

**Research Paper
Spring 2013
English III
Ms. Robbins**

All juniors at VMHS are required to write a research paper. Successful completion of the research meets both district and 11th-grade ELA standards. *The topic of your paper will be your future career.* This assignment will enable you to gain additional information about the career you selected. In addition, it will prepare you for the Senior Exit Interview (SEI) essay that you will write later this semester. (The SEI essay is part of the SEI project which all students must complete to graduate from VMHS.)

Completion of the research paper will also enable you to develop your skills and strengths in the areas of research, analysis, incorporating MLA format, writing and revision. The research paper is a major assignment during the junior year. Failure to submit this assignment could result in failing the second semester of English III.

Below are guiding questions for you as you conduct research for your paper:

- 1.) What is the growth potential for your career? How many positions will be available within the next five years?
- 2.) Describe the training or education needed for your career.
- 3.) Describe the cost of training or the cost of the education required for your particular field/career.
- 4.) Describe the work environment (e.g. hours, weekends, nights, stress, pace, physical comfort, travel, relocation, hours, routine, etc.)
- 5.) Describe the work values associated with your career choice (e.g. salary, family, environment, etc.)
- 6.) Are there any trends (e.g. demographic, social, legal) that concern you? Any trends that will make this career choice more or less attractive in the future?
- 7.) How much money does this career provide at the entry level? After you work for 10 years? Maximum potential for the most talented/experienced people? How much of the money is usually base pay, bonus (performance driven), profit sharing, stock/partnership, etc.?

You will print four articles or resources and bring them to class on _____.

Students will have the opportunity to complete the majority of this research paper during class time. If you come to class unprepared, that means you will have to complete the various activities and steps at home. If you are prepared to work in class, you will discover that this is not a difficult assignment.

Students will use the following five sources to complete your research:

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| 1. EBSCO | You can access EBSCO via vmhs.net. |
| 2. http://www.edd.ca.gov/ | Employment Development Department |
| 3. http://www.onetonline.org/ | O*Net OnLine |
| 4. http://www.cacareercafe.com/ | California Career Café |
| 5. https://www.caljobs.ca.gov/vosnet/Default.aspx | CalJOBS |

Information about MLA format can be found on the following website:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>