they all meditate.

“Meditate,” I think, is a malign term. Rightly so. It's associated with woo-woo type ohming people. I think it turns a lot of people off who are secular and don't want to kind of bow down to some type of deity or guru with a long beard. There is a way to separate the two. I think *Waking Up* by Sam Harris is a good example of that. I think Thich Nhat Hanh – Mindfulness – Mindfulness, Step – God, he has so many damn books. That guy's prolific. *Mindfulness is the First Step* – something like that. Look for his oldest book that was intended as a guide for his monks in Vietnam. I believe it was in Vietnam originally. It might have been in Paris afterwards.

You can divorce the two. You can divorce the so-called “spirituality,” which I think is a very nebulous term, from the pragmatic mindfulness practice. That's what you want. So that's No. 1. Most of these people either meditate or are making a deliberate attempt to meditate, which surprisingly is kind of the point when it comes to mindfulness practice or

developing a present state awareness where you're able to, if not turn off, at least observe the incessant chatter, which is the self talk, that can steer you dramatically one way or the other during your day. That's No. 1. No. 2, I would say that a lot of these folks – for instance, Peter Thiel, who was cofounder of PayPal and then first to money into Facebook, cofounder of Palantir, which now does – I don't know – \$1 to \$2 billion in revenue a year – that he's looking for differences – not in degree but of kind.

What I mean by that is he's looking for some type of exponential change or improvement, not an incremental change or improvement. Of course, we talk about this in our interview. That's the *Zero to One* interview. If you just search "Peter Thiel interview" and then "Tim Ferriss," it'll pop right up. But you can also look at Josh Waitzkin. Josh Waitzkin was the basis for Searching for Bobby Fisher. He has a framework that he used to master chess that he can apply to anything. He's also the first black belt under Marcelo Garcia, who's considered the Michael Jordan, Wayne Gretzky, plus whatever – Mike Tyson – of Brazilian jujitsu. Six time world champion. Josh Waitzkin – that's episode two of the podcast – tends to not look for the brand new, shiny creation – you'll see where I'm going with this – but to look at something that everyone has seen and see something different.

I think that people want to look at a problem that many, many people have seen and either attempted to solve the wrong way or not attempted to solve at all. There are many examples of this. For instance, how long did it take to get wheels on fucking luggage? I mean, are you kidding me? Luggage has been around for thousands of years – hundreds of years at the very least, as we know it in modern suitcases and whatnot. It took fucking forever to get omni-directional wheels, just like shopping carts, where you could push them in any given direction without having it flip over. I think a lot of them are looking at common problems that are just not being addressed properly. They're not looking for an incremental change; they're looking for a complete different species of solution. That's something that I've also seen in common. But they're not looking for a problem, necessarily, that no one has identified – if that makes sense.

Let's see. Other methods and habits. I would just say characteristically, these people also do not try to fix all their weaknesses. They know what they suck at. They have this self-awareness. I think the meditation often goes hand in hand here. They have the self-awareness to know what they suck at and if something destroys most of their relationships with other people, whether it's personal or business, they will try to mitigate those, but they really spend most of their time trying to pair their unique abilities, their strengths, their superpowers with these problems that they can address and the breakthrough solutions that they can find. So they spend most of their time trying to leverage their unique abilities, not fix all of the dozens of things that they're shitty at. Next question. This from Jasque in Perth, WA. I'm going to guess that is West Australia and not Washington.

I'm paraphrasing the question here, but the 4-Hour Mind: Do you have any tips or tricks for decreasing stress, increasing confidence, clarity of thinking, creativity, et cetera? In other words, a 4-Hour book for the mind. So this is a big question. It's actually a

combination of many, many different questions. The first thing I would say is for clarity of thinking and creativity, I think the *4-Hour Chef* is actually a good place to start. The meta-learning section, in particular, delves into a lot of this because before you can solve something, you have to ask the right question. I think most people waste months, even years or decades of their lives because they're attempting to – they're asking the wrong question. How can I be successful? How can I be happy? You know, nebulous words, imprecise definitions, leading to a lot of tail-chasing, for instance. I think the *4-Hour Chef* helps you to frame and deconstruct something like learning to speak Spanish.

“I want to be fluent in Spanish” is actually not a very good goal. You want to get much more precise and break it down into a subset of questions that you can pair with different toolkits, right? So I'd say that is a good place to start. But, otherwise, stoicism is really what I view as the ideal operating system for people who want to be high performers in high stress environments and ultimately, that's where a lot of the rewards are – in these hotly contested waters or areas. There are a number of different places to start. You could read *Meditations* by Marcus Aurelius, which is really just basically a wartime journal – never intended for publication, which I think makes it very, very interesting. You know, reflecting each morning on how you're going to encounter ungrateful, rude, insolent bastards all day long and basically preparing yourself for that so you don't negatively overreact would be one of many different tips.

The *Moral Letters* from Seneca to Lucilius – also very good. But I'll save you guys some time. The first is – for a good summary of a lot of this, I would listen to episode four of this podcast with Ryan Holiday. He wrote a book about stoicism. He has a very broad spectrum of knowledge related to the different stoic thinkers. We delve into how both of us use stoicism and have used different tenets of it in practical scenarios in our professional and personal lives. So I would just check out episode four with Ryan Holiday. Lastly, I am putting together – currently it's 90 plus percent done – a massive collection of stoic thinking that has been sort of parsed and produced to my specs. So I have an awesome collection of stoic stuff coming for all of you guys if you're interested.

That's going to take probably another few weeks and then we'll be good to go. Next question: Do you have one favorite food supplement? Or I think the question was: If you had to choose one favorite food supplement, what would it be? This is from Manuel or Manuele in Vienna, Austria. There are a few things I would say. The first is I am leaning, more so every day, away from supplementation. I think you should cycle off of any type of supplementation because we really – 50 percent of what we know is probably wrong. We just don't know which 50 percent it is. The body is a very sensitive instrument, whether it is what people perceive as their body or their brain – by the way, they're the same thing. They're a very tightly integrated unit. You have negative feedback loops. For instance, if you're like, “Well, I would never inject testosterone but I'm going to take all these testosterone boosting powders,” you view that as having no cost or side effect.

You're wrong because there's something called the effect side effect curve. Basically, if you have a high amplitude of effect – in other words, if those powders produce a huge jump in testosterone, if you can't find the side effect, it just means that you don't know

what the side effect is. The most likely – this is the negative feedback loop – is that through, for instance, your HPTA – the hypothalamus pituitary testosterone – or might be testes – access – that your brain will be able to identify that you have heightened levels of testosterone from exogenous i.e. external sources. It will shut down your internal production because the body does not like to waste resources. Similarly, if you're taking in a ton of whatever – vitamin B12 or – I don't care what it is – vitamin A, vitamin D, the fat soluble vitamins are particularly problematic or can be – it will fuck up your body.

Your body will shut down endogenous production of certain things to try to compensate. So, for me, the short answer is I try to minimize supplementation. But if I had to choose one supplement as general insurance, it would be the one that I recommended in the *4-Hour Body*. I have no financial stake in it. It would be Athletic Greens. It's expensive as hell but ultimately with this type of product – I know the people who produce it and it's exceptionally high quality. You're basically getting whole food derived greens of many different types that I think cover a lot of your bases.

But, in general, always cycle off. Take a couple of weeks off every two months or so. Do not consume a ton of fat soluble vitamins. They will accrue in the body. That's why if you end up in Greenland, for instance, instead of Iceland, and you kill a polar bear and you're starving and you eat the polar bear's liver, you can end up with all sorts of – I think it's hyper-retinosis – that's not the right word, but overdose of vitamin A.

Then you're in big, big trouble. I'm going to answer a couple additional questions. Let's see here. Next question is from The Bic Boy in Australia and this question is: If tomorrow you woke up and found out you're stuck in the body of a 21 year old female with no business connections, blog and following on social media and you only have \$35.00 in your pocket – I'm kind of curious how that number was chosen – but \$35.00 in your pocket to start a business, how would you go about it? Okay. Let me try to answer this. The first thing I would say is that if I were suddenly stuck in the body of 21 year old female, I think that would keep me preoccupied for a while. I wouldn't even get to the business part for quite some time. But that aside, this is a variant of a question that I get all the time.

Very often, this will come from a place – and I'm not saying this to pick on the person who submitted this question because I used to ask questions like this myself a long time ago. It's typically coming from a place of “I'm in a rush. I don't have a lot of time. I don't want to read a 300 page book. Just give me the CliffsNotes and I'll execute on the index card.” 99 times out of 100, that never works. You can see it in diet. I've talked about this in the *4-Hour Body* with very high net worth, busy friends of mine who've asked for the index card for, say, decreasing abdominal fat. The answer I won't give you, however, is that “there's no magic bullet.” People will often say, “There's no magic bullet. You need to just hunker down and grind away at it.” I disagree with that. I would say there are magic bullets and I'll give you a couple of tips. You've given me a good constraint, which is \$35.00. I would say there are magic bullets.

In other words, there are tried and true formulas – formulae – and recipes that work. They're repeatable. They're typically related to testing. But the bullet or the bullets – these magic bullets do you no good if you don't research how to use the gun, rehearse or practice with dry firing, get the stance down, et cetera. A lot of people, without any context, want me to say something like, "If you were starting again today, with no resources and no money and had to make \$100,000 in the next year, what would you do?" They want me to give them a cookie cutter answer like, "I believe that the next big trend is mobile plus Bitcoin payments. Therefore, I suggest that anyone in that position should start business Y." I don't think that's the right way to tackle that question or problem. The answer that I would give you is choose your market first and then design your product around that or products around that.

If you understand a market – in my case, let's just say – and this has generally been true – 20 to 40 year old or 20 to 35 year old. I'm 37 now so I'm trying to push it forward. But let's just say it's 20 to 35 year old tech savvy males in New York City and San Francisco. That's it. Once you dig into the psychographics, the behaviors, the purchasing patterns of that demo and it's particularly easy if you belong to that demo, by the way. You can sort of skip a lot of hardship by doing that. Then I know exactly the pains and the desires, the wants, the budgets of those people and I can test different types of products or services at different price points.

The wrong way to go about that or I would say the high risk way to go about that is to say, "Okay. Here are these two or three converging trends that I know nothing about. I'm going to now – from a ground zero – try to develop expertise in mobile payments and Bitcoin and create a product to compete."

You're going to get crushed. That's like deciding that golf is the next big thing and so you want to be a professional golf player and walking out onto the green with Tiger Woods. You're going to get slaughtered. I think that's what a lot of people do in the stock market, coincidentally. When you're a guppy and you jump in with great white sharks that have been doing this for decades and just get your ass handed to you. So \$35.00 – what would I do? Get the *4-Hour Workweek*. Get a journal like *The Five Minute Journal*. Then last, I would buy a membership to the highest end nonprofit that is business focused. Okay? So, in Silicon Valley, that might be – again, I'm a bit out of the game. It's been a while, but this is how I built my network from nothing when I first moved to Silicon Valley. Driving a used minivan with the seats that had been stolen out of the back. It was really hilarious.

I did it with a group called SVASE. I'm not sure if they exist anymore. SVASE. You could look at TiE, the Indus entrepreneur. You could look at – maybe there's a YPO, young presidents organization chapter or entrepreneurs organization, EO chapter, in your city where you could volunteer. Maybe there's a nominal fee you could pay to not be an official member who participates in forums and whatnot but someone who's simply pouring the coffee. Those are the three things that I would do. *4-Hour Workweek*, which will cover a lot of the testing. You can look at the pieces that Noah Kagan has written on my blog as well as actually my interview with Ramit Sethi. It's a two part interview –

episodes 33 and 34 of this podcast. Ramit Sethi also goes really deep into this type of testing.

That's it. *4-Hour Workweek*, volunteer membership of some type with a business organization where you have an excuse, therefore – even as a peon or a gofer, which is exactly what I was when I started out – to interact with people way above your pay grade. Then a journal so that you can either remain focused or become focused on a daily basis. Planning in the morning, first thing – it takes a few minutes – and then a review right before bed. I think that is probably enough for questions in this one episode. But I will certainly cover a lot more if you would like and let me know what you think. Please tell me on Twitter what you think of this format @TFerriss. I think that now that it is daylight here in Iceland, I'm going to go try to find some Icelandic horses to run around on because they are really weird.

They've got like five gears. They've very unusual speed where they basically maintain their backs equidistant from the ground even at what appears to be a fast trot or a gallop. It's the weirdest looking thing. So I want to jump on one of these furry animals and race around for a little bit today. But we only have a few hours of daylight so I'm going to get going. Happy holidays, everybody. Hope you enjoyed this. This was fun for me. I like doing this. Let me know what you think and I'll definitely collect new questions soon. Happy holidays to you and yours. Thanks for listening.