

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Cost of High School Dropouts

One World Student Ambassador: Porchia Latrice Ifill

Unit Resource #2: Understanding the Reflection

Directions: Preview the following questions before you read the Reflection. Identify key words in the questions (you can underline them for quick reference). As you read, pay attention for those key words so that you will know where to look for the answers when you are finished reading. Some of the answers are not in the Reflection, as they require you to connect your own personal experience to the text. It is important to know which kind of question you are answering.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Only _____ states require students to attend high school until they graduate or turn 18.
 - a. 16
 - b. 18
 - c. 21
 - d. 23
 - e. 24
2. All of the following reasons are given as to why students drop out of high school except:
 - a. feeling stress or overwhelmed by schoolwork or tests
 - b. having an unwanted pregnancy
 - c. fear of not fitting in
 - d. lack of family support
 - e. procrastination on schoolwork
3. According to the Reflection, it is estimated that at least _____% of high school students will drop out before they graduate.
 - a. 5
 - b. 10
 - c. 12
 - d. 15
 - e. 20
4. Smokers 16-17 years old are _____ as likely to drop out of high school:
 - a. twice
 - b. three
 - c. four
 - d. five
 - e. six

5. In her Reflection, Porchia recommends the three Ds for success in life. They are:
 - a. determination, distraction, and daydreaming
 - b. desire, direction, and discipline
 - c. dedication, desire, and discipline
 - d. determination, dedication, and discipline
 - e. determination, direction, and daydreaming
6. To stay away from procrastinating, Porchia adheres to which of the following methods:
 - a. staying organized
 - b. keeping an agenda book
 - c. setting her alarm clock
 - d. using study methods recommended by her teachers
 - e. all of the above
7. Studies show that the typical high school graduate will have a _____% to _____% increase in lifetime income as compared to someone who did not graduate high school:
 - a. 25 to 50
 - b. 50 to 65
 - c. 50 to 75
 - d. 50 to 100
 - e. 75 to 100
8. Strategies cited in Porchia's Reflection that would help reduce the high school drop out rate include all of the following except:
 - a. high-quality preschool
 - b. teaching in smaller groups
 - c. a shorter day of school
 - d. group meetings with parents
 - e. home visits by teachers
9. Porschia states that surrounding yourself with people who want to be something great in their futures is helpful and she notes which of the following organizations and methods to get connected to them:
 - a. Upward Bound
 - b. Higher Achievement
 - c. tutoring
 - d. asking for help
 - e. all of the above
10. Graduating high school will guarantee you a greater chance at which of the following options for your future:
 - a. getting paid more than minimum wage for a job
 - b. opening your own business
 - c. applying for college
 - d. being able to provide for a family someday
 - e. all of the above

Constructed Response Questions

1. What main ideas did Porchia want to convey in her Reflection?

2. According to Porchia's Reflection, why do students drop out of high school?

3. What are some of the struggles Porchia faced in school and how did she confront them?



4. Porchia writes that 80% of white and Asian students graduate, compared to 55% of Blacks and Hispanics. What does this statistic say about the relationship between the high school graduation rate, race, and equal access to education in the US?

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5. Porschia titled her Reflection “The Cost of High School Dropouts.” Based on the Reflection, explain what is at stake for the future of the US if the number of high school dropouts does not decrease.

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