Career Research Assignment

Objective: To allow you to learn more about a career that is of interest to you. This career should be a realistic and meaningful career option based on your current academic achievement and plans to pursue post-secondary education or training.

What: Title page

Career Exploration Activity

Typed research report (with both questions and answers) Bibliography (min. of 3 reliable sources and follow MLA or APA format)

Interview (interviewee must have been in career for min. of 2 yrs) Interview reflection

The research portion and interview must be submitted at the same time.

\*\* Title page must include: career/occupation name, your name, teacher’s name, due date.\*\*

Part 1: Exploring Careers

Using the “Work” option on you’re My Blueprint account, or by exploring your career matches, choose five careers to explore and collect some basic information about each career.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Career | What do they do? (in your own words) | Outlook & Estimated Salary Range | Requirements (What education and/or training do you need to get into this career?) | Skills required (what kinds of things should you be good at?) |
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Part 2: Evaluating Careers

Now that you have collected all of your research on these five careers, please rate the careers in following categories. You will rate the career on each category. Please rank the five careers in terms of most favourable to least favourable.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Ranking | Career | Reasoning |
| (Your favourite) |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| (Least favourite) |  |  |

Career Exploration

Helpful websites:

* [www.myblueprint.ca/sd41](http://www.myblueprint.ca/sd41)
* [www.workbc.ca](http://www.workbc.ca)
* <https://www.apprenticesearch.com/>
* <https://www.careertrekbc.ca/>
* <https://www.workbc.ca/WorkBC-Blog/Read-WorkBC-s-Blog/Three-Career-Exploration-Tools-for-Youth.aspx>

Answer the following questions completely. Make sure your information is recent and you have consulted at least three reliable sources!! Make sure to answer each question in as much detail as possible.

1. What do people in this occupation do on the job? (i.e. their duties, activities, responsibilities)
2. What education or training is required to enter this occupation?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| If College/University, answer these  questions….. | If Apprenticeship, answer these  questions... |
| a) What is the exact name of the | a)What is the exact name of the |
| program you would be taking? | trade in which you would become |
| b) How many years is the | certified? |
| program? | b) Provide the names and locations of |
| c) Find and name two schools in | two schools where you can attend the |
| British Columbia that offer this | in school training portion |
| program. Where are they | c) How many in-school sessions must |
| located? | you take? How long are they? |
| d) What are the entrance requirements to be accepted into this program? (e.g. admission averages, required courses, experience) | d) How many on-the-job hours are needed to complete the apprenticeship?  e) What are the entrance requirements (e.g. secondary school subjects) for trade school? |

1. What training opportunities/requirements exist for people already in this occupation? (e.g. upgrading, additional qualification etc)
2. What interests, likes, or abilities are required for this occupation? (e.g. enjoy being outdoors, excellent people skills)
3. a) List 3 *advantages* of this career.
   1. List 3 *disadvantages* of this career.
4. Why are you interested in this career? What about it is appealing to you?
5. a) What is an average starting wage/salary?
   1. What would be your pay after 2 or 3 years?
   2. What is the maximum wage/salary for this career?
   3. Are people in this occupation typically entitled to benefits through their employer? (e.g. health and dental, pension, long term disability)
6. Describe the working conditions (inside? outside? office setting?) and weekly hours for this position.
7. What other occupations are related to this one?
8. Do you think that this job would allow you to be the type of person you want to be? (i.e. creative, flexible, independent etc) Explain?
9. In what ways would this job affect your personal life?
10. a) Where would you like to work in the future (geographically)?
    1. What are the job prospects for this region you selected in part A? Please refer <http://www.workbc.ca> and type in the desired occupation. You will then have to click on “Earnings and Outlook.”
11. Do you have the required subjects, marks, work ethic, etc. to be eligible for, and successful in, this career? Be realistic. If not, what changes might you make in order to plan for a career in this field?

Interview Form

\*\*You must complete the interview in person or over the phone. In no circumstances is the interviewee to complete the form.

\*\*You may not interview a family member without approval to do so. Student Name:

Name of Person Interviewed:

Name of Company/Business:

Description/Nature of Company or Business:

**Interview Questions (asked and completed by the student)**

1. What is your job title?
2. What are the duties and responsibilities of your job?
3. How many hours per day or week do you work? Do you work shifts?
4. Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?
5. a) What do you like the most about your work?

b) What do you like the least about your work?

6) a) What education or training is needed for this occupation?

1. What training have you completed since starting the job?
2. What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in this job?
3. Is there a steady demand for workers in this field? How much job security is there?
4. What should people do to get started in this career? (i.e. experience, training, education)
5. How might this job change in the future?
6. a) What other jobs could you do with the skills/education you have gained in this field.
7. How are new employees hired for this position?
8. Ask one additional question of your choice:

Q.

A.

Student Interviewer’s Signature Employer’s (Interviewee) Signature

Student Reflection

Write a reflection (no more than one page) about this project. You might consider the following questions when writing your reflection.

1. What did you learn that you did not know before?
2. Do you still want to pursue this career? How has this project influenced your view of the career?
3. Was this assignment of value to you? Do you think it should continue to be an assignment in Career Life Education? Why or why not?
4. How did it feel to interview someone? What were the skills that you gained from this experience?
5. How would this project have been different if you did not need to do the interview?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Exceeding** | **Proficient** | **Developing** | **Emerging** |
| **Research**  **\_\_\_/20** | All answers directly address the question thoroughly and thoughtfully  Information from all sources has been summarized and every effort has been made to communicate the information in the student’s own words. | Most answers directly address the question thoroughly and thoughtfully  The student has tried to communicate the information in their own words. Some information may be repeated from a lack of summarizing/editing. | Some answers are detailed and thoughtful, but some responses are very short or have been copied and pasted straight from the original source. | Some questions have not been answered and/or are missing details  Answers have been copied and pasted straight from the source |
| **Interview**  **\_\_\_/20** | Student has successfully conducted an interview with a person who is in their field of choice and who is not a family member. The student made a considerable effort to find this person on their own.  All interview questions have been answered thoroughly and follow up questions have also been included. | Student has successfully conducted an interview with a person who is in their field of choice and who is not a family member.  Most if not all interview questions have been answered. | Student has conducted a family member without consulting with the teacher.  Some interviews are missing several questions  Student required lots of support to find an interviewee | Student did not conduct the interview and/or there is no evidence of an interview (no tape recording, no written answers) |
| **Student Reflection**  **/10** | Response demonstrates an in-depth reflection on the research and interview conducted. Clear, detailed examples (information from the research or interview) are used to support points made. There is clear evidence that the student has taken the time to carefully think through their research. | Response demonstrates an in-depth reflection on the research and interview conducted.  Most points are supported with examples. There is some evidence that the student has taken the time to carefully think through their research. | Response answers some questions but were not answered in very much detail.  There is little evidence that the student has taken time to think about the information found in their research. | The reflection does not address the questions asked  The reflection is incomplete |
| **Professionalism**  **\_\_\_/15** | The student has included a professional title page which includes their name, course name and block and the teacher’s name.  The project has been carefully edited. There are little to no errors in spelling or grammar and a consistent font is used throughout. | The student has included a professional title page which includes their name, course name and block and the teacher’s name.  The project has been carefully edited. There are only some errors in spelling or grammar. Font is consistent throughout most of the project. | The student has included a professional title page which includes their name, course name and block and the teacher’s name.  The project has been carefully edited. There are many errors in spelling or grammar that are distracting. Fonts are not consistent throughout the project | There is no title page  No effort has been made to edit the document. |