

Topic/Perspective A

Go to College

- The college experience will be what you make of it.
- Job opportunities and flexibility increase for those with a college degree.
- Many jobs with benefits (e.g., insurance/health-care, retirement plans, social security, etc.) require a college degree.
- Many college degree programs emphasize work experience as an important element.
- On average, college grads make over 2 times more money in a lifetime (versus non-college grads).
- Education learned via internships and work-study experiences is priceless.
- Better chance of a stable career (v layoffs) with a college degree.
- 53% of college graduates are unemployed or working at a job that doesn't require a degree.
- Start building a resume of real-world experience via internships.
- A college degree doesn't guarantee a job in the field you studied.
- Vast majority of college students graduate with debt.

Topic/Perspective B

Go to Work

- Earn money (at work) instead of spending it (on college).
- Typically begin with an entry-level position.
- Strong performance often allows for a quick rise in ranks (i.e., hourly employee to supervisor to manager).
- No college program can fully prepare someone; some things can only be learned on the job.
- Most jobs require lifelong learning via continuous training and certification renewals.
- Education learned on the job is priceless.
- HS vocational classes provided essential training.
- Working/making money now is the top priority for some people (e.g., support family, pay off debt, etc.).
- Any job can be valuable with the right attitude. The experience will be what you make of it.
- Options for higher paying jobs may be limited.
- Start building a resume (and references) based on real-world experience.
- Some people want/need only enough money to pay utilities and rent.
- More vulnerable to be laid off without a degree.

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EXAMPLE FROM THE LESSON

