

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Decision Making Case Studies

**Directions:** Review each case and determine what you would recommend to improve the decision making process for each of the persons involved. Write your recommendation in the space provided.

**Case #1.** Larry and Barb were trying to decide what to do on their Saturday night date. Barb commented that they'd seen movies the last two weekends and suggested bowling. That idea was rejected by Larry, who knew that the bowling alleys were always crowded on weekends. Roller skating was mentioned, but Barb was afraid she might rip her new pants since she is not a good skater and often falls. Finally, they agreed to play miniature golf but were disappointed when they were rained out after one round.

**Case #2.** Toby was trying to choose his courses for the following school year. He had narrowed his last choice to Spanish III, physics, or child development. He knew the physics course would be most helpful to him in college. He was interested in the child development course, where he hoped to learn more about caring for children, which he enjoys. The Spanish teacher encouraged him to take another year of Spanish since he has done well in that subject. He finally signed up for the child development course, which turned out to be his favorite subject.

**Case #3.** Tina was making her plans to attend college after graduation. She wanted to go to a private school out-of-state which has an outstanding music department. Her parents could not afford the school's high tuition and wanted her to attend the local community college and live at home. She could transfer to the state university after two years. Another possibility was to attend the state university all four years. Tina finally decided to attend the state university. As a college student, she found the music program to be challenging and generally excellent.

**Case #4.** Bob was interested in auto mechanics. He considered attending trade school for a year after high school graduation. However, he decided that he would learn more on the job as well as earn money. He did well on the job and enjoyed his work. After a couple of years, he began to think that he could move up to become the service manager in the auto center when the job came open. When the job did become open, to his shock and surprise, it went to someone without experience who had just completed a two-year program in business auto mechanics at a trade school.

**Case #5.** Charles was trying to decide what to do during his vacation from work--two weeks to look forward to! His friends have rented a cabin up by Hidden Lake, which is reputed to have the best trout fishing in the area. His mom wants him to stay home, since his grandparents will be coming for a visit--they live in Florida now and only visit once a year. His teacher has invited him to attend a summer camp at the local science institute--which would be great since he plans on becoming a fish and wildlife biologist. He decided to go with his friends to Hidden Lake. He could always see his grandparents next year and the science institute gives two scholarships a year--he thinks he'll have a pretty good chance next year.