



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

Date: _____

Student Name _____

Teacher Name _____

Module 1 Making Choices about Jobs

Please answer the 4 questions (Q1 through Q4) which appear on the following pages. The question appears in the shaded boxes; the rest of the material is background information to use in answering the questions. The background material is not shaded (like on this page)

Background: Juan just called you and he was very excited. He wanted to come right over to ask your advise about a job. Juan is the son of a very close family friend and has just moved into your neighborhood. Juan recently immigrated to California and you have been helping him in his transition to America. Juan is twenty seven and has a wife and two young children, ages 2 and 5. You have grown to like him very much. He is a hard worker and you have been helping him in his search for a job. You feel relieved that his job search has paid off and proud that he has called on you to help him.

When Juan arrives, to your surprise, Juan has not only had one job offer, but three! There also is a fourth job he saw in the paper and talked to his friends about, but for which he has not yet applied. He is asking your advice about which job he should take. All four jobs are described below. He needs your help so that he can choose the best job for his situation because the jobs offer different things. He also needs to know if there are other questions he should ask; or what else he needs to know to make his decision.

Job 1

This job is as a night janitor for a small light manufacturing company. It pay \$7.50 per hour for approximately 40 hours per week. The company is new and the manager wants to pay in cash on a weekly basis. The job is in a neighboring town which is a short 20 minute bus ride away from Juan's apartment.

Job 2

This is a entry level job at the local school district. It is working with the district landscaper and involves maintenance of the outdoor property (grass cutting, gardening, etc.) It is a full time union job and pays twice a month based on a hourly wage of \$6.00 an hour. The site of the school where Juan would be working is also about a 20 minute bus ride away from his apartment at a local junior college. It offers a full benefit package including a pension plan and an employee insurance plan which covers all immediate family members.

Job 3

This job is being offered at the grocery store which is only three blocks from Juan's apartment. It involves packing groceries and helping customers. It pays \$6.75 per hour and guarantees forty hours per week on a rotating schedule. The company offers a benefit plan which has excellent coverage for Juan and he has an option of covering his family for a small fee. There is no pension plan for new employees but after one year with the company, the employee can participate in a

retirement program.

Job 4

This job is a shipping clerk position at a discount chain store that sells drugs, household supplies and office or school supplies. The job pays \$5.65 an hour, and is a 45 minute bus ride away from his home. It's a new business in the town, and intends to have employee health and retirement plans available for employees, although none are available now. Several of his friends say they are trying for a job there.

Q1a: Which job, listed on previous page, will you advise him to take? Why?

<input type="checkbox"/> Job 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Job 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Job 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Job 4	Why? What things did you consider in making your suggestion
--	---

Q1b. What questions should he ask, or what else does he need to know, in order to make his final decision about this job?

--

Background for the question below: Juan has been so excited about his job and is doing very well. He received his first pay check, and called you very soon after to tell you how very happy he was to get paid, and to thank you for your advice. While talking with him, you find that he is concerned about why his check is so small, and worries that he may not have gotten all he was due. It's clear he doesn't understand what will be deducted from his pay and why these deductions are made.

<p>Q2. Please explain what the deductions listed below are for (why it is made), and what the abbreviation is for each deduction (how it would appear on a check stub).</p> <p>* INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING</p>
--

* SOCIAL SECURITY

* STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE

3. The Instructor asked you several questions at the beginning of this module about any ideas you had about what different kinds of jobs, other than the ones you've done in the past, you might be interested in. The module focused on how to think about ways in which jobs differ. For example, how a new kind of job could be better than the jobs you've had? And, what would it take to prepare yourself to get that job?

a. Thinking about the different kinds of jobs you might be interested in, did this module start you thinking on any different kinds of jobs you had not previously considered?

No___; Yes___--If yes: Which jobs

b. Thinking about how jobs can be better or worse than the other jobs, was this module useful in any way? If so, how?

No___; Yes___--If yes: How?

c. Thinking about what would it take to prepare yourself to get that job, was you work on this module useful in any way? If so, how?

No___; Yes___--If yes: How?

d. What would you tell another student about this module, if you were asked to describe it, the work you did during it, and what You Learned from it-either information or new communication skills?

4. What skills or knowledge do you think you will need to use the information in this module even better than you can now?

5. Did you benefit from your work on this module in any of the following ways?

For example, in your ability to	Yes/No	Please comment on either: < How you benefited; or < Why you feel this module was not useful for you in this area
a. Calculate if you are getting the wage you were promised?		
b. Find out how much more than the minimum wage you are making, after all the legal deductions are made from your paycheck?		
c. Calculate what you should receive from Unemployment Insurance, and for how long you should be able to receive it?		
d. Calculate if you and your family will have enough to live on, if a job is seasonal or varies in the hours you can work?		
e. Communicate better with your supervisor or boss to improve working conditions or make your job better?		
f. Get information about kinds of job opportunities (and special opportunities for people who are bilingual) that will be available in the future, at different pay levels, and what job skills they will require?		
g. Know if you will be covered with unemployment insurance?		
h. Know if you will get benefits if you are injured on the job?		
i. Know if it is fair to pay women less than men?		
j. Know the pros and cons of working with or for family members?		

Authors: Ed Kissam and Holda Dorsey

A project of the California Department of Education, Youth, Adult and Alternative Educational Services Division, funded by contract #4213 of the Federal P.L. 100-297, Section 353 with California State University Institute and Hacienda LaPuente USD. However, the content does not necessarily reflect the position of that unit or of the U.S. Office of Education. 1997