



# Show Me the Money!

By: Amanda Martin  
Elementary school music teacher; M.A.Ed. In Curriculum and Instruction

History  
Grades 9-12



## Introduction

Students will think about the factors that impact how much a worker earns at a job. Students will list those factors in a web chart. Then, students will be asked to determine whether the factors that determine a worker's wage are acceptable or not.

## Learning Objectives

- Students will identify and describe the factors that influence the earnings of workers in the workplace.

## Materials Needed

- Notebook paper

## Procedure

1. Ask students to raise their hands if they have a job. For those students, ask if they feel as though they are paid enough to perform their job duties and responsibilities. If they feel they are underpaid, ask students to explain why. Spend a few minutes discussing student responses as a class. From there, inform students that there are many factors that determine how much someone makes at a job. (For instance: Someone working as a cashier will not make as much money as a doctor, because the job requirements for the doctor are much greater.)
2. Construct a web chart on the board. Ask students to complete the web chart on a piece of paper. In the middle of the web chart, write "factors that influence earnings." Allow students to contribute to the discussion while filling in the web chart. Responses may vary and might include: education, gender, previous experience, etc.
3. Students will be asked to respond to this question on notebook paper: *Are the factors that influence a worker's earnings fair and acceptable? Why or why not?* Responses must be constructed in 5-paragraph form. All opinions must be supported with evidence.

## Evaluation

Please use the following rubric (on page 2) to evaluate each student's essay.



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	4 (Excellent)	3 (Good)	2 (Okay)	1 (Needs Improvement)
The student includes a thesis statement that captures readers' attention.				
The student fully supports his/her opinion with evidence.				
The student presents his/her opinion in a logical way.				
The student remains on topic and in agreement with the thesis throughout the essay.				
The essay consists of at least 5 paragraphs including an introduction and conclusion.				
The student uses complete sentences with appropriate capitalization, grammar, and punctuation.				