

3

Discover the Importance of Having a Career Goal

TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will discover the importance of making the right decisions to reach their goals.

RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

The choices and plans we make today can affect the rest of our lives. It is important to remember that the path we are on now will lead us into the future.

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

❑ STEP 1: Update Journal

A good decision for my future is . . .

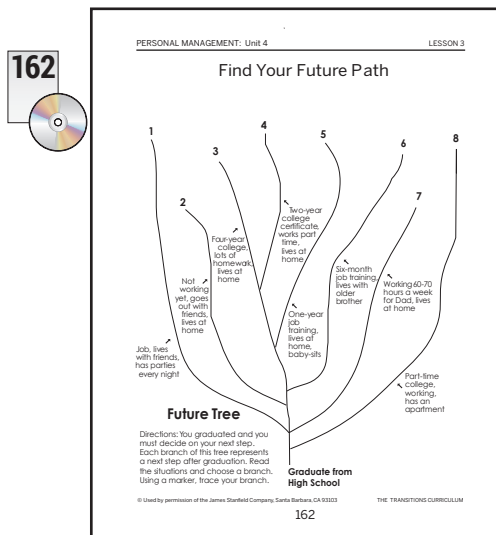
❑ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"When I know exactly where I am going, I feel ____."

❑ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will learn that your future career depends on knowing what you want to do and getting on the path that leads to that career."

Your Future Path, explain that each branch of the Future Tree shows one path to the future. Go over the situations next to each branch of the tree. Ask students to choose a branch and then trace it with a marker. Ask for volunteers to tell what they would be doing five years later based on the branch they chose. Include things like: the job or car they will have and the amount of money they will make. Now go over the **Future Path Scenarios**. Starting with path number one, ask who chose this path and then read the description. Continue by reading or having volunteers read each scenario.



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PERSONAL MANAGEMENT: Unit 4 LESSON 3

Future Path Scenarios

1. You live on the streets and you are always hungry. Your parents kicked you out three months ago because of your drug problems and your choice of friends. You can't keep a job because of drugs. You are on probation for having drugs. You want to get your life straightened out.
2. You work at Burger King and earn minimum wage. You must take the bus to work. You've had several jobs. You have a short time keeping jobs because you like to party. Your parents are ready to kick you out for coming in late. You joined AA to get your alcohol problem under control. You have problems paying \$80 per month for rent.
3. You are working as an assistant manager of a bank. You just graduated from State College with a degree in Business. You are single and rent a nice apartment for \$1,000 a month. You drive a used Jeep. You make \$2 an hour and love your job.
4. You are working as a manager of Taco Bell for \$18 an hour. You just finished your AA degree at the community college. You live with your mother and have a one-year old baby. You pay \$425 a month for child care and \$150 a month for rent. You drive an old Ford.
5. You are working as a nurse assistant for \$14 an hour after six months of training. You drive an old Volkswagen. You live at home with your parents and two younger sisters. Your parents have strict rules about what time you can come in and when meals are served. You also must pay \$60 a month rent.
6. You worked as a security guard after six months of training. While working you took courses at the community college for three years. Now you are working as a police officer after training at the police academy. You are making \$25 an hour and like your job. You are married with a new baby and live in an apartment. Your only car is a Honda Civic.
7. You are working for a construction company making \$18 an hour. You own a truck and are renting a room from the parents of an old friend for \$300 a month. They don't like it if you have friends over and you have to be quiet. They do let you share meals so you are lucky to have a nice home-cooked meal every day. You like your job and want to get your contractor's license in a few years.
8. You are working for \$30 an hour in LA as a makeup artist for a studio and you love your job. You own a Mustang and live in a nice apartment for \$1,200 a month. You are married and both of you work. You have had two years of job training and a one-year internship.

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❑ STEP 4: Activity - 25 Minutes

For this activity to be effective, do not let students look at the lesson handouts on pages 20-21. Using a screen image of **Find**

❑ STEP 5: Activity - 20 Minutes

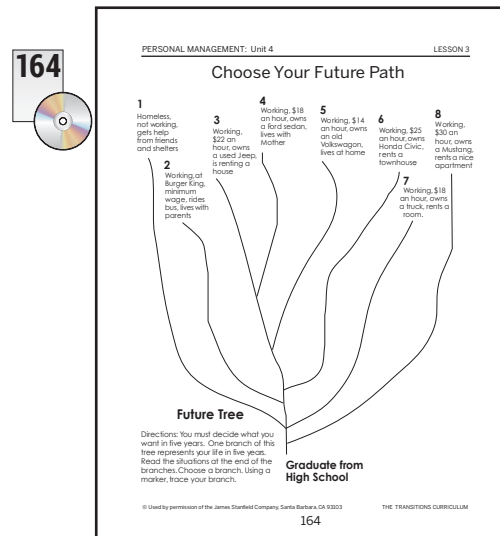
In pairs, have students react to the scenarios by asking, "Would you have chosen this path if you knew what would be at the end?" Now, have students look at **Choose Your Future Path**. Read or have students read the situations at the end of each branch of the Future Tree. Again have students mark the branch they chose to represent their future. Ask students to discuss with a partner, "What is your first step to get what you want at the end of this path? Which tree helped you make a better choice about the future? Why?" Emphasize, "You must first know what you want at the end of the path. Then you can decide how you will get there. If you don't know what you want and then set a goal, it will be hard to make a plan. Without a goal and a plan, you won't know what to do to have the future you want."

❑ STEP 6: Evaluate Outcomes

I must have a goal for the future because
"_____."

❑ STEP 7: Connecting Activity

Go online to locate job openings and find the starting pay for 5 different jobs. Bring information to share.



KEY WORDS

direction

follow

decide

future

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Student Handouts: **Find Your Future Path**, page 162; **Future Path Scenarios**, page 163; **Choose Your Future Path**, page 164.
- Make a screen image of **Find Your Future Path**.
- Become familiar with the scenarios on the handout.

SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Listening
- Thinking Skills: Decision Making, Visualizing
- Personal Qualities: Self-Management, Integrity/Honesty