

Paths With Purpose

Notice the personal influences behind career possibilities.

CE.14.a “identifying the talents, interests, and aspirations that can influence career choice;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show a talent, circle details that show an interest, and write A beside each aspiration in the passage.

What Shapes a Career Path?

- ① Career choices often grow from a mix of talents, interests, and aspirations. Talents are skills a person does well, such as organizing supplies, listening carefully, or solving number problems. Interests are activities or topics a person enjoys learning about. Aspirations are future goals, such as serving a community or inventing a useful product. These influences do not choose a career by themselves. A student can notice patterns, explore options, and learn what training different careers require before making a decision.
- ② Amir enjoys fixing bicycles and watches videos about how gears and brakes work. At school, he is patient when classmates ask for help, and he can explain each repair step clearly. He hopes to make travel safer in his neighborhood someday. Amir talks with a bike shop mechanic and learns that bicycle technicians inspect, adjust, and repair bikes. He also discovers that the job requires practice, safety knowledge, and customer communication. This career matches several influences, but Amir should keep exploring.
- ③ Lila volunteers at the library because she likes helping younger children find books. She remembers details from stories and enjoys planning games for the library's weekend program. Lila wants a future job that helps children become confident readers. A school librarian might fit these influences because librarians organize resources, guide readers, and plan learning activities. Lila could also explore teaching or youth program work. Comparing several careers helps her see that one talent or interest can lead to more than one possible path.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is one talent Amir shows? Use a detail from the passage to support your answer.

2 What aspiration does Amir state, and what career does he explore?

3 Name two influences on Lila's career ideas. Label each one as a talent, interest, or aspiration.

4 How does Lila's example show that one interest or talent can connect to more than one career path?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one talent, one interest, and one aspiration you have. In 4 or 5 sentences, name a career you could explore and explain how each influence connects to that career.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that show a talent, circle details that show an interest, and write A beside each aspiration in the passage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is one talent Amir shows? Use a detail from the passage to support your answer.	Amir is patient when classmates need help, and he can explain repair steps clearly. These details show helping and communication skills.
2	What aspiration does Amir state, and what career does he explore?	Amir hopes to make travel safer in his neighborhood. He explores becoming a bicycle technician.
3	Name two influences on Lila's career ideas. Label each one as a talent, interest, or aspiration.	Answers may include: remembering story details, talent; planning games or helping children find books, interests; helping children become confident readers, aspiration.
4	How does Lila's example show that one interest or talent can connect to more than one career path?	Lila's interests and talents could connect to being a school librarian, a teacher, or a youth program worker.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I am good at noticing small details when I work on projects. I enjoy learning why plants grow differently in different places. I hope to help my community protect local habitats. I could explore becoming an environmental scientist because this career uses careful observation, science interests, and a goal of protecting habitats.

Accept other accurate talents, interests, and aspirations when students label them correctly and support answers with passage details. For the open response, accept any realistic career connection that explains all three personal influences.