

STARTLING STATEMENT QUIZ – Handling Updates & New Editions

We try to keep the content in *Career Choices* current so your students are receiving the clearest picture possible of what it will take to become a self-sufficient adult. Toward that end, we update the data and statistics in the *Career Choices* textbook every 2-3 years. Sometimes the changes are small and won't impact your presentation in class. However, sometimes the changes are bigger and more substantive.

One of the activities often impacted by updates is the Startling Statement Quiz (*Career Choices*, pp. 201-202). To keep the statements truly startling requires updates to the data behind the answers at the least (so they reflect current trends) and, occasionally, the replacement of an entire question.

To aid in your presentation of this important activity, we've made the most current version of the Startling Statement Quiz available to premium members of The Teachers' Lounge. This is not intended for distribution in the classroom and, as clearly stated on the attached pages, this is not to be copied.

This PDF copy of the pages is intended as a teacher-only resource. Please read the current questions (*Career Choices*, p. 201) aloud to students while they select the appropriate multiple-choice letter option in their *Workbook and Portfolio* and then read the current answers (*Career Choices*, p. 202) aloud to provide the correct answers and to prompt discussion of the underlying issues relating to the quiz question topics.

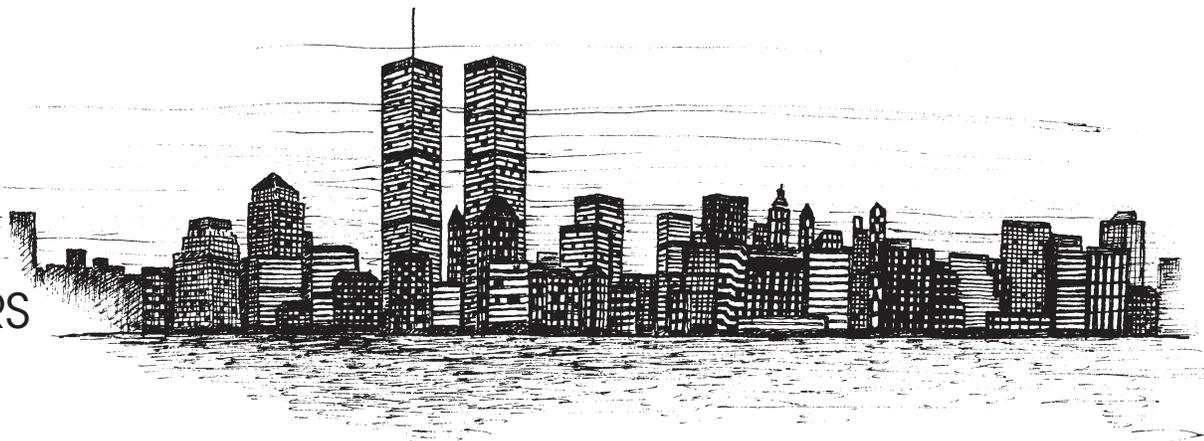
If you have questions related to the use of this particular resource, please contact Georgette Phillips at (800) 967-8016, ext. 354 or georgette@academicinnovations.com.

STARTLING STATEMENT QUIZ

Circle the answer you think most accurately completes each of the following statements.

- Each year _____ women under 20 in the United States become pregnant.
 - 250,000
 - 500,000
 - 750,000
 - 1 million
- _____ percent of teen mothers graduate or earn a GED by the time they are 22 years old.
 - 34
 - 51
 - 66
 - 85
- In 2009, _____ percent of families headed by a female lived in poverty.
 - 12.7
 - 21.6
 - 29.9
 - 40.9
- In March 2011, the overall unemployment rate was 8.9 percent. For high school dropouts, the rate was _____ percent.
 - 5.7
 - 11.3
 - 16.2
 - 20.5
- In 2009, _____ percent of blacks that did not complete high school lived in poverty. For those who completed college, the poverty rate was only
 - 9.7
 - 14.8
 - 19.6
 - 26.7
- In 2009, _____ percent of 18- to 24-year-olds had left high school without a diploma.
 - 2
 - 9
 - 13
 - 20
- In 2009, the median income for full-time workers 25 years and over with a bachelor's degree or more was \$51,878 for women and \$71,466 for men. The median income for workers with no high school diploma was _____ for women and _____ for men.
 - \$14,387 and \$20,526
 - \$21,226 and \$28,023
 - \$24,903 and \$31,632
 - \$33,546 and \$38,748
- Teens that start drinking before the age of 14 are nearly _____ times more likely than adults that start drinking after they turn 21 to eventually become alcoholics.
 - 3
 - 4
 - 6
 - 7
- _____ percent of the 33,808 total traffic fatalities in 2009 were caused by alcohol-related crashes.
 - 14
 - 23
 - 32
 - 41
- The leading cause of death for 15- to 20-year-olds is motor vehicle crashes. In 2009, _____ percent of 15- to 20-year-old drivers who were killed in crashes were intoxicated.
 - 7
 - 15
 - 24
 - 32
- While the use of many illicit drugs has dropped, abuse of marijuana is rising. In 2009, _____ percent of high school seniors reported using marijuana within the past month.
 - 4.7
 - 10.9
 - 16.1
 - 20.6

ANSWERS



1. c. There are about 750,000 teen pregnancies each year in the United States.¹ For these young women, many life choices are significantly diminished.
2. b. Only 51 percent of teen mothers completed high school or a GED.² For teen women who postponed pregnancy, 89 percent completed high school or a GED.
3. c. Among female-headed households, 29.9 percent had earnings below the poverty line.³ The poverty rate for all segments of the population at that time was 17.3 percent. In other words, female-headed households are more than one and a half times as likely to be poor.
4. c. The unemployment rate for high school dropouts was 16.2 percent, much greater than the overall rate of 8.9 percent.⁴ It is interesting to note that the unemployment rate for college graduates was only 4.7 percent.
5. d. The poverty rate for blacks who did not complete high school was 26.7 percent.⁵ This is substantially higher than the overall poverty rate of 20.3 for folks of all races without a high school diploma. One of the best ways to fight discrimination is to be well educated and trained for employment.
6. b. Nearly one-tenth (9 percent) of all 18- and 24-year-olds had left school without getting a high school diploma in 2009.⁶ Programs are available in all communities to help teens and young adults complete their education.
7. b. The median income in 2009 for women who had not completed high school was \$21,226, while for men with no high school diploma it was \$28,023.⁷ Women especially need advanced education in order to earn a salary that will support a family adequately. Incidentally, women and men with less than a 9th grade education earned a median \$18,480 and \$23,945, respectively. For high school graduates, the median income was \$29,150 for women and \$39,478 for men.
8. d. 16.5 percent of teens who start drinking before the age of 14 will eventually become alcoholics, compared with 2.5 percent of adult who wait until the legal age of 21.⁸ Alcohol abuse and dependency can reduce the quality of life; science has proven that it increases the chances of motor vehicle crashes, family violence, birth defects, liver disease, and various forms of cancer.
9. c. In 2009, 32 percent of all traffic fatalities were caused by alcohol-related crashes.⁹ That means that an estimated 10,839 people died—or an average of one person every 75 minutes—as a result of these crashes.
10. c. For 15- to 20-year-old drivers in 2009, 24 percent of those killed in crashes had been drinking.¹⁰ When alcohol is a factor in automobile accidents, the severity of the crash increases exponentially.
11. d. In 2009, 20.6 percent of high school seniors reported using marijuana within the past 30 days.¹¹ A survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th graders showed an increase in marijuana use along with corresponding decreases in peer disapproval and the perceived risk of the drug. Drug and alcohol use often leads to a significant drop in grades and, ultimately, expulsion. Refer back to answers 4, 5, and 7 to see how this could affect your future income. See answers 8, 9, and 10 to see how it could affect your life.