



## Career Exploration

This exercise is designed to familiarize you with the library materials and resources that can help answer important questions about the careers you are considering

1. Check the **three** industries or career fields that seem to interest you *most* at this time:

_____ Advertising and Public Relations	_____ Manufacturing
_____ Education and/or Human Services	_____ Marketing and/or Sales
_____ Banking and Finance	_____ Retail
_____ Entertainment and the Arts	_____ Science & Technology
_____ Media and/or Communications	_____ Transportation
_____ Government/Law/Law Enforcement	_____ Tourism & Hospitality
_____ Healthcare	_____ Other (_____)

2. Within any industry, you will always find a *range* of career opportunities. For each interest area above, list **three** specific career options associated with that industry.

-Examples-

Retail: *fashion designer, buyer, store owner/manager*

Healthcare: *hospital administrator, cardiologist, social worker, occupational therapist*

Banking & Finance: *loan officer, investment portfolio manager, accountant*

3. Choose **one** of the career options you generated in question #2 and list it here.

4. Identify **three different work settings** or **types of employers** available to you in this career.

-Examples-

Writer/Reporter: *Reporter – daily newspaper*  
*Staff writer – weekly/monthly trade magazine*  
*Freelance journalist – many different news publications*  
*Author – fiction novel or non-fiction book*



5. Describe the ***nature of the work***. For example, what general responsibilities and projects are included in this position? What daily activities, responsibilities, and projects are involved? In what ways will you collaborate with others?
  
6. What specific ***skills and specialized knowledge*** will be required to be effective in this career? How will you use the skills and expertise that you listed?
  
7. What type of ***education or training*** is required for this career? Will you need an advanced degree? What types of certifications or licenses (if any) are required?

Cite your source:

8. What ***salary range*** can you expect from this career option? How might your salary be affected by such factors as geography and type of employer?

Cite your source:

9. What ***opportunities for advancement*** would be available to you? Describe the typical “promotion path.”

Cite your source:

10. What is the ***employment outlook*** for this career? How might that outlook vary with historical, current and anticipated economic cycles?

Cite your source:

## Summary

How does this career path align with your values and interests? What are the pros and cons of pursuing this path? Now that you have researched this career, are you still interested in pursuing this option? Why or why not?