

Build Connections for Classrooms: Prep Activity

Name _____

1. Sometimes we don't realize how school content is helpful until later in life. Read the following stories from recent graduates about things they learned in school. **Circle the one you relate to most.**

“ Growing up, my mother had her own business. I was always excited when she'd get the merchandise she ordered. She'd always know how much she paid for it, which determined how much she'd need to sell it for in order to make a profit. From the second she ordered the merchandise she was calculating her potential income. Now I realize that if she made a mistake in her math, then she could lose a lot of money!” —KAI

“ During August of last year, I had an eye injury. If I didn't go to the doctor, I would have lost my vision. After my surgery, my parents and I went to many doctor visits. Having learned about vision and the anatomy of the eye helped me a lot. I was able to better understand what the doctor was saying, and how the surgery would help me. I was even able to explain to my parents what exactly happened. They seemed really confused, and it felt good to be able to help them understand!” —JOSH

“ Air pollution is a significant problem in my city. It causes lots of people to have asthma and other respiratory problems. We learned in class that things like burning fossil fuels cause pollution, but we can offset this impact by using alternative energy sources, like wind and solar power, or just reducing energy consumption. This is good to know so we can make better choices about what types and how much energy we use. This information helps me understand the government's role in energy regulation, and how it's changing.” —RAMONE

“ I had an internship this summer at a company and was totally surprised at how often I had to write and present. The lessons I had learned about writing in my English classes were really important. I had to be able to make arguments or explain things clearly in order to communicate with people in the company and their clients. My teacher always talked about communication skills being important but it really hit me at that job.” —ALEXIS

2. Explain what you found interesting about the story you circled.