Cost of Living Project Part One – Lifestyle Choices

**Cost of Living Project**

**This is a two part assignment. Both parts will be totaled and will count as one summative assessment grade.**

***“Reality Check”*** budget website http://www.texasrealitycheck.com/

**Go through the Reality Check or another respected site.** Find your anticipated expenses for the lifestyle you choose. Housing, utilities, food, entertainment, etc. all cost money. You may have to make some tough choices to make it to the end of the month with some money left. Save your Lifestyle Calculator - Total Expenses chart as a PDF. **Then, choose a career** that fits the budget you’ve created. You are to save only ONE career page that you submit as a pdf.

**Step 1:** As you complete the reality check, record your answers to the following questions:

1. **Before you start:** What are your plans after high school/college before taking the Reality Check/doing research on your desired career?
2. What city did you choose to live in?
3. What was your housing choice?
4. What utilities did you choose?
5. What was your food choice?
6. What type of transportation did you choose?
7. What clothes budget did you decide on?
8. What health care option did you choose?
9. What was your choice of entertainment?
10. What did you decide to spend on personal upkeep?
11. What miscellaneous expenditures did you choose?
12. What education level and student loan amount did you select?
13. What family option did you select?
14. How much are you planning to put in a savings account?

**Step 2:** Save your Total Expenses Chart by clicking print (located at the bottom of the page), and selecting “Print as PDF.” You will submit this PDF with your project.

Now click the “Explore Occupations” button. Select an occupation that fits your budget. Save your Occupation Profile as a PDF. You can save as a PDF by doing CTRL+P, then select “Save as PDF.” You will submit this PDF with your project and you will need this information for later.

**Step 3:** Write a 3 paragraph report over your choices and why you made those choices. Be sure to follow the rubric below and always explain why!

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| **Cost of Living Project Rubric** | | |
| **Note: All Teachers will grade based on this rubric. If you fail to meet any of these requirements, your grade will reflect as such.** | | |
| **Requirement** | **Description** | **Point Value** |
| **Title Page** | Name, AMDM Period, Date | **1 point** |
| **Paragraph 1-Intro** | | |
| **Career selected through “*Reality Check”* Budget website or another website (needs citation)** | Student must specify his or her chosen career prior to taking the Reality Check and give a 2-3 sentence explanation to justify choice. | **1 pt- Career Specification**  **3 points- Explanation** |
| **Answer Question 2** | Student must specify his or her chosen city to live and justify answer with a 1-2 sentence explanation. | **1 pt- City Choice**  **2 points- Explanation** |
| **Describe the kind of lifestyle wanted** | Student must describe the lifestyle he or she wants in 2-3 sentences. Be specific as to why this lifestyle was chosen. | **4 points for justification** |
| **Paragraph 2- General living** | | |
| **Housing Choice** | What was your housing choice? Write a detailed explanation as to how you arrived at this choice. | **3 points** |
| **Utilities (cable, internet, DVR, water, sewer, electricity, gas, etc.)** | What utilities did you choose? Explain. | **4 points** |
| **Food (groceries, restaurants)** | What was your food choice? Explain. | **2 points** |
| **Transportation** | What type of transportation did you choose? *(Car, train, carpool, etc.)* Explain. | **2 points** |
| **Clothing (shopping—work clothes and “play” clothes”)** | What clothes budget did you decide on? Explain. | **3 points** |
| **Paragraph 3- Insurance and Lifestyle** | | |
| **Health Care** | What health care option did you choose? Why? How much will this cost? | **2 points** |
| **Savings** | How much are you planning to put in a savings account? Explain your choice. | **2 points** |
| **Miscellaneous expenditures** | What miscellaneous expenditures did you choose? *(Gym membership, travel, etc.)* Explain – in detail. | **5 points** |
| **Personal Upkeep** | What did you decide to spend on personal upkeep? *(Haircuts, nails, etc.)* Explain. | **4 points** |
| **Entertainment** | What was your choice of entertainment? *(Movies, restaurants, hiking, etc.)* Explain. | **3 points** |
| **Part One Total Points** |  |  |

**Step 4:** Submit your 3 paragraph report, your Total Expenses Chart PDF, and your Occupation Profile PDF to me via email (depam@fultonschools.org).

Next week you will complete part two of this assignment. You will need your Total Expenses Chart PDF, and your Occupation Profile PDF for part two. ☺