

Reading Comprehension Test

1. Read the following text.

Choosing a Career

Exploring career options is an important step on the road to adulthood. As you enter high school, you will be faced with choices in which classes you take. The classes you take in high school affect the choices you have and the careers you can embark on. Having an idea of where you want to be in the next five to ten years will get you started in the right direction.

5 Asking the Right Questions

First, asking “Who am I?” helps you explore your likes and dislikes. Secondly, “How do I want to live my life?” helps you determine lifestyle issues. For example, helping others may be more of a priority than financial success. Being free to travel may be more important than being rooted in an office. Thirdly, asking “What do I have to give?” helps you examine your unique set
10 of skills and interests to find a place in society where they can be useful to others.

Education and Interests

Comparing classes you enjoy with those you don't can be a good guide to exploring career paths. What may be an obvious example is someone who excels in math and science looking at a career in those fields. What may not be so obvious is to explore the subjects within a class
15 that someone thrives on while not particularly enjoying the class as a whole. For example, you may be bored by the dates or political aspects of history, but completely intrigued by the personalities behind those events, leading to careers ranging anywhere from psychology to journalism.

Being Realistic

20 Coming to terms with what you want to do and what you're prepared to do is a major factor in ruling out inappropriate career choices. Someone with stage-fright, for example, will have some challenges to explore before seriously going on to become an actress or musician. Someone who consistently gets Ds in maths may have to reconsider a career in science or medicine.

25 Exploration

Once you begin to favour a career path, volunteering and other extracurricular activities can give you a taste for that career while giving you valuable hands-on experience. For example, working at a pet store or volunteering at a local animal shelter gives you first-hand experience of working with animals. Researching careers online and talking to people who work in that
30 field can also help you make the transition toward adulthood. School guidance teachers are also a valuable resource for exploring careers, as are career aptitude tests offered by high schools and colleges.

<https://work.chron.com> (accessed in September 2018)

2. Go through the indicated paragraphs and find equivalents for the following words or expressions.

(5 x 16p= 80p)

- a) will encounter (Introduction) - _____
- b) distinctive (Asking the right questions) - _____
- c) is very good at (Education and interests) - _____
- d) steadily (Being realistic) - _____
- e) practical (Exploration)- _____

3. Match the parts of the sentences. There is ONE that does NOT APPLY. Write your answers in the answers column.
(5 x 12p = 60p)

PART A

- a) The choices you make in high school are important for the future because
- b) You need to consider some aspects about yourself when
- c) The obvious choice for someone who is very good at maths and science
- d) You should also consider this to exclude inappropriate careers for you:
- e) Volunteering and extracurricular activities

PART B

- 1) you answer the "right questions".
- 2) they affect the choices students make and the careers they embark in.
- 3) can give you a first-hand experience on a specific career.
- 4) your fears, your personality and the things you are not good at.
- 5) is to choose a career in those areas
- 6) your likes, dislikes and personality.

Answers:

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____

4. Indicate in which paragraph the following information can be found in the text. Write your answers in the answers column.
(5 x 12p = 60p)

- a) Your favourite subjects can give you clues about your career path.
- b) Questioning yourself can help you find your place in the world of work.
- c) What you want to do and what you can do are different things
- d) Extracurricular activities, volunteering and school guidance can help you choose your career path.
- e) The subjects you have at school will affect the career you will follow.

- 1) (Introduction)
- 2) Asking the right questions
- 3) Education and interests
- 4) Becoming realistic
- 5) Exploration

Answers:

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

Good Work!