

THE MISSING SEMESTER

Study Guide



KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES:

THE DO'S

- DO focus on *interest rates*
- DO know what you can afford
- DO believe that any job is better than no job
- DO let your career determine your advanced degree, not the reverse
- DO begin saving and investing now
- DO consider starting a Roth-IRA today
- DO expect and prepare for the unexpected

THE DON'TS

- DON'T let your spending dictate your savings
- DON'T let your lifestyle determine your budget
- DON'T use credit cards unwisely
- DON'T spend it if you don't have it

WHAT PATH IS BEST FOR YOU?



	LIVING CHOICES	SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT CHOICES	TRANSPORTATION CHOICES
PATH 1	LIVE WITH FAMILY; NO COST	PAY ALL BILLS FIRST, IF MONEY IS LEFT, THEN SAVE	CONTINUE TO FIX THE CAR YOU CURRENTLY HAVE
PATH 2	LIVE WITH FRIENDS AND SPLIT THE RENT	SAVE A SMALL PERCENTAGE FIRST AND THEN PAY BILLS	BUY A NEW CAR WITH A 72-MONTHS LOAN PAYMENT BECAUSE IT IS LOW PAYMENTS
PATH 3	RENT A SMALL APARTMENT	FOCUS ON PAYING OFF STUDENT LOANS THEN START SAVING AND INVESTING	BUY A 2 TO 3-YEAR-OLD USED CAR