

The Plan of L.I.F.E.

Assignment:

In order to get a better idea of what YOU want to do for work//money in YOUR future, it is going to require some very important research.

Your job is to go to the link: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/a-z-index.htm>

Or <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/occupation-finder.htm>

Or perhaps the best way for you to start is by going to the Home Page of the Occupational Outlook Handbook found at: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

(Also note the “Students” Tab on the Home Page of the Occupational Outlook Handbook Online)

Over view everything first.

Pick 30 jobs that are of interest you, and are jobs that you would seriously consider looking at pursuing.

Write those 30 jobs down.

Then, take a more detailed look into what those jobs would pay, what the requirements would be, and what it would take to acquire the positions.

If possible, link the jobs together so that if you needed to have the experience one job before you were able to do the next job, you will know that, and be able to get the needed experience at one job before you go to the next job. Or just link the jobs that are similar together with each other.

Now, after taking a bit more time to examine the 30 jobs, and think a bit about them, eliminate 15 of them. Note that you have to cite 30 jobs.

With the remaining 15 jobs, put together 3 different Life Scenarios, where you must change jobs at least 3 times.

Basically, write an essay for each life plan.

Describe in detail these totally hypothetical life plans.

Use your imagination to describe these hypothetical plans.

What is it that you want?

How would you get to where you wanted to be? Would you even need a formal college education? If so, what would you have to major in? How would you pay the debt back? How hard would you have to study to get into the college you wanted, to get the degree you wanted, and to get the job you wanted?

Use ideas from the book to give you answers to questions you might come up with.

Visualize things like what kind of apartment or house you would want. What kind of car would you drive? How would that new car/truck affect your ability to afford other things? Perhaps you could take the money that you think you would make from the job you chose, and make a hypothetical yearly budget. In that budget- you would write down how much money you were going to make- what bills you would have- and what toys you could increase your standard of living with.

Perhaps before you even begin, you go so far as to take a free version of the Interest Inventories like the Strong Interest Inventory, Myers Briggs, or even something like the “Emergenetics” test.

The Strong Interest Inventory will help you become more clear about what your interests are. The argument is if you like something, you might also be better at it.

But also consider your financial desires and true capabilities. If you like something in the field of the arts, that is great, but if you also have the capacity to do a job that may have a higher probability of better pay, be cognizant of that. Don’t just go after a career path that might pay well however, think about what you might enjoy, and be good at.

NOTE: you should be sensitive to just how powerful people’s suggestions towards your work and career can be. Just be careful listening to what people say you can or cannot do.

When examining a career, look at the upward mobility of the job.

What is the entry level position? What would be the next logical step to being midlevel in that career path? What would be one of the higher ranks or positions you would shoot for if you went down a particular career path, if any?

You could also write about write about your worries- like things that could trip you up in life. An example could be falling into the drug world, or getting a DUI. You could write about how these negative things could significantly impact your future, and your goals for your future.

You could expand on this by doing one essay that describes how you just go down the wrong path. How would go about going on that path? Write about what you could do to avoid this negative path.

Worry is meant to motivate a person to put in the work needed to prevent that which is worried about.

Belief is meant to motivate a person to put in the work needed in order to make the belief a reality.

Inspiration:

Being optimistic is huge, scientists say that people are much better problem solvers when they are positive. Much of Life is about solving complex problems.

Stay positive and know that while the more you give, and the harder things are, the more rewarding it ultimately is.

When life has you down, it's like the most important thing you can actually do is actually be positive, or it will keep going down. If you are positive despite being down, you will eventually get up. It's just harder to get going when you are down and have negativity.

NOTE: the reason things may not always work is often times not because things didn't work, but seemingly because you actually changed the plan. If you stick with something for the long-haul, like the total amount of years you have in your life, and never change course, you may have a better chance of "plans" actually working out. But most people change the plan, don't stick to something for 50 years, and thus the plans "fail".

Said again:

If the plans fail, it is because you changed them, *not* because you failed.

Or another reason plans don't always pan out is because you were basing your plans on other people, and they had different plans and ideas. If your plans revolve on needing other people to help you accomplish your plans—the rate of plans actually succeeding seems to drop significantly.

Furthermore, with regards to people, sometimes the hardest part of any job is not the work or the job itself, but rather the people you have deal with in that job. This can be a major reason people change jobs. So when choosing a career, think about the type of people you think you get along with the most. And as always, be focused on the day you don't have to work anymore.

#### THE ESSAYS:

Just Try to do a somewhat detailed, but somewhat casual, very broad vision for your future.

Maybe in one hypothetical plan, you start investing in real estate. How would you do that? What would the numbers look like? Maybe in different scenario you have a family, and in another you don't. Maybe some details of your thinking could include your feelings, or just logic, or both.

Each of the 3 Essays should be:

One Page Typed, with 3 different careers/jobs

#### NOTE:

The most important part of this assignment is to expose yourself to numerous career ideas. So spend the most time researching and learning about different jobs, and be fairly liberal with how you write it all down.