

# Career Planning Research Paper

Purpose: Researching potential careers is a great way to gain information about possible career paths you might be interested in pursuing. Having an idea of a career can help with future plans for college, and other post-secondary opportunities

Assignment: Your task will be to research a potential career field, and to write a detailed essay highlighting the following

- Provide a detailed description of the job, what tasks are involved in this job.
- Where could you be expected to work, what are the work conditions like (desk job, outdoors, etc)?
- What sort of education (if any) will you be required to complete in order to be qualified for your career choice?
- What sort of experience (internship, college, on the job training) is required for your career choice?
- What is the expected compensation for your career (salary, or hourly) How much are you expected to work.
- What are some activities (clubs, volunteer work, etc) that you could do now that could help you get into your chosen career?
- What are your personal opinions about this job?
  - Why have you chosen this career?
  - What interests you about this career?
- In your conclusion, include what you have learned from your research here. Does this make you more interested in this career? Less? What could you do now to start getting prepared for this career?

Format:

- Typed, Double-Spaced, 12-pt, Times new Roman, 1-inch margins
- Introduction, Body and Conclusion Paragraphs
- 3-5 pages in length
- Resources cited in MLA format

If you are having trouble looking up or finding potential careers, Career Cruiser is a great place to start, especially if you have already filled out most of the information.

Paper is to be turned in on Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> either

- Electronically as a MS Word attachment to [tbrinks@buchananschools.com](mailto:tbrinks@buchananschools.com) and received by the start of your class period
- Paper copy turned in at the beginning of your scheduled class period.

Topic	Excellent (20)	Good (15)	Acceptable (10)	Poor (5)	Not Included (0)
Proper Formatting of the paper, including length	No mistakes, all formatting is accurate 1" margins, double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman Font, 3-5 pages long	Some minor mistakes in formatting	A couple of mistakes in formatting	Lots of mistakes, more than 5 pages long.	No formatting included, obviously did not follow directions for the paper, less than 3 pages long
Correct Use of MLA format for citation	No errors in MLA format, title, name, class are all properly done, pages are numbered appropriately, all sources are cited properly	1-2 minor mistakes in use of MLA, minor enough that they don't distract from the tone of the paper	3-5 mistakes, some professionalism is lost due to lack of proper usage	Some major MLA errors, but there is some suggestion of following the correct format	No suggestion of use of MLA.
Purpose/Content	The purpose of the paper is evident, and the content presented supports the purpose and the reader gains important insights	The purpose of the paper is clear, however the content may digress from it on occasion. Some insights are gained by the reader	The purpose of the paper is only sometimes clear, there is some straying, or rambling in the content	The purpose of the paper is only occasionally clear, most of the information in the paper does not support the purpose of the paper	No clarity in purpose, content is rambling throughout, and there is no meaningful insights gained by the reader
Organization/ Feel	The paper is organized logically and the writing is compelling. Maintains reader interest throughout the entire essay	The paper is mostly organized, a few things may be out of place. Reading is engaging, but could occasionally stray	The paper has some organization however it sometimes goes off on tangents. There are some dull parts to the writing	The paper has little to no organization, and is very dull/dry reading. Reader is not engaged at all.	No organization is present. Paper has no personality, reader has to stop reading because of lack of interest.
Tone/Structure/ Word Choice	Professional tone throughout, sentences are well structured and varied in length, word choice is appropriate for the entire paper	Just like excellent except for minor lapses in one of the three categories	Just like excellent expect for minor lapses in multiple categories, or major lapse in one of the three	Major lapses in tone/structure/word choice in multiple categories	No tone, structure, or appropriate word choice is prevalent. Paper is written at an elementary level.
Grammar/ Mechanics	Paper is free of errors, except for maybe a few minor errors	Paper has a few grammatical errors, but they don't distract from the overall tone or flow of the paper	Paper has several errors, and on occasion distract the reader from the paper	Paper has multiple errors that distract from the reading	Paper has severe grammatical errors, so that the meaning of the paper is lost.
References	There are sufficient references (2+) and they are of high quality, and used to enhance the meaning of the paper	References are lacking in one of the criteria, either there aren't enough, they aren't high quality, or they aren't used to enhance the paper	References are lacking in two or more of the categories,	References used are weak, do little to enhance the article, or the entire paper is based off of a single source	No references used, sources used are all unreliable (read: Wikipedia), and do nothing to enhance the paper