**Student Guide: Hello Summer School, Goodby Wages**

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A Lesson in:

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| * Job Choice * Cost and Benefits of Furthering Education | * Informed Career Choice * Determination of Wages |

**Before the Reading:**

1. **Summer Time.** *What do you think about when you think about the summer? Any favorite memories?*

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1. **Last Summer.** *What did your last summer look like? A break from classes with a summer job, or more of the same? Did you have any say in what you did, or did parents make the decision for you?*

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1. **A penny for your thoughts.** *How much time did you spend evaluating your options in effort to make the best decision for your summer? Did you perform a “cost benefit analysis” to determine what the best arrangement was for your future?*

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1. **Paid with experience?** If the proof is in the pudding, statistics show students around the country have concluded that skipping experience with work just makes sense; *if* that time is replaced with academics. The chance to get ahead in studies, or remediate when needed seems to be an increasing trend among high school teens. *Give your opinion about summer schooling versus an opportunity to earn money working.*

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1. **Keep your options open.** While students may be equipping themselves for college with extra studying, there is concern with a lack of work experience when entering the workplace.

*When high school students make the decision to forego working a part time job, what are they really giving up other than earning minimum wages?*

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1. **Costs and benefits.** People vary in their willingness to obtain more education or training because these decisions involve incurring immediate costs to obtain future benefits. *Describe how discounting the future benefits of education and training may lead some people to pass up potentially high rates of return that more education and training could offer.*

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1. **Rate.** *Rank the reasons 1 through 5 that people may choose jobs or careers for which they are qualified based on non-income factors, such as: job satisfaction, independence, risk, family, or location. (Write in these 5 factors below.)*

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| 1. Most Important |  |
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| 1. Least Important |  |

1. ***Team up.*** *Discuss with a partner and make a list of what teens are sacrificing when they give up work experience.*

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| **Teens sacrifice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when they give up working a summer job.** |
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**During the Reading with Newspapers in Education.**

1. **Read the article (All School No Work May Be Teens New Normal).** *Consider the following and answer below.*

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| 1. *Are students getting ahead by choosing summer academics over summer pay? How did you come to this conclusion?* |  |
| 1. *Are there certain “students” who should consider academics over the summer? What about electing to pursue summer work? Explain your answer choices.* |  |
| 1. *What career fields or industries would benefit from students starting out in high school? Why?* |  |

**After the Reading.**

*8*. **Sometimes it is about the money!** *What factors determine pay in a business? How much does experience play a part in the decision to pay an employee at a higher wage rate?*

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**9. Make it real.** *Create a half page flyer, to help students in your class navigate between choosing summer school or summer work. You may choose to include a pro and con list, or a venn-diagram to help illustrate your thoughts.*