

Name

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Class

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Date

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Chapter 01: Essay

1. List four of the eight reasons that first-year students in 2016 reported as "very important" for going to college.

ANSWER: Suggested Answer:

Any four of the following eight:

- to be able to get a better job
- to gain a general education and appreciation of ideas
- to become a more cultured person
- to be able to make more money
- to learn about things of personal interest
- to get training for a specific career
- to prepare myself for graduate or professional school
- to please my family

2. Is attending college worth the costs involved?

ANSWER: Suggested Answer:

All signs continue to suggest that a college degree is a sound investment. College graduates make much more money during their careers than do high school graduates (college grads were found to make on average 98% more per hour compared to those without a degree), and the type of work they are eligible to do is often more interesting and engaging. Although the average debt load is approximately \$37,000, college graduates can anticipate earning at least half a million dollars more on average than nongraduates, so the risks involved are probably worth it.

3. How can students make the most out of their college experiences?

ANSWER: Suggested Answer:

Besides studying and doing well in their classes, students are advised to take advantage of the extracurricular opportunities that are available to them. These include participating in sports teams, clubs, social organizations, volunteer efforts, student government, and other campus groups. Finding a good balance between course work and recreational pursuits is likely to provide a worthwhile experience.

4. What is psychological literacy? What does it mean to become psychologically literate?

ANSWER: Suggested Answer:

Psychological literacy involves learning a great deal about psychology and using that knowledge to improve one's own and others' daily lives. Becoming psychologically literate entails qualities like these:

- Solving problems in creative, amiable, and skeptical ways
- Having a well-defined vocabulary of psychological terms and concepts
- Appreciating and respecting diversity, diverse groups, and people
- Being reflective about one's own thought processes and those of others
- Becoming adept at evaluating information and using technology
- Being eager to apply psychology principles to understanding and improving personal relationships, work issues, and community events
- Being able to act ethically and not out of self-interest
- Being good at communicating and doing so in different ways (writing, speaking, public presentations) to different types of people and audiences

5. List some reasons indicating that attending college is likely to be a good choice for a student.

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ANSWER: Suggested Answer:

Has a clear understanding of motives for seeking a degree

Previous academic record predicts a successful transition to college

Can set aside the time it will take to secure a diploma

Has determined eligibility for financial aid

Has considered what kind of living arrangements will be affordable

Has some reasonable idea about what major might be a good choice

Possesses reasonable time-management strategies to keep up with course work

Will be excited to learn with a wide variety of people

Can live and function independently from family members

Will be able to balance family and friends with school demands

Should be able to cope with any debt load resulting from cost of education

Is prepared to seek academic advice to clarify direction during college