

Career Investigation

2017

Q.1 The career investigation is a core LCVP activity.

(a) Name a career you have investigated and outline one reason why you chose to investigate this career. 4 mark

Name the career 2 marks

Outline of reason career was chosen 2 marks

(b) Explain one skill and one quality you have that make you suitable for this career. 4 marks

Skill Communication skills, interpersonal skills, a technical skill, leadership,.... 2m(1+1)

Quality Patience, caring, commitment, perseverance,.... 2m(1+1)

(c) Outline four sources of information you used to investigate this career. 8 marks

1. Review books/trade journals/college prospectus about specific careers/newspapers.
2. Self-assessment/DATs tests.
3. Careers portal/Qualifax/career search online/media clips.
4. Work experience/work shadowing.
5. Interview someone in the career area/networking.
6. Go to career fairs/college open days.
7. Career guidance teacher/subject teacher. 4 @ 2m (1+1)

(d) Describe three methods of evaluating your career investigation. 9 marks

1. Review information received. Has this information helped you to make an informed decision about your future career.
2. Review the quantity of information. Did you get enough information to complete the portfolio item/get answers to a range of questions.
3. Ask for feedback from teachers/interviewee on the information/details you got/ how well did you work.
4. Outcome of the career investigation. Has this motivated you to work harder to attain this career/ be more realistic in your goals.
5. Review of skills improved or new skills learned from doing the career investigation. 3@3m(1 + 2(0/2))

2015

Q.5

You have been asked to complete an investigation on a career of your choice. (a) What is a career investigation? 2 marks

A career investigation is/research carried out to get information about a particular job/career/including the skills and qualities necessary to carry out the job/as well as the entry pathways into the job/career. 2m (1 + 1)

(b)

(i) Name a career you investigated.

(ii) List the steps that could be used to investigate this career. 5 marks

(i) Name of career. 1m

(ii) The steps used to investigate this career:

1. Description of the career/duties involved
2. Skills/qualities required for the career
3. Careers Guidance Teacher
4. Self-assessment stage/skills interests/DATS/LC subjects
5. Course search/education options e.g. Careers Portal, Qualifax
6. Out of class learning-interview a person in the career/attend open days/work place learning
7. Evaluation

(c) State two Leaving Certificate subjects required for this career.

Explain the relevance of these subjects to your career choice. 6 marks

State the two subjects 2 @ 1m

Explain the relevance of the subjects

(d) Describe two pathways into your chosen career using suitable headings. 12 marks

Course Title

Duration College name/location

Entry points/requirements

Details of course

End qualification/name of qualification

2014

Q.1 Career Investigation introduces the skills of research and planning.

(a) Name the career you investigated as part of your LCVF Link Modules.

Title of career investigated 1 mark

(b) As part of your Career Investigation you interviewed a person working in this career area. Explain how you prepared for this interview. 6 marks

1. Researched the person and their career.
2. Made initial contact with the person to arrange a time, date and location.
3. Prepared questions to ask. Made sure that the questions were useful in writing the Career Investigation.
4. Asked the teacher/Career guidance teacher for advice and to review questions before doing the interview.
5. Confirmed the arrangements, time, date, arrange transport, prepare room/equipment/suitable clothing.
6. Practised asking the questions. Did a mock interview to help with confidence.

(c) State three qualities/skills relevant to this career. Explain the reasons why these qualities/skills are relevant to this career. 9 marks

1. Personal traits
2. Relevant skill

(d) Evaluate the different methods of research used in your Career Investigation. 9 marks

1. Use the Internet and websites/to review/assess information about different colleges, points requirements and career options. This is a useful method as it is convenient/fast way to access information you need.
2. Interviewing a person involved in the career. This is useful to determine the skills and qualities required and to get information on the daily duties involved in the career.
3. Attend open days in colleges. This is useful to determine the difference between the colleges. Speak to lecturers to get information about the courses.
4. Career Fairs e.g. Higher Options Conference. This allows you to get first hand/different information in the one place.
5. Meeting with the Guidance Counsellor, given personal advice/options available to them. 6. Use the local library/college prospectus + valid expansion.
7. Work experience/shadowing. To get a first hand insight into the career.

2011

Q.1 A career investigation is helpful in making your final career choice.

(a) Name the career you investigated as part of your LCVP Link Modules. 1 mark

Any career mentioned 1m

(b) State and explain three qualities/skills relevant to this career. 6 marks

1. Teamwork skills
2. Communication skills
3. Confidence Etc. State 1m Explain 1m 3 @ 2m (1 +1)

(c) As part of your investigation you were involved in an 'out of school' activity. What were the benefits of participating in this activity? 9 marks

1. You learn new skills such as communication skills by having to get information or pass on information successfully.
2. Improve personal skills e.g. you improve planning/research/organisation skills.
3. Easy to gain awareness/information about the career.
4. You can have new experiences such as interviewing someone from the career/learn about the type of work available/world of work.
5. Complete a portfolio item for the Link Modules on a career investigation.
6. Helped to focus you for the future/make decisions/make contacts/more motivated at school.

(d) What advice would you give to a recently qualified person who is finding it difficult to get a job in their chosen career area? 9 marks

1. Seek unpaid work experience in a relevant business to show that you are really interested in this area of work.
2. Do voluntary work to show you are interested in adding to your CV/ not being idle/personal satisfaction.
3. Investigate what further courses you could take so that you can keep up your skills/retrain/FAS/upskill.
4. Be flexible in what work you would do as this will make you more attractive as an employee.
5. Develop personal skills, such as teamwork which will make you more efficient as a worker.
6. Make personal contact with potential employers/recruitment agencies.
7. Set up your own business: grants/mentoring/fulfill personal ambition.
8. Emigrate: move to a country where your skills /qualifications are needed. You are upskilled/trained which enhances your CV.