

# This or That Questions

Grade: 6, 7, 8  
Time: 5 minutes

## Background Information:

This worksheet helps students learn more about a variety of postsecondary options including apprenticeships, colleges and universities, community colleges, and military service. Students will be given information about a postsecondary option and will make a selection based on the information they received.

## Helpful Vocabulary:

- Community College
- Four-year College or Universities
- Apprenticeship Programs
- Military Service

## Material:

- Copies of the This or That questions for each student
- 

## Procedure:

**Step 1:** Explain that today you are going to learn about different options available to you after high school by completing a quick worksheet.

## Step 2:

- Hand out a copy of the This or That questions
- Instruct students to complete the worksheet.
  - For each question students will be asked to make a choice, if at all possible, students should select only one answer from the choices

## Optional:

- The Facilitator Notes Page includes additional tips for modifying this worksheet to meet the needs of your students.

Name:

**1** At a community college, you can earn an associate degree (AA degree) in about two years. With an AA degree you can start a career or go to a four-year college or university. What are you interested in?

☐  *More School* **OR** *A Job*  ☐

**2** At a four-year college or university, you can earn a bachelor's degree. There are two main types of bachelor's degrees: Bachelor's of Arts (BA) degree if you study things like English or drama. If you study computers or biology, you can earn a Bachelor's of Science (BS) degree. If you earned a bachelor's degree which would you earn?

☐  *BA* **OR** *BS*  ☐

**3** When you join an apprenticeship program, you learn a trade. A trade career is typically a hands-on career like plumber, electrician, or construction worker. Because a trade career is hands-on that means you don't spend a lot of time sitting at a desk. What type of career would you rather have?

☐  *Desk Job* **OR** *Hands-On*  ☐

**4** The military has six different branches of service. Some branches of service like the Coast Guard and Navy focus on protecting oceans and waterways. Other branches of service like the Air Force or Space Force focus on protecting the sky. The Army protects the land while the Marines work on land, sea, and in the sky. If you joined the military which would you rather protect:

☐  *Land* **OR** *Sea or Air*  ☐

**5** Oregon has 17 community colleges across the state. That means you probably have a community college near you. Where would you go to college?

☐  *Close to Home* **OR** *Far Away*  ☐

**6** One of the cool things about four-year colleges and universities is that there are small and large types. If you went to a college or university which would you go to?  
*A Large School* *A Small School*

☐  **OR**  ☐

**7** One thing that makes apprenticeship programs unique is that they teach you a trade though a combination of classroom schoolwork and hands-on work at a job site. That means if you are training to be a construction worker, you spend part of your time in the classroom learning things like how to measure and cut materials, and the rest of your time actually building houses. Which do you think you might like better?

☐  *Learning in a Classroom* **OR** *Learning on a Job Site*  ☐

**8** The military offers hundreds of different careers. All careers in the military are either enlisted or officer. Enlisted jobs require a high school diploma and most involve hands-on training. Officer positions require a four-year degree. Many officers are in management or leadership positions. Which career would you choose?

☐  *Enlisted Career* **OR** *Officer Career*  ☐

**9** Community colleges are more than just classes and studying, they often have clubs and sports as well as volunteer and student leadership opportunities. If you went to a community college which would you participate in?

☐  *Volunteering/  
Leadership* **OR** *Clubs/ Sports*  ☐

**10** When you go to a four-year college or university you may choose to live in a dorm. A dorm is a building where a bunch of students live together. You usually share a bedroom and bathroom with other people and eat meals in a cafeteria. Would you live in a dorm?

☐  *Yes* **OR** *No*  ☐

**11** Apprenticeship programs are cool because you can earn money and get paid while you learn how to do a particular job. Which do you like better?

☐  *Earning Money* **OR** *Learning Things*  ☐

**12** When you enlist in the military you typically serve for four years of active duty but that doesn't mean you are working 24 hours a day. The military offers lots of entertainment options like gyms, movies, and bowling alleys. It also offers lots of sports programs including golf, basketball, rugby and more. How would you spend your off duty time in the military?

☐  *Playing Sports* **OR** *Using Entertainment  
Options*  ☐

## Facilitator Notes

### Overview:

The This or That Worksheet provides an overview of several different types of postsecondary education including community colleges, four-year colleges or universities, apprenticeship programs, and military service. By reading and answering questions students can learn a basic overview of each of these options.

This activity is reflective and encourages students to examine how they would think/feel/or act in a variety of scenarios. It is not designed to be an assessment.

### Extension Ideas:

This activity is designed to be a short self-contained worksheet that students can do independently. Facilitators can extend or modify the activity in several ways to meet the needs of their students, here are some suggestions.

- **Walk the Line:** Instead of using this activity as a worksheet you can use this activity as a physical activity. Simply divide your room in half and read the question aloud and indicate a side of the room for an answer and the other side of the room for the other answer. Have students walk to the side of the room that matches their answer.
  - Ask students to explain their answers.
- **One at a Time:** If using this activity in a classroom setting, the facilitator can use the questions as a daily warm-up activity and each day ask a new question from the workshop.
  - You can facilitate this option as a group discussion or short written reflection.
- **Debate:** In this modification the facilitator assigns groups of students one of the questions and assigns one answer per person. Students are then asked to construct a persuasive argument in favor of their opinion. For example, for question number 11, one person would be assigned the position that earning money is better than learning new things.
- **Art of the Future:** This activity includes lots of information about a variety of postsecondary options, after completing the worksheet as instructed, the facilitator can then have students select one postsecondary pathway (community college, four-year college, apprenticeship, or military service) and have them draw or paint what it might be like to pursue that option.
- **Discussion:** After students have completed the worksheet, facilitate a discussion. Ask students which opportunities sounded interesting and which didn't. What was something unexpected or new that they learned? How could they prepare for one of these options.
- **Research:** After completing the worksheet, have students select one pathway and complete a research project on that pathway.
- **Fake It:** After completing the worksheet, have students write one or two intentionally false This or That Statements. After sharing a laugh have them explain why the statement is inaccurate.