

Lesson  
54

## Labor and Income

3.9(A) Explain the connection between human capital/labor and income.



## Understand the TEKS

To spend money, you first need to earn money. You can earn money by working. You can work by doing chores. When you are older, you can work by getting a job. The work you do is known as your **labor**.

You can get paid a fee each time you do work. For example, you might get paid a fee of \$25 to paint your neighbor's fence. You can also get paid by the hour. The amount you are paid is often described as "per" hour, which means *each* hour.

Suppose you earn \$10 per hour. Complete the table to show how much you would earn for different numbers of hours.

Pay for Working

Number of hours	Pay (\$)
2	
5	
10	

Some workers are paid the same amount on a regular basis. This type of payment is known as **salary**. A teacher is paid a salary to teach throughout the year.



A worker usually gets paid in the form of a **paycheck**. The paycheck combines payment for all of the work done in some amount of time. Some workers get a paycheck every week. Others get paychecks every 2 weeks or once a month. Some workers get a paycheck whenever their work is finished.

The total amount a person earns in a period of time is called **income**. Many people describe their income as how much money they earn in 1 year.

Not every worker has the same income. One reason is because people can work different amounts of time. A student might work a few hours after school. This kind of work is called **part-time** work. Another worker might work all day long. This kind of work is called **full-time** work. For many jobs, full-time work means working 40 hours each week.

**Words to Know**

labor  
salary  
paycheck  
income  
part-time  
full-time  
training  
volunteer





Another reason that incomes are different is that the salary for some jobs is higher than for others. The amount of salary depends on many factors. One factor is how difficult the job is. A job that most people would consider easy to do will usually pay less than a job that is harder to do. For example, the manager of a restaurant might have a more difficult job than a server. A manager has more responsibilities. So the manager would get paid a higher salary.

Another factor that affects a salary is the kind of training that is needed. Some people have to go to **training** classes to learn how to do a job. This type of job usually pays more than a job that does not need training. For some jobs, people need to go to school for many years. Doctors and lawyers have to go to special schools even after college. These kinds of jobs tend to pay more than jobs that do not need extra years of school.



Another factor that affects income is how many people can do a certain job. Some jobs require a special skill or talent that only some people have. Singers and actors have talents that help them entertain other people. Professional athletes are able to play a sport better than many others.

Keep in mind that people's income describes only the amount of money someone pays them for their labor. It is not a measure of a person's worth, or value. Many people do wonderful work that helps many people and are not even paid for it. A **volunteer** is someone who does work without being paid. Volunteers often help in hospitals and help raise money for charities.



## Guided Instruction

Bella is paid different amounts for chores. The table lists some of them.

**Amount Paid for Chores**

Chore	Amount for each hour (\$)
Babysitting	6
Raking leaves	3
Walking dog	4

### Problem 1

How many hours does Bella have to perform each chore to earn \$12?

**Step 1** Start with babysitting.

How much does Bella earn for 1 hour of babysitting? \_\_\_\_\_

Divide \$12 by the amount she earns for 1 hour to find the number of hours.

$$\$12 \div \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_\_ \text{ hours}$$

**Step 2** Now look at raking leaves.

How much does Bella earn for 1 hour of raking leaves? \_\_\_\_\_

Divide \$12 by the amount she earns for 1 hour to find the number of hours.

$$\$12 \div \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_\_ \text{ hours}$$

**Step 3** Now look at walking the dog.

How much does Bella earn for 1 hour of walking the dog? \_\_\_\_\_

Divide \$12 by the amount she earns for 1 hour to find the number of hours.

$$\$12 \div \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_\_ \text{ hours}$$

**Solution**

How many hours does Bella have to perform each chore to earn \$12? Bella would have to babysit for \_\_\_\_\_ hours, rake leaves for \_\_\_\_\_ hours, or walk the dog for \_\_\_\_\_ hours to earn \$12.

**Problem 2**

Mark and Sarah each work 10 hours in a week. Mark gets paid \$6 for an hour. Sarah gets paid \$8 for an hour. How much more does Sarah earn in a week than Mark does?

**Step 1** Find how much Mark earns in a week.

$$\text{He earns } \$6 \text{ for an hour} \times 10 \text{ hours} = \$\_\_\_\_\_\_$$

**Step 2** Find how much Sarah earns in a week.

$$\text{She earns } \$8 \text{ for an hour} \times 10 \text{ hours} = \$\_\_\_\_\_\_$$

**Step 3** Find the difference between the amounts each person earns.

Sarah's income – Mark's income

$$\$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ - \$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_\_$$

**Solution**

How much more does Sarah earn in a week than Mark does? \_\_\_\_\_

**Critical Thinking**

Solve each problem.



1. Tracey wants to earn money to buy a new softball mitt. She babysits on weekends to earn money. She is paid \$6 for each hour. How is the number of hours Tracey babysits related to the amount she earns? Give an example.

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2. You know you have to perform some type of labor to earn an income. You also know that some incomes are greater than others. Suppose you have a choice between a job that you do not like that has a higher income, or a job you love that has a lower income. Discuss the pros and cons of choosing each job.

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3. Kyle is going to school to be a nurse. It will cost \$40,000 to go to school. He expects to earn an income of \$20,000 in his first year of part-time nursing. How long will it take for Kyle to earn more than he spent to become a nurse?

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4. Nina wants to work as a lifeguard. She will need to have special training to do this job. Discuss what kind of training she might need. Tell how the training might mean that there are fewer people who are prepared for the job.

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5. Work with a small group to brainstorm a list of jobs you might want when you are older. Discuss why you want the job and what you think you will need to do to be ready for it. Talk about what you think the income would be like.



## ★ Practice

**DIRECTIONS** Read each question. Then circle the letter for the correct answer.

- 1 Jeff does small jobs each week. The table lists the amount he earns for each job.

Job	Amount (\$)
Weeding	8
Watering plants	5
Cutting grass	15

What is Jeff's income each week?

- A \$8                      C \$28  
B \$20                     D \$40
- 2 Marissa got this paycheck after two weeks of work.

How much money does Marissa earn each week?

- F \$25                      H \$100  
G \$50                     J \$200
- 3 Ken works at an animal shelter after school. He is paid \$10 each hour. How can he increase his income?
- A Work harder while he is there.  
B Work only on the weekends.  
C Work less hours, but more days.  
D Work more hours when he can.

- 4 Pedro volunteers at a soccer club. He teaches soccer to younger children. Which sentence describes Pedro?

- F He has an income, but no labor.  
G He gets a salary, but no paycheck.  
H He has an income, but no training.  
J He does labor, but has no income.

- 5 Lisa wants to buy a bicycle that costs \$95. She is thinking about taking the job in this ad.

## Help Wanted

**Stock shelves**

**\$9 per hour**

Apply Today!

How many hours would Lisa have to work to buy the bicycle?

- A 2  
B 9  
C 10  
D 11



## ★ Assessment

**DIRECTIONS** Read each question. Then circle the letter for the correct answer.

- 1** Gina wants to be an artist when she grows up. What is one way Gina might earn an income from this job?

**A** Taking class about art  
**B** Selling her paintings  
**C** Studying works of other artists  
**D** Drawing pictures of animals

- 2** Casey has a part-time job after school. She helps a new mom in her home. The table shows the number of hours Casey works each day.

Day	Hours
Monday	2
Friday	3
Saturday	4

The mom pays Casey \$6 per hour. What is Casey's income each week?

**F** \$9                      **H** \$54  
**G** \$15                    **J** \$69

- 3** A news report states that the size of the labor force is increasing. What might the report be describing?

**A** The number of people who can work  
**B** The number of businesses that have jobs  
**C** The amount of money people earn  
**D** The kinds of training people can get

- 4** Joey earns \$12 for each hour of work. He works 5 hours after school every week. How much will Joey earn after working for 2 weeks?

**F** \$24                      **H** \$72  
**G** \$52                      **J** \$120

- 5** Ben does different kinds of jobs. He is paid for each job. The table shows the jobs he had last month.

Job	Amount (\$)
Fix a screen door	\$15
Hang a fan	\$25
Paint a room	\$42

How many dollars did Ben earn last month?

Record your answer and fill in the bubbles on the following grid. Be sure to use the correct place value.

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0	0	0	
1	1	1	
2	2	2	
3	3	3	
4	4	4	
5	5	5	
6	6	6	
7	7	7	
8	8	8	
9	9	9	