

THEY WORK HARD FOR THEIR MONEY

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[Assignment: A number of possible topics were offered. The one chosen was, give 3 or 4 reasons for a part-time job while in school.]

(1) Many high school and college students find it advantageous to have part-time jobs while attending school. Each student has his own reasons for wanting to work. In most cases, these reasons will lead to positive results, but many students also find that combining working with going to school also has its disadvantages.

(2) Students have a variety of reasons for getting a part-time job while in school. They may need the money that the job pays. Parents are not always able to put forth the money that their children require for their various wants and needs. The student may then decide to help his parents out and begin working part-time to pay for his own expenditures.

(3) While money is an important reason for students to begin working, a part-time job also provides valuable work experience. Working gives the student a look at what it is really like out in the "real world." He will work with new people, be exposed to new skills, and become acquainted with the responsibilities that having a job entails.

(4) In addition to money and work experience, many students get part-time jobs to fill free time or to do something new. Although school can be very demanding, some students have extra time when their studying is done, and will find a job to keep themselves busy. As unusual as it may seem, boredom causes many students to seek employment, and they end up having fun.

(5) Once a student decides to begin working part-time and finds a job, he will soon discover that the reasons he looked for a job in the first place lead to the positive aspects of working.

(6) Working provides the student with one very important item--an income. He will be earning his own money to do with whatever he pleases. The money can be put into a savings account to pay for college (or to continue paying for college). If not school, a new car could be next on the list of possible ways to spend the money earned by working part-time. If the student does not have plans that big, just having spending money that did not come from mom and dad's pocket gives the student a feeling of accomplishment and pride, not to mention his parent's heartfelt thanks.

(7) Earning money is a dominant factor when a student decides to get a part-time job, but desiring work

experience also plays a major role in this decision. College students consider this aspect more seriously than would high school students, but work experience is valuable for anyone who plans on keeping a job. Perhaps the student is planning on entering a certain field of study. If he is able to find a job pertaining to his intended occupation, he could receive valuable training that he cannot get in school. Any related work experience could be an asset to his future career. He could also find out if this particular job is what he really wants to do. Once he is actually involved in a possible future occupation and finds that he does not like it, there is still time to change his mind. A part-time job not only introduces a student to the business world, but it can provide him with work experience and help in making career decisions.

(8) Working part-time while in school not only has material and intellectual advantages, but it also has positive psychological effects on the students. Working introduces many new aspects of life that students have not yet experienced while still in school. They take on more responsibilities and become more mature. They learn a different point of view when they are the worker instead of the consumer, and in turn are more considerate and tolerant of the people behind the counter because they have been there themselves. Students who work and earn for themselves can also feel a sense of importance and pride in what they have accomplished. These feelings and changes are what cause a person to grow into the adult he will finally be.

(9) Most students anticipate the positive aspects when they apply for part-time work, but it is not until they actually begin working that they realize that it is going to take some of the time previously devoted to other activities. If they wanted to go out for a sport or join a club at school, working might cause a conflict which would not allow them to participate. In addition to extracurricular activities, a student working part-time would not have as much free time for an active social life. He might find himself having to work on Friday or Saturday nights instead of being able to go out with his friends. Not enough time exists to do all that he was used to doing before he began working.

(10) The fact that working is time consuming also has a direct influence on homework and studying. Depending on how much a student works determines how much time is left over for school work. Working several times a week so that he can make as much money as possible for college is not going to do that student any good if he does not have the grades to get in. It is important to keep up with his homework and studying, and working even part-time can take time away from that.

(11) Negative psychological aspects of working also exist. Many students may have to work in order to put themselves through college or help with money matters at

home, in addition to attending school. A combination of working and going to school can put a great deal of pressure on the student. He may feel that he should work as much as possible and keep up grades at the same time. The strain eventually is going to be too much, and the student may have to give up his job or find some other way to ease the strain he is under before it gets too uncontrollable.

(12) When a student decides to work part-time while he is attending school, he takes many factors into consideration. He thinks about the reasons why he wants to work, and the possible results of getting a job. He should realize that there will be both positive and negative aspects as a result of his decision that will affect his life.