

Foundations of Woods Virtual Learning

One Trade Many Careers

Chapter 5

May 4 2020

Foundations of Woods Lesson: May 4, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- Explain the difference between a career and a job.
- Evaluate career options by gathering information.
- Choose a career option by matching personal characteristics with career characteristics
- Identify educational requirements for career choices.
- Establish a career plan by setting timelines.

Chapter 5: Choosing a Career That Is Right for You

A whole world of career options awaits you



Job vs. Career

A job is considered short term employment, while a career is an occupation that you expect to have for an extended period of time.



Job vs. Career *cont.*

Career Categories

- Professional, technical, and managerial
- Clerical and sales
- Service
- Agriculture, fishery, and forestry
- Processing
- Machine trades
- Benchwork
- Structural work
- Miscellaneous

Narrowing Your Career Choices

Choosing a career may seem overwhelming. Approaching this process methodically will help.

- Carefully consider each career category and pick one or two that interest you.
- Make a list of any careers that appeal to you.
- Research additional careers on the Internet, in books and other publications, or ask a local employment office and add them to your list.
- Talk to your parents, teachers, and school advisors or counselors about possible career ideas.
- Review your list and underline or make a separate list of the occupations that sound the most attractive to you.

Narrowing Your Career Choices *cont.*

Questions to Answer

Ask the following questions about each career on your list:

- What does it pay?
- How will you spend your time at work?
- What are the hours?
- Is the work physically demanding?
- What skills and talents are required?
- How much education or training is required?
- What are the working conditions?
- Is this career in demand?
- Does the career have a future?
- Are the skills you need **transferrable**? Meaning, can the skills be applied to more than one career.
- What are the opportunities for advancement?

Narrowing Your Career Choices *cont.*

Researching Your Choices

Use the following resources to answer career questions you may have:

- Internet
- Library
- Companies and businesses
- Government agencies
- Talking with workers
- Try the job yourself

Narrowing Your Career Choices *cont.*

On the Job Training (OJT)

The best way to learn about a career is to actually try the work yourself. You can do this with:

- **Apprenticeship** – A program that provides a way to learn an occupation by working as a paid assistant alongside a more experienced and well-qualified worker called a **journeyman**.
- **Internship** – A program that provides a way to learn an occupation by working, usually without pay, alongside experienced professionals for a period of weeks or months.

Narrowing Your Career Choices

cont.

On the Job Training (OJT), *cont.*

- **Job shadowing** – A program that provides a way to learn about a particular company or jobsite by observing it for a period of days.
- Volunteer work – Working for free, usually for a nonprofit or charitable agency.
- **Cooperative education** – A program that provides work at a particular company for a specified number of hours per week while still attending school.

Deciding on a Career

Use a table like the following to do a good job of evaluating your potential careers.

Name: _____ Career: Carpentry

Personal Characteristics	Career Characteristics	Match Yes or No
Long-term Goals		
Own a home	Pays well but pay varies from region to region	Yes
Be in a management position	Has a career path: journey worker to supervisor/foreman to superintendent	Yes
Want to work for myself one day	Can become independent contractor—own business	Yes
Values		
Contribute to the good of society	Build needed structures—homes, bridges, offices, etc.	Yes
Stay close to family geographically	May work on jobsites that are away from home sometimes	No
Need free time to pursue interests	Work is pretty constant and sometimes involves long hours	Unsure about work hours
Personality/Personal Traits		
Good with people	Must be able to work well with people in a team	Yes
Honest	Must be honest	Yes
High energy	Requires physical strength and endurance	Unsure about strength
Like working with my hands	Must have good hand-eye coordination	Yes
Like to do a good job	Requires attention to detail	Yes
Like to figure out how to fix things that are broken	Requires ability to solve problems	Yes
Education/Training		
Will graduate from high school	High School education preferred but not required	Yes
Not keen on four more years of school without pay	Offers 4-year apprenticeship, can earn while learning	Yes
Need to earn pay while training	Offers continuing education to upgrade skills	Yes
Not any good at math	Requires good math skills	No

Preparing for a Successful Career

Preparation is the Key to Success

It is important to have the education and training you need for the career you want. Types of education include:

- High School
- College or University
- Community College
- Career Colleges



Planning Your Career

Whatever your career goals may be, a career plan can help you work toward and achieve them. Here are some tips:

- Understand your career goals
- Select realistic career goals
- Develop short-term career goals
- Establish reasonable timelines
- Develop a written career plan

Planning Your Career *cont.*

Career Plan

An example career plan may look like the one shown here.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Career Goal

Journey worker carpenter– Acquire the skills and experience necessary to get full time employment as a journey worker carpenter

Short-Term Goals

Take available carpentry classes in high school: 1–2 years

Completed: _____

Gain experience working in a group or go out for a team sport: 1 year

Completed: _____

Graduate from high school: 3–4 year

Completed: _____

Medium-Term Goals

Take community college math courses: part-time over 2 years

Completed: _____

Enter apprenticeship program: 4 years

Completed: _____

Work during apprenticeship: 4 years

Completed: _____

Long-Term Goals

Complete apprenticeship program successfully: 2–5 years

Completed: _____

Work fulltime as a carpenter and continue to take upgrade classes: 5 years

Successfully apply for a supervisor's position at the end of 5 years

Achieved: _____