

“The Real World” Final Project



The time has come! If a few short weeks you will have come to the end of your high school career. But now what? Whether the future seems exciting or scary it is here and you must prepare yourself for this next step. But what is the next step? College? A full-time job? A few months off? Either way you will eventually leave the comforts of your home to face the world as an independent adult. This project is designed to help you enter that world and challenge you to think about the economic realities you will soon be facing.

“Today is your day, you’re off to great places. You’re off and away!”

Part 1: Find a Job

When moving out, the first thing you need is money. This means it is time to find a job. The first step to getting a job is to create a résumé. Your résumé should reflect your actual experiences. This means it fits your education level and experience.

1. Create a Résumé -

15 Points

- This will list your experience, education level, and references. Be sure to use 12-point font, and Times New Roman. Use bold and italic font when appropriate.

See attached résumé for sample format. Don't use your college application.

2. Find a Job -

15 Points

- You need to research a potential job but it has to **fit your qualifications**. If it requires experience you **must** have that experience. Print the job description from the website. It must include qualifications, salary, and hours (part-time or full-time). If the pay is given as a range, use the average of the two salaries. All information must be visibly clear!

Your income will be taxed. So earn enough to live!

CAVEATS OF PART 1 --- _____

- **YOU MUST FIND YOUR JOB & LIVING QUARTERS IN ORANGE COUNTY.** – *Unless you have been accepted to a college in a different location. If so, include a copy of you acceptance letter with your project. (See Part 4)*

- **YOUR WILL BE TAXED AS SHOWN BELOW...**

- Progressive: 15%
- Proportional: 20%
 - Pick and declare the **tax structure** you feel is fair for **all** citizens (as discussed in our “Tax” lesson). Write, and then highlight the desired tax structure on your job printout.



Part 2: Find a Home

1. Find a Place to Live -

10 Points

- Use any online rental services. Some options are:
 - www.trulia.com
 - www.craigslist.com
 - www.rent.com
 - www.apartments.com
- Based on the job you have (Part 1), research a potential place to live in **Orange County**. Include the following:
 - # of bedrooms/bathrooms
 - Monthly rent
 - Security deposit (if applicable)
- Your living quarters must fit your income level. To supplement your rent, you can live with flat-mates. ***However, there can only be one person per room.***
- Include the actual Internet listing. If the listing does not include all of the requirements, you ***must*** add the information to the printout.

Part 3: The Essentials

1. Stock Up on Food -

10 Points

- Be sure you provide the online “shopping cart” printout from your local grocery store.
 - www.vons.com
 - www.safeway.com
 - www.albertsons.com
- Go online and find the prices for the following items:
 - Gallon of milk
 - Loaf of bread
 - Box of cereal
 - Package of lunch meat
 - Dozen eggs
 - 2 cans of corn
 - Pasta noodles
 - Head of lettuce
 - Pound of cheese
 - ½ a gallon of orange juice
 - A condiment of your choice
 - Butter
 - 5 cans of soup
 - Pasta sauce
 - 2 pounds of apples
 - Ground beef
- Now include **10 additional** food items of your choice. These are things you might purchase on a monthly basis. **No alcohol.**

2. Other Stuff -

10 Points

- Go online and price the following items:
 - Box of laundry detergent
 - 2 bars of soap
 - Shampoo and conditioner
 - Bleach
 - Windex
 - Tile cleaner
 - 409 cleaner
 - Sandwich bags
 - Trash bags
 - Two female or male hygiene essentials
- In addition, you will need to list 5 additional expenses not included in this project. (ex. Car insurance, gym membership, Netflix, cell phone)



Part 4: Add it Up

I. Itemize your Monthly Expenses -

10 Points

- Fill out the one page itemized monthly (see attached form). Include income from your job and all monthly expenses such as utilities (like water and electricity). *If these are not included in your rent you will have to call the utility companies for a quote.* Show your income as revenue and your expenses as expenditures.
- Select a type of tax structure and subtract it from your income.
 - Progressive: 15%
 - Proportional: 20%
 - Pick and declare the tax structure you feel is fair for all citizens (as discussed in our “Tax” lesson). Write & highlight the type of tax structure on your job printout and then deduct the selected amount from your income.

Part 5: Personal Reflection

20 Points

Write a **two-page** reflection about your real world experience. Start with your job search and cover all aspects of living on your own. Use the questions below as a guide for your reflection:

- What job and residence did you choose and why?
- How did work experience affect your income potential?
- Discuss your expenses and their affect on your lifestyle.
- What real world implications did you learn while completing the project?
- Given the activity, is moving out on your own after high school a reality?

Part 6: Parent Survey

10 Points

Complete the attached survey with a parent/guardian/sibling that has experienced the reality of the real world.

This project is worth 100 points and is due _____.

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EXPERIENCE

Down Town Selegna Sol (Present)

Associate Attorney

- Perform patent prosecution, freedom to operate and patent diligence for technologies related to medical diagnostics, biosensors, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, stem cells, gene therapies, cosmetics, thermoelectric materials, medical imaging, and various applications of chemistry, biophysics, microbiology, genetics, molecular biology, and biochemistry.

Donald Right LLP (2009-2008)

Associate Attorney & Marketing/Business Development Advisor

- Advised patent and life sciences attorneys firm-wide on practice management and business development.

EDUCATION

Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

- Ph.D. Molecular Biochemistry and Biophysics, June 2007

REFERENCES

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Itemized Budget Sheet

Monthly Revenue _____
 (Income from your job)

Tax Type: _____ Percent: _____ Amount Paid in Taxes: _____
 Net Pay (Income – Taxes) _____

Expenses _____ Amount

Rent (Part 2) _____ (Total)

Food & Other (Part 3) _____ (Total)

Milk	_____	Pasta Sauce	_____
Bread	_____	Apples	_____
Cereal	_____	Ground Beef	_____
Lunch Meat	_____	Laundry Detergent	_____
Eggs	_____	Soap	_____
Corn	_____	Shampoo/Cond.	_____
Noodles	_____	Bleach	_____
Lettuce	_____	Windex	_____
Cheese	_____	Tile Cleaner	_____
Orange Juice	_____	409 Cleaner	_____
Condiment	_____	Sandwich Bags	_____
Butter	_____	Trash Bags	_____
Soup	_____	Female/Male Products	_____

10 Additional Food Items: _____ (Total Only)

5 Additional Luxury Items:

- 1: _____
- 2: _____
- 3: _____
- 4: _____
- 5: _____

****Add all the items listed above to get the total for Part 3 ****

Total Monthly Expenses (Part 2 + Part 3) _____

Monthly Balance (Income – Expenses) _____

*Must be in the positive!

Parent Survey

Name:

Relationship:

1. At what age did you decide to move out? _____
2. Describe the motives for the move.
3. Describe your first place (location, sq. footage, rent \$).
4. What difficulties did you encounter when you first moved out?
5. Describe any unexpected expenses related to your move
6. What advice would you give young adults who are considering moving out on their own?
7. What items (tangible goods/ “starter kit”) would you give to a young adult who is considering moving out on their own?