

INSTRUCTOR'S GUIDE
FOR
THE 50 BEST JOBS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
VIDEO SERIES:
GOOD PAY, MOST OPENINGS, AND FASTEST GROWTH

OVERVIEW

Narrated by a young man, this video provides much factual information about the top fifty jobs in the current job market. Each of the fifty jobs is listed in order by rank from number one to number fifty. The listings include average annual earnings, projected growth in percentage, and an estimated number of job openings expected each year.

Career counseling experts, Mike Farr of JIST Publishing and Carol D'Amico of Ivy Tech State College, offer specific advice on questions to consider when choosing a career path. They stress things beyond job title and annual income.

Representative groups of people, currently employed, candidly discuss the pros and cons of their current job situations. In this way a thought pattern is demonstrated for the viewers.

PRESENTATION SUGGESTIONS

Begin the class by asking the students to suggest several ideas about what they think the number one job in the country is today. Explain that they should think about income the job generates, how much the field is growing, and how many jobs like it are available. Use the example of a pro athlete as a poor example of a number one job because, although the annual income is extremely high, there is not much growth in the professional athletic industry and there are very limited job openings each year. Have the class compile a list of what they believe the top ten jobs will be. Write these on the board/overhead.

Complete the **Anticipation Quiz** before viewing the video, *The 50 Best Jobs for the 21st Century: Good Pay, Most Openings, and Fastest Growth*. Have the students set aside the completed quizzes until after the video presentation.

Just before viewing, emphasize to the students that they will need to take notes. They must write at least three jobs that interest them from the video.

At the conclusion of the video, ask the students to take out their **Anticipation Quizzes** and review the responses. Allow time for students to add or delete information to make

each of their responses correct. Discuss the responses. Follow the discussion with one or both of the follow-up **Activities**.

Complete the **Quick Quiz** in class and correct the quizzes together as a group. Assign the **Homework Option** if desired.

ANTICIPATION QUIZ

Note: Complete this quiz prior to viewing the video *The 50 Best Jobs for the 21st Century: Good Pay, Most Openings, Fastest Growth*. The questions may be read aloud, allowing time for student responses, or copied and distributed to the students as a written exercise.

Directions: Respond to each question as thoroughly and completely as possible.

1. What do you believe to be the career area that contains the number one job of today?
2. Which would you say is most stressful: a job in a high-energy field or a job that you do not enjoy and is going nowhere?
3. Describe the way you think you could get a real idea of what a job is all about.
4. How do you feel about advanced education such as college or advanced training in order to achieve a better career opportunity?

ACTIVITIES

Activity # 1

Title: Search and Research

Format: Individual

Time: 20–30 minutes

Materials: paper, pen, selection of career reference materials at least one per student (i.e. books, newspapers, magazines, directories)

Procedure:

1. Explain to the students that they will be researching three jobs that interested them and were mentioned in the video.
2. Provide a brief overview of any of the reference materials available. Be sure to emphasize the fact that they will need to pass around and share materials.
3. Before beginning the research time, answer and discuss any questions. Remind the class to write as much specific information as they can find about each job, especially regional information that may vary from the information in the video.
4. Finally, begin the research time by asking the students to identify the job they feel holds the most interest after the research is complete.

Activity # 2

Title: Like What You Do

Format: Individual

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: paper, pen, markers (optional), Diagram A

Procedure:

1. Distribute Diagram A to each student.
2. Explain to the class that the diagram may be used to reflect the best way they feel they will reach the end goal in the “You Will Be Here!” box. They will number the goals and draw arrows in any order they choose. On the lines inside the boxes, they will write how they plan to achieve the goal.
3. Allow time for the students to share their maps in small groups.

DIAGRAM A

(**Note:** Each of the headings written here in block letters is to be placed at the top of an individual box. Underneath the headings please make 5 or 6 blank lines for the students to write on. The lines should be inside the boxes. These should be about 3x3 square.)

YOU WILL BE HERE! <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Goal # _____

FIND A JOB <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Goal # _____

COMPLETE EDUCATION <hr/>

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Goal # _____

ACQUIRE SKILLS <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Goal # _____

PRESENT SKILLS <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Goal # _____

KEEP JOB <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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QUICK QUIZ

Note: These quiz questions may be read aloud, allowing time for students to respond, or copied and distributed as a written exercise.

Directions: Answer each question with at least one sentence.

1. Which career field has the number one job in the country?
2. Name three things you should consider when thinking about a career besides annual income, growth percentage, and estimated job openings.
3. What does the term “growth percentage” mean when used to describe a career field?
4. Why is it helpful to have a plan when considering a career?
5. What is the most helpful piece of information you learned about career fields?

ANSWER KEY

1. The career field with the number one job in the country is Computers and Technology.
2. The time it takes away from your family.
The distance you need to travel.
Where will the job lead?
How fast will it move up?
What is really important to you? How much time do you want for yourself?
3. The term “growth percentage” means how much a career field is expected to expand over the next year.
4. A plan is helpful because it keeps you focused on the steps it takes to reach your goal.
5. Answers will vary.

HOMEWORK OPTION

Find a local newspaper with a large Classified Advertisement section. Using your notes from the video, highlight any of the jobs advertised that fall into the top ten jobs categories. Then, write a brief paragraph discussing whether the number of advertisements you saw shows that it is indeed a growing field in your area of the country.