

Student name _____

College...How on earth to pay for it All (Part II)

College Students Borrowing at All Time High – NPR (11/3/11) listen & download transcript

College Tuition on the Rise – NPR (10/28/10) listen & download transcript

Quick Facts About Student Debt – The Project on Student Debt (January 2010)

College Costs out of Control – Forbes (March 24, 2012)

Loans & Pell Grant – Building A Better World website (and loan chart)

Tip Scholarship – Building A Better World website (and official flyer)

In Part II of this Real World Economics Assignment we will look at the challenge of paying for college. The podcasts and articles above should provide you an insight to the do's and don't's.

NPR – College Students Borrowing at All Time High

1 – It's not what you are charged...it's what you pay that matters!

In the end...the bottom line is what you pay. A place like Alabama A & M which is historically cheap can actually cost a lot, while a private institution such as Williams College in Massachusetts might be inexpensive. You need to get used to looking backwards – not at the top of the bill - but from the bottom. 1 - What does that statement mean? 2 - Why would one college be more expensive than the other? 3 – How would a student's bill be affordable at the private (more expensive from the top) school?

NPR – College Students Borrowing at All Time High & previous podcast

2 – (Combine the two NPR podcasts) Let's look at some numbers. And interpret their significance.

For each of the following numbers coming out of the two podcasts – explain the significance. Average loan debt - \$25, 500. \$8000 and \$31,000 – where do the numbers come from? \$500 billion to a trillion? \$16,000 a year? \$50,000 a year?

3 – Jeslany and Brittany. Two girls – two different directions.

Each of these girls is faced with a challenge regarding college funding. Their approach to the solution is far different. Summarize the two solutions. Who do you see yourself more like? Why?

Project on Student Debt – Quick Facts on Student Debt

4 – There’s a lot of numbers here - pick one that you CAN explain...

Lots of trends, lots of numbers, lots of percentages going on here. Choose a number or percentage that you are pretty sure that you understand and explain what the numbers reveal.

5 – There’s a lot of numbers here pick one that you CANNOT explain...

Lots of trends, lots of numbers, lots of percentages going on here. Choose a number or percentage that is confusing to you. Identify it. Work through it. Try to reason out the answer – and tell me what you think it might mean.

Forbes – College Costs OUT OF CONTROL

6 – A Meritocracy Facilitated by Education...

Forbes calls Education “the GREAT equalizer, a facilitator of the American Dream.” What does that mean? Do you agree – Explain. Forbes calls the “USA a Meritocracy facilitated by education.” What does that mean? Do you agree. Explain.

7 – College Costs in comparison to the Consumer Price Index

First off, go find out what the Consumer Price Index is and tell me. Next compare that with the cost of college. What do the numbers specifically say since 1982? What are the implications of this for somebody who pays for their own education? What are the implications for families who pay for their sons / daughters education?

Muskegon Opportunity – The T.I.P. Scholarship

8 - The T.I.P. - Phase One / Phase Two

OK...this is HUGE! What exactly is Phase One of the T.I.P. Scholarship? What exactly is Phase Two of the T.I.P. Scholarship? And how do you qualify?

9 – Who takes the T.I.P.?

This is key. Who takes the T.I.P.? What schools? Tell me some of the *Phase One* recipients that might be involved in your education. Tell me some of the *Phase Two* recipients that might be involved in your education. And a few – take em both. Tell me some of those that may be involved in your education. What kind of money are we talking about here?

Building A Better World – Loans and Pell Grant Information – you will find Loan and Pell Info highlighted under “Absolute Essentials” on the Building A Better World - <http://www.buildingabetterworld.net/everything-you-need-to-know/>

10 – The Pell Grant

What exactly is it? How exactly do you qualify for it? Do you think that you qualify? Dig in deeper – go to the linked sight and tell me three things that you learned about the Pell Grant?

11 – Subsidized and Unsubsidized – that is the question...

What is the difference? And why should you care? And why is either better than a private bank loan? Explain...

12 – Perkins / Stafford / Direct ‘Parent’ Plus

Give me the basics of each one in order of preference. Tell my why one would be better than the other.

Fifth Third Bank – A pretty good brochure to download and read

13 – The very worst thing to do is put it on the Credit Card. The next worst is private bank loans.

Why should you not go this route? What are some options if you felt this was your only alternative? Get creative here...
