

## Middle and High School Student Guide: JA Career Speakers Series

Junior Achievement empowers young people to own their economic success. In *JA Career Speakers Series*, you will learn how to prepare for a career in the world of work. In the 3-5-minute videos, JA volunteers will provide information about their career, work, and education experience. Before watching each video we recommend researching the volunteer's company and/or career type and after you see the video, there are additional lessons to continue the learning. Enjoy and happy planning for TOMORROW!

**Follow the guide below.**

### Suggestions Before the Watching the Video:

1. Research the speaker's company or organization (the name can be found under the video title). Note any interesting facts you discover.
  - Search suggestions: company website, online searches for the speaker and company, interview friends and family to see what they know about the company
2. Visit the U.S. Department of Labor site, O\*NET, at <https://www.onetonline.org/>.
  - Use the site's Occupation Search field to research your speaker's job title.
  - Select the result that most closely matches the speaker's job.
  - Note interesting facts about that job profile, including:
    - Job tasks
    - Technology skills
    - Knowledge
    - Skills
    - Related occupations
    - Abilities
    - Work activities
    - Work context
    - Education
3. Visit the U.S. Department of Labor site, O\*NET, at <https://www.onetonline.org/>.
  - In the top navigation bar, locate the **Find Occupations** tab and use the drop-down menu to select a Career Cluster. Use the arrow button to search.
    - Use the drop-down menu on the Browse by Career Cluster page to investigate and identify the career cluster most closely related to the speaker's job.
    - Research the job outlook for that job, which is the predicted job growth for that job in the next 20 years.
4. As you listen to the speaker, consider your own vision. Think about:
  - **What do I like?** Hobbies? Favorite entertainment or school subjects?
  - **What am I good at?** Tasks that I find easy. Awards I've won? Classes I do well in?
  - **What jobs might I like?** Jobs of adults I know. Jobs I've seen on TV or in movies? Jobs I think could be needed in the future?

- **What jobs are in demand or will be in demand in 5–10 years?**

Visit the U.S. Department of Labor site, O\*NET, at <https://www.onetonline.org/>.

- In the top navigation bar, find the **Find Occupations** drop-down menu, select **Bright Outlook**, and use the arrow button to search.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to browse jobs that are predicted to be in high demand in the future.

## While you listen to the Speaker

Consider some of these questions while you listen to the speaker and make notes. The speaker may or may not answer all of the questions.

What does a typical day look like for them?

How much money do they earn?

When did they start? Did they go to school to learn about their job?

How many days a week do they work? How many hours per day?

Do they travel for work? If so, when, where, and how often?

Do they work with a team? What's that like?

Do they work indoors or out?

How do listening skills help them perform their job?

What is their favorite thing to do at work? What is their least favorite?

What is the easiest part of their job? What is the hardest part?

Why is their job important to them? Why is their job important to their company or organization?

What subject do they wish they would have studied more in school?

What kinds of conflicts do they have in their work? How do they resolve them?

What kinds of problems do they need to solve? How do they make decisions?

### After you listen to the video

Here are a few things for you to consider doing after watching the video.

- Topics for further investigation on your own at a later time:
- Reflect on what you've learned. Note the two most interesting or important ideas you and during the event.

### Follow-Up (Optional)\*

Write a thank you note to the speaker. See suggested outline below

- Express your appreciation for the speaker's time.
- State what you enjoyed or learned from the presentation. Include supporting evidence about what you have learned by stating three to five examples of interesting facts you learned about the speaker's company, their job, and the skill and preparation necessary for that job.
- Note topics that the speaker's presentation has prompted you to investigate.
- Conclude by making a connection between the speaker's presentation and your own future plans.

\*Notes can be e-mailed to Kat Delgado Kirkwood, SVP of Programs at [kkirkwood@jasocal.org](mailto:kkirkwood@jasocal.org) and she will forward them to the speaker.