



Income

Lesson One: Plan Your Future

There are many things you should know about yourself when you think about the future and how you will earn an **income**, money received for work. You may be more successful at choosing the best job for you if you know your interests, abilities, aptitudes, and values.

- **Interests:** Your interests are the things you like and enjoy doing. What are you interested in? What are you passionate about? What do you do in your free time? Do you enjoy music, communicating through social media, helping others, selling things?
- **Abilities:** Your abilities are the things you do well. Can you play a musical instrument? Can you fix things, create a Web page, do graphic design, play a sport, or cook? In what subject areas do you excel—math, English, science, business, or physical education?
- **Aptitudes:** These are your natural talents. Are you good at taking things apart and putting them back together? Is drawing, performing, or writing easy for you? Keep in mind just because you are good at something, doesn't always mean you like doing it. Also consider your interests and values when thinking of a future occupation.
- **Values:** Your values are the ideals that are important to you and how you view the world. Would you prefer a career that pays a lot of money or one that pays less but is more secure? Are responsibility, independence, creativity, and leadership important values to you? Would you value a job as a congressman helping your community or working as a scientist adding to the world's knowledge?

Notes:

Vocabulary

Abilities

The things you do well.

Aptitudes

Your natural talents.

Income

Money received on a regular basis for work or through investments.

Interests

The things you like and enjoy doing.

Values

The ideals that are important to you and your career choice.