**Cost of Living Project Part Two – Expenses and Your Career**

**Step 1:** Use your Total Expenses Chart PDF and your Occupation Profile PDF to answer the following questions. If you have lost this information, you may have to return to <http://www.texasrealitycheck.com/> and recomplete the reality check.

1. What will your total monthly expenses be? Total annual expenses? Taxes?
2. What is the annual salary you need to earn to afford the lifestyle choices you selected?
3. What additional expenses would you incur if you choose to marry and have 2 children?
4. What education level did you select?
5. What occupational category (i.e. education, healthcare, engineering, etc.) did you choose?
6. What careers are available in the occupational category you chose?
7. What occupation title did you decide on?
8. What was the annual salary? The hourly wage?
9. What are the job prospects in the state of your choosing?
10. Write a short description of the job.
11. Summarize the training required, including what type of college degree you need.
12. After taking the Reality Check/researching, have you considered making a change in your plans?

**Step 2:** 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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| **Paragraph 4- Breakdown of Take-home $** | | |
| **Summary of monthly total expenses** | What will your total monthly expenses be? Explain.  Ex. What % of your income did you choose to designate utilities? % on food? % on personal upkeep? Etc.  I.e. make a budget | **5 points** |
| **Annual expenses** | What will your total annual expenses be? Explain. | **2 points** |
| **Taxes** | How much are you paying in total for taxes each month?  Explain. | **4 points** |
| **Annual salary needed** | What is the annual salary you need to earn to afford the lifestyle choices you selected? How did you come up with this amount? | **4 points** |
| **How do expenses change with marriage and family** | Explain how your expenses would change if you marry and have 2 children? Be specific (Housing, food, lifestyle, etc) | **4 points** |
| **Paragraph 5- Your “Reality Check”** | | |
| **Education Level** | What education level did you select and explain why you made this choice. | **2 points** |
| **Occupational Category** | What occupational category did you choose? Explain. | **2 points** |
| **Career Availability** | What careers are available in the occupational category you chose? In other words, what is out there for you to do in the field you chose? | **3 points** |
| **Occupation title** | What job title did you choose? Describe why this was the occupation you chose. | **2 points** |
| **Annual salary? Hourly wage?** | Describe how much you will make before expenses and taxes (be specific—is it an annual salary? Hourly wage? Paid on commission?) | **2 points** |
| **Job prospects in State of Choice** | Is there opportunity for a job in your desired place of living? Describe what this looks like.  Be specific. | **3 points** |
| **Description of job choice** | Write least 3 sentences describing what the job is and what you will be doing. | **5 points** |
| **Paragraph 6- Closing** | | |
| **Summary of training required, including college degree needed.** | * What type of degree do you need (bachelor’s, master’s, doctorate, etc.)? * What is required of you before you can start the job? *(Company requirements, interview process, degree level, etc.)* * What will you need to do to prepare yourself for this career? | **4 points** |
| **Describe your feelings after taking the Reality Check/researching your future career and lifestyle** | * Have you considered making any changes?   + If so, what are they?   + If not, why not? * How did the Reality Check/research affect your thoughts about your plans after high school? * What advice would you give yourself after taking the Reality Check? * Lastly, what do you think your “back-up plan” might be if the job you originally wanted has no jobs available?   Be specific! | **5 points** |
| **Reality Check Total Expenses and Reality Check Career Profile Print Outs OR Detailed Budget Summary** |  | **3 points** |
| **Works Cited** |  | **3 points** |
| **Professionalism and Mechanics** | Report is written neatly, free of grammatical errors, and complete sentences are used. | **5 points** |
| **Part One Total** |  | |
| **Part Two Total** |  | |
| **TOTAL POINTS** |  | |

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