

Moving on Up

PROJECT DUE ON Friday, June 6

This project will make you more aware of the various expenses incurred when living by yourself for the first time. For a greater effect, we will assume you need to start from scratch - that is, you will need to find a place to live, determine the costs of utilities (water, heat, and electricity), other amenities (cell phone, cable, internet, gym membership, etc.), and the furnishings of several rooms in your new place. You will be required to complete this project on your own time. There are several 'due dates' associated with this project as it is broken up into chunks. This will prevent the scenario of you thinking that it is reasonable (or acceptable) to complete the project a night or two before its due in its entirety. This project WILL take time, so break it up accordingly.

Essential Question: How much does income impact your livelihood?

Objective: To have a better understanding of how far your hard-earned money will go.

Overall Task: There will be several parts to this project. You will be required to find a place to live, determine costs of several amenities, and furnish your new abode. After completing the first three portions, you will also be required to write a response about the expenses you ran into. [The whole project should be organized and compiled in a Google Slides deck](#). Throughout each part you should be using the **Essential Question** (listed above) to help you process your 'experience'.

**If you decide to have a roommate, Part 2, 3, 4, and 6 can be completed together. Parts 1 and 5 need to be completed separately, but will need to be included in the Google Slides deck that you'd turn in together.*

Part 1 - CAREER

Utilize several of the resources below to take a look at --3-- potential career paths and associated salaries.

1. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/occupation-finder.htm?pay=&education=&training=&newjobs=&growth=&submit=GO>
 - o Awesome resource. Feel free to play around with the various drop-down options located at the top of the career results. Also, make sure to switch it to, "Show 100 entries". Lastly, for whatever reason, the way to go to the 'next' entries is located in the upper right hand of the career info/data
2. https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Salaries#intsrc=fe.candidate_header_desktop_logged_out
 - o The search feature doesn't work as well...but if you scroll down on the screen, there's a treasure trove of information about careers. It also allows you to see salaries based on geographic location!
3. <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2015/article/wage-differences.htm>
 - o Generally, there's a lot of good information on this page about more specific career areas.
4. <http://money.com/money/collection-post/3829776/heres-what-the-average-grad-makes-right-out-of-college/>
 - o Very general ... "average starting salaries" for non-specific career areas
5. <https://www.thebalancecareers.com/salaries-for-jobs-a-z-list-2063402>
 - o TONS of career-specific information ... that information is just one-click away from the original link
6. <https://www1.salary.com/>
 - o 1-click brings you to a page of careers with selected 'salary ranges'

Career Interest #1:	"Starting" and/or "Median" salary:
Relevant Info about career:	Relevant Info about career:
Interesting Info about career:	Interesting Info about career:

Career Interest #2:	"Starting" and/or "Median" salary:
Relevant Info about career:	Relevant Info about career:
Interesting Info about career:	Interesting Info about career:

Career Interest #3:	"Starting" and/or "Median" salary:
Relevant Info about career:	Relevant Info about career:
Interesting Info about career:	Interesting Info about career:

Part 2 – HOUSING

- **Task 1 - Research Task:** The type of housing you need to look for is for yourself -OR- yourself + 1 (a roommate). The below balances are based on pre-tax annual income. You also need to find *three* places to live (one at each income level). These places should be based on the below salaries and the salary range you found from Part 1. All three below salaries are *possible* upon graduation, but the latter two are much more unlikely for the majority of recent high school graduates. Even college graduates will find difficulty having a job/career that pays the latter two salaries starting out (especially the last salary of the three).

Housing Salary #1: \$28,000

Max annual rent @35%: \$9,800/year

Max annual rent @25%: \$7,000/year

Housing Salary #2: \$40,000

Max annual rent @35%: \$14,000/year

Max annual rent @25%: \$10,000/year

Housing Salary #3: \$80,000

Max annual rent @35%: \$28,000/year

Max annual rent @25%: \$20,000/year

As a rule of thumb, your yearly rent should never exceed more than about 35% of your salary - follow this rule of thumb when looking for a place to live. Or, to add a challenge, feel free to base your rent off of the “Rental Rule” which is 25% of your salary!

- **In the Google Slides deck, you need to include the following for each apartment option:**

- Address of residence (ex. 669 Franklin St. Oshkosh, WI, 54901)
- Cost per month (you may need to call to verify this)
- Cost to rent for 1-year
- Cost of security deposit (made prior to moving in... if you cannot find one, assume it is the cost of 1 month's rent)
- Sq. footage of apartment
- Number of bedrooms (studio, 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom)
- Type of housing (apartment, house, flat, etc)
- Amenities included (underground parking, heat, water, in-unit washer-dryer, a workout area, storage)

- **Task 2 - Short-Response Task:** Respond to the following prompts:

- Compare AND Contrast the three rental properties you have chosen at the various rent prices.
- Identify a career goal (and an expected salary upon acquiring a position) and which of the three rental properties you believe is *most realistic* for your career goals.
- Identify any difficulties you may incur when renting an apartment, house, flat, condo, etc.
- Identify any surprises you encountered when searching for rental properties.
- Identify anything that you thought should be included in the costs, but wasn't.

Part 3 - UTILITIES AND AMENITIES

Amenities are often overlooked when looking at monthly expenses. Utilities, cable and internet, and other similar costs can rack up quickly. Some of these expenses are unavoidable, and some are to add comfort to your lifestyle. Thanks to the lovely internet, you should find no shortage of information on single-living costs for utilities and the amenities you prefer to have while living alone!

- **Task 1: Unavoidable Avg. costs /month**

<u>Electric/month (if not included)</u> Note: Some *rentals* have their heating costs included in their electric costs*	Cost/Month:
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<u>Natural Gas/month (if not included)</u> Note: Some *rentals* have their gas/heating costs included in their electric costs*	Cost/Month:
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<u>Water/3-months (if not included)</u> Note: Some *rentals* have their water costs included in the rent*	Cost/Month
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<u>Security Deposit:</u> Note: Often, but not always, 1-month's rent paid up-front	1-Time Cost:
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To find out electric costs: *Specific utility bill costs can be found by using the address of your chosen residence –DO NOT WAIT LAST MINUTE TO DO THIS!*

- Call WE Energies at **800-242-9137** and press “5” for “all other options” and then “0” for “speak with a representative” and wait on the line for the human.
 - Have the address ready and tell the representative that you’re looking for the average price of electric and/or heat of the residence (you may not have an apartment number... so you can ask for a ‘general idea’ from the building’s units
 - They will give you a quote on the average usage of that property’s past renter – I’VE DONE IT...IT WORKS
- OR -- an easier, less accurate route can be found here -- <https://wallethub.com/edu/energy-costs-by-state/4833/?kbid=118190&gclid=> -- OR HERE -- <https://www.move.org/utility-bills-101/>

To find out water costs: *Choose a reasonable number between \$75-150 to determine your water bill. \$75 would be using water very minimally and \$150 would be using it all the time – do you shower a lot? Plan on doing a lot of laundry? Plan on washing dishes all the time? Toilet usage...etc*

Task 2: Amenities

- Personal comforts (you *must* have at least 4) - a **detailed description** of these comforts also needs to be included (i.e. what type of cell plan, cable plan, speed of internet, gym membership, etc...) and **they must be monthly bills...not a one-time payment.**
 - Make sure to...
 - Identify the monthly service
 - List the cos of the monthly service
 - Provide a detailed description of, ‘what you get’ for the cost

Cell Phone	Cable/Streaming	Internet
Music Streaming	Magazine Subscription	Car Insurance (feel free to discuss with parents)
Gym Membership	Gaming Subscription (PSN, XBOX Live)	Gasoline
Other 1	Other 2	Other 3

*****Monthly subscriptions and a detailed list of, “what you get for the cost” must be neatly and clearly organized.*****

- Task 3 - TOTALLING MONTHLY COSTS (use Part 1 info for salary)

Salary 1 Costs		Salary 2 Costs		Salary 3 Costs	
Cost of Monthly Rent:	Cost of Monthly Utilities:	Cost of Monthly Rent:	Cost of Monthly Utilities:	Cost of Monthly Rent:	Cost of Monthly Utilities:
Cost of Monthly Amenities:	Total Cost of Living per month:	Cost of Monthly Amenities:	Total Cost of Living per month:	Cost of Monthly Amenities:	Total Cost of Living per month:

Part 4 – FURNISHINGS

This portion will be more time-consuming than you will realize, so plan to spend a decent amount of time completing this. Furnishing living spaces becomes expensive, very quickly - the small things really add up! Have fun with this and feel free to take pictures of what you want! At the **minimum**, I want the prices of every furnishing "purchased", and where you bought it. However, I would love to see creativity here to get a better idea of what you actually want to purchase! Whether it is a picture of the furniture, the style, or even the color scheme, the creativity will make it much more enjoyable for both you and me. ...**You do NOT need to complete this task for *each* apartment...**

- **What you need for each item furnished**

7 items for each living space	Price of each item	Brief description of each item ("couch" will not suffice, an image of the product will count as a 'description')	Place of purchase for each item
Organized list of which living space item belongs in	Overall cost for furnishing each living space	Total cost of furnishing all living spaces	

- **What you need to furnish**

- **Kitchen** - The kitchen is a place where small amounts of items can pile up costs before you realize it. Furnish your kitchen with things you will need day-to-day. Items such as dishes, silverware, cleaning supplies, pots and pans, baking sheets/pans, cooking utensils, etc. (expect the rental property to have a refrigerator, range/oven, and a dishwasher (hopefully)).
- **Living Room** - Furniture is expensive, but adds crucial comfort to your living situation. Items such as tables, chairs, sofas, TVs, TV stands, lamps, pillows, pictures, candles, etc all add to comfort. Stay within a reasonable price-range given your salary.
- **Bedroom #1 (and #2 if you have a roommate)** - Not every place has enormous amounts of closet space - especially if it's a cheaper, smaller place. You will most likely need a bed, mattress, dresser, and a nightstand at the *minimum*. Feel free to add things, but make sure you include at least those items.
- **Bathroom #1 (and #2 if you have a roommate)** - A bathroom is much like a kitchen in the sense that costs rise quickly. Think of all of the small things that you would need on a daily/nightly basis when living alone. Do not include things like cosmetics or electronics. Items such as plunger, scrub brush, towels, shower curtain, etc, should be included (and there should be more than just those listed).

Note: those of you who choose a studio, you will still be required to furnish all of these same spaces

Part 5 – INTERVIEW - Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Financially independent adult

The purpose of this portion of the project is to understand some of the difficulties your parent(s)/guardian(s) went through when they moved out on their own for the first time. I am requiring you to ask *at least* the following questions to at *least 2 adults who are, or have been, financially independent*:

1. At what age did you become self-reliant personally, financially?
2. What made you move out for the first time?
3. What was it like to move out by yourself for the first time?
4. Describe the first place you moved into and how the experience of 'living on your own/with a roommate' changed over time.
5. What were some personal and/or financial difficulties you incurred along the way that related to being on your own?
6. How did you handle any financial barriers you encountered?
7. Was there anything that you wished you would have done differently at first?
8. What are some suggestions/tips you could provide me upon my first time moving out?
9. Think of your own for the 9th question.
10. Think of your own 10th question.

To ensure completion of this portion, it will be necessary to have written answers for EACH question, as well as a signature from your parent(s)/guardian(s)/financially independent adult stating that the interview took place.

Part 6 - SHORT RESPONSE – Entire Project Due on Friday, June 9

Address all of the following questions/statements in a thoughtful, reflective response to the following statements.

- Determine how your thoughts on the cost of living on your own changed as you maneuvered through this project.
- Identify and explain any surprise costs you stumbled upon along the way.
- Determine and explain whether there were any costs you believe you could live without that were **forced** upon you with this project.
- Explain whether or not these costs would be easy to deal with based on what you know about yourself and your potential future career choice(s)
- Reflect on the importance of having a plan for your future financially AND career-wise (this by no means is meant to make somebody feel bad if they're uncertain about their future...)
- Reflect on the interview with your parent(s)/guardian(s)/financially independent adult(s) on what it was like for them to move out for the first time. What surprised you? What did you learn about the individuals you interviewed? What advice did you take to heart? Did their experience match your expectations? etc...
- Compare and contrast your thoughts to your parents experiences of moving out for the first time.

Scoring Rubric and Gradebook Setup

	Beginning (1)	Developing (2)	Proficient (3)	Excels (4)
Content Understanding (assessed throughout and final product)	Even with guidance, does not show understanding of the content under study.	Shows some understanding of the content and can answer basic questions	and shows breadth/depth of understanding of the content by providing details, using vocabulary accurately, and explaining important events/concepts/themes	and accurately uses a historical thinking skill to synthesize learning.
Develop Claims using Evidence to Support Reasoning (conferring and final product)	Claim is weak or nonexistent	Develops a weak, defensible claim that provides focus in the final product, based upon multiple sources of information	and supports the claim with accurate evidence from multiple perspectives	and uses sound reasoning/analysis to explain the extent to which evidence supports the claim.
Clarity / Communication (final product)	Does not clearly communicate understanding of the historical topic.	Communicates so that someone with strong background knowledge of the historical topic can understand	and clearly communicates claim, evidence, and reasoning in such a way that an audience with limited background knowledge would achieve understanding of the topic	and purposefully utilizes effective delivery skills to captivate the audience, enhancing the overall message.

Formal Citations (APA or MLA)

No formal citations - Auto-Fail