

Name:
Period:

Ninth Grade Career Research Paper

**KEEP THIS PACKET WHERE YOU CAN FIND IT-
IN YOUR BINDER OR BELL RINGER FOLDER!
DO NOT LOSE IT, YOU WILL NOT GET
ANOTHER ONE!**

Objectives

- To use VaWizard to help you identify careers that match your interests and abilities
- To learn about a possible future career choice
- To learn how to write a research paper by using the district research process
- To create an outline
- To follow directions
- To meet deadlines
- To create an informative poster about chosen career
- To orally present chosen career and poster to the class

Expectations Checklist

- ___ Select a career that you are realistically considering for your future
- ___ Create note cards and source cards with the information you have researched
- ___ Write a thesis statement
- ___ Create a title page
- ___ Write an introduction paragraph that contains a topic sentence and thesis
- ___ Write **three** body paragraphs that each contain topic sentences
- ___ Write a conclusion paragraph that summarizes the paper
- ___ Include a proper Works Cited page
- ___ Type entire paper in Microsoft Word
- ___ Proofread paper
- ___ Make corrections and submit final paper

Note cards

You are required to make, use, and turn in note cards for this project. The benefit of using note cards during the research process is that they help in the organization process. For each source that you have (at least three), you will create a bibliography card and information cards. Remember that you must turn in **at least 18 cards** (1 bibliography and 5 information cards **per source**).

Sample Bibliography (Source) Card

Source #
Works Cited Information
(Be sure to use proper MLA bibliographical format here! See MLA formatting info on p.4 of this packet)

Sample Information (Note) Card

Source Name	Source #
Important information	
<i>(One piece of information per card!)</i>	
(Page # in source)	P, S, or Q

Sources

Types of Information

Direct Quotes: Statement of information verbatim. You **MUST** use quotations and parenthetical documentation to identify the source of information.

Paraphrasing: Rewriting another author's ideas using your own words. Again, you **MUST** use parenthetical documentation to identify the source of the information. You may have rewritten it, but it is still not your information.

- You will need to have at least 3 sources for your research paper.
- Two need to be electronic (VA Wizard can count as one)
- One needs to be print (book, encyclopedia)

Keep in mind that you will need the following information about your chosen career:

Salary	Demand	Availability	Future Outlook	Hours
Education	Training	Benefits	Working Conditions	Tasks/Duties

Please fill out the following chart as you go so you know that you have everything that you need. Printed websites should be attached to this form.

Electronic Source #1:

Website:

Date of last update or published:

Date Accessed:

URL:

Electronic Source #2:

Website:

Date Accessed:

Date of last update or published:

URL:

Print Source:

Title:

Author/Editor:

Publisher Name:

Publisher Location:

Publication Date:

Pages Used:

Notes from Print Source:

(You may need to attach an additional sheet for notes)

MLA FORMATTING*

Works Cited Page: in alphabetical order, beginning with author's last name.

-Book: Author's last name, First name. Book Title. Publishing City: Publisher, date of publication.

Example: Tan, Amy. The Bonesetter's Daughter. New York: Putnam, 2001.

-Website: Author's last name, First name. Title of webpage. Date of publication or last update. Date of access. URL.

Example: Peterson, Susan Lynn. The Life of Martin Luther. 1999. 9 Mar. 2001.
<www.pweb.netcom.com/~supeters/luther.htm>.

*See next page of packet for sample works cited page.

In-text Citations: to be used after an author's quote or paraphrase within your paper. Remember- if you do not cite the source of an author whose words you are using within your paper, it will be considered plagiarism and will be given a **ZERO!**

-Book: (Author's last name page number)

Example: (Tan 4)

-Website: (author name, article name, **OR** website name)

Example: (VAWizard)

Works Cited

Jones, Gregory. Carpenters. 14 June 2011. 8 Nov 2012.

Richardson, Lee. Becoming a Carpenter. NY: Putnam, 2006.

Smith, Rhonda. Carpentry. 7 Jan 2012. 9 Nov 2012.

Career Research Outline Sample

- I. Introduction (ends with thesis statement)
- II. Topic 1 sentence
 - A. Support
 - B. Support
 - C. Support
- III. Topic 2 sentence
 - A. Support
 - B. Support
 - C. Support
- IV. Topic 3 sentence
 - A. Support
 - B. Support
 - C. Support
- V. Conclusion

**FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT, A PARAGRAPH WILL
INCLUDE AT LEAST 5 SENTENCES! YOU CAN WRITE
MORE, BUT NO LESS THAN 5!!!**

I. Introduction

Thesis:

II. Topic 1 sentence:

A. Support:

B. Support:

C. Support:

III. Topic 2 sentence:

A. Support:

B. Support:

C. Support:

IV. Topic 3 sentence:

A. Support:

B. Support:

C. Support:

V. Conclusion (restate thesis)

Thesis

Thesis

The **thesis** is the statement of purpose. Try to state in one sentence what you hope to discuss in your paper. Points in your thesis may become main topics on your preliminary outline. The thesis will become the last sentence in your introduction paragraph.

- Avoid using the word **you**. The word **you** makes the paper sound less professional.
- Avoid saying “In this paper...,” or “My paper will be about...,” or “I am going to discuss.”
- Begin with the topic itself, followed by **three** points that will be discussed in the paper. These points will come from the outline that we created as a class.

Example:

Teaching high school English is right for me because I like working with teenagers, enjoy literature, and know that the career has great benefits.

The **three points** that I wish to discuss in my paper are:

1. Work environment (working with teenagers)
2. Education (learning about literature)
3. Benefits

List the **three points** that you wish to discuss in your paper here:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Write your own thesis here:

The Paper

Introduction Paragraph

- The introduction paragraph should do exactly what it sounds like – introduce the paper. There is no need to include specifics in the paragraph – you are just introducing what you are going to discuss in the paper. Remember – the last paragraph in your introduction paragraph should be your **thesis**.
- The following items need to be discussed in the introduction paragraph:
 - How to choose a career today
 - Why it is important to choose a career that interests you
 - The process of researching a career
 - Any other background information about choosing a career (**not specifics about the career that you have chosen**)
- Below is a sample introduction paragraph:

Choosing a career in today's work world can be one of the most difficult decisions in a person's life. There are so many factors to consider when picking an occupation in the ever-changing job market. By knowing what one's interests are and additional information about a specific career, one can hopefully make an informed decision about which direction to turn. Next, one must choose a specific occupation and become familiar with it by doing research. Teaching high school English is right for me because I like working with teenagers, know that the career has great benefits, and enjoy literature.

Body Paragraphs

- Each body paragraph should discuss one of the Roman Numerals from your outline.

Conclusion Paragraph

- The conclusion paragraph summarizes the entire paper. The conclusion paragraph should begin with the restatement of your thesis statement. Like the introduction paragraph, the conclusion paragraph should not include specifics.

Works Cited

- The works cited page comes at the end of the paper and exists to give credit to the source of the information.
- All entries should be arranged alphabetically by the first word.
- Everything should be double spaced.
- All works cited entries should have a hanging indent.
- Copy publishing information carefully – accuracy is crucial in research.
- We will learn together the proper way to write a works cited entry by using

(Title Page)

(10 Single Spaces)

Teaching: A Career for Me

(15 single spaces)

Your Name

Teacher's Name

Course Name

Date

Sample Introduction

(YOUR FIRST PAGE DOES NOT NEED A HEADING)

Choosing a career in today's work world can be one of the most difficult decisions in a person's life. There are so many factors to consider when picking an occupation in the ever-changing job market. By knowing what one's interests are and additional information about a specific career, one can hopefully make an informed decision about which direction to turn. Next, one must choose a specific occupation and become familiar with it by doing research. Teaching high school English is right for me because I like working with teenagers, know that the career has great benefits, and enjoy literature.

Reminders for Research Papers

- When typing the paper, be sure to remember to **double space** everything!
- Be sure to spell **COLLEGE**, not collage! A **COLLEGE** is a place of learning, a collage is a bunch of pictures hanging on your bedroom wall!
- The best way to succeed when writing a paper is to stay organized. If you are not organized, the task will seem 100 times harder!
- If you have questions about anything or need help, **JUST ASK!** It is much better to ask for help than to get lost, behind, and ultimately get a low grade!

Additional Notes on Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using any other person's words as your own. Plagiarism is not only against school rules and my rules, it is morally wrong and furthermore, it is illegal. If you plagiarize any part of this paper, you will receive a ZERO for the entire project. Plagiarism is easy to detect, especially after I have read your writing for an entire marking period. I know your writing style. Don't be lazy. Don't try to test the system. It's just not worth it!

Types of plagiarism:

1. Taking and/or buying a paper from the Internet.

Teachers at this school have access to plagiarismfinder.com. This site allows us to scan entire papers to see the exact percentage plagiarized, or enter phrases and/or paragraphs. This site will take us directly to the Internet source where you got the paper.

2. Taking and/or buying any PART of a paper from the Internet.

3. Using someone else's paper.

Yes, I know your friends have done this research paper. If you attempt to hand in their work, I will know it. Most of the work we do on this paper will be done in class, so do your own work!

4. Failing to put information into your own words.

Sometimes, without intending to copy someone else's words, we forget to paraphrase. Even if only a sentence or a few words is the same, it's plagiarism. How do you avoid this?

1. Paraphrase, paraphrase, paraphrase!
2. Put the direct quotation in quotation marks.

5. Failing to cite information.

You have to use parenthetical notation after EVERY piece of information. If there is even 1 sentence that is not notated, you have plagiarized.

Plagiarism Contract

Please read the statement and sign your name. Detach the bottom portion of this page and turn into Mrs. Bucska.

I have read and understand that if I plagiarize any part of my paper, I will receive a zero on this project. I understand the different types of plagiarism, and I have asked Mrs. Bucska to clarify any questions I still have about plagiarism. Furthermore, if I have any questions about whether I am plagiarizing during the research process I will ask Mrs. Bucska for assistance.

X _____

Date _____