BLOCK 3

RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 1. WHERE I AM AND WHERE I GO

TAKE THE LEAD

A life plan is built throughout time and you must take into account several aspects that take place when making decisions. Moreover, those aspects can play an essential part for your life plan. Some of these aspects are your personal ambitions and goals, the social context, which includes values, customs, family, past experiences, etc.; as well as the priorities in the society. You should analyze and reflect on your life plan.

Materials

- Printed handout
- Pen or pencil
- Color pencils

STEP BY STEP

- Print the handout on the next page or copy it in your notebook so you can work on it.
- 2 Work in pairs. Analyze the aspects in your social context. For example, where you live, your past experiences, your family and what their needs are, who are the friends you hang out with, your community, etc., and how all this influences you. Then think which can affect the decisions you make for your life plan, and complete the graphic organizer.
- **3** Then discuss how each of the aspects you identified can be an essential part for your life plan or how it can affect it.
- 4 Make a drawing of how you see yourself in the future. Put yourself in the center and, surrounding yourself, draw all the aspects you identified in Step 3 that can help you achieve your goal. Display your drawings on a classroom wall.
- **5** Discuss as a class:

- **a** What are the advantages and disadvantages that the influence of the social context has in your life plan?
- **b** Do you think you can change your social context or work towards its change to benefit your life plan?

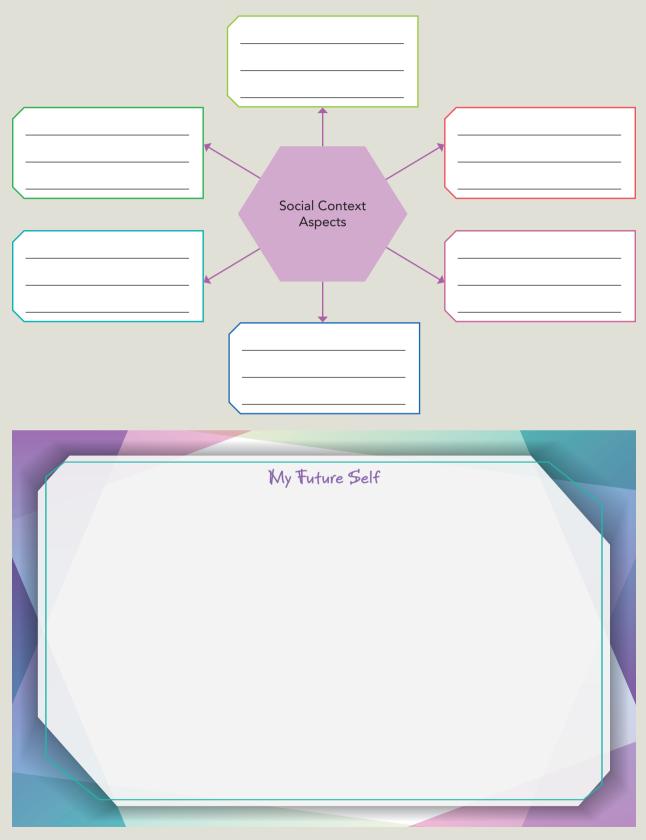
If you want to know more about how to create a life plan, go to: http://edutics.mx/5bi



BLOCK 3

RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 1. WHERE I AM AND WHERE I GO



RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 2. MY VOCATION

Something very important to take into account when making your life plan is your vocation. Knowing what your vocation is and discovering something you are drawn to and feel excited about will serve you as a guide to visualize your goals. It is important that you set your objectives considering the academic, professional, and job aspects in your life plan. Your life plan should set goals according to your interests, values and social context. This will guide you to make responsible choices.

Materials

- Printed handout
- Pen or pencil

STEP BY STEP

- **1** Print the handout on the next page or copy it in your notebook so you can work on it.
- 2 Think of what you want to be when you grow up and, with that in mind, fill in the organizer in the handout. Then get into pairs and share your organizer. Ask each other if you can think of other skills about yourselves that you might have missed and write them down.
- 3 Next, write your life goals and discuss if what you listed on the graphic organizer fits with those goals.
- **4** Discuss as a class:
 - **a** Why do you think it is important to identify your skills?

b Is it important to research career and job options in different areas of study before deciding? Why?

c Where would you research?

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If you want to learn more about how to find your career, go to: http://edutics.mx/5bS

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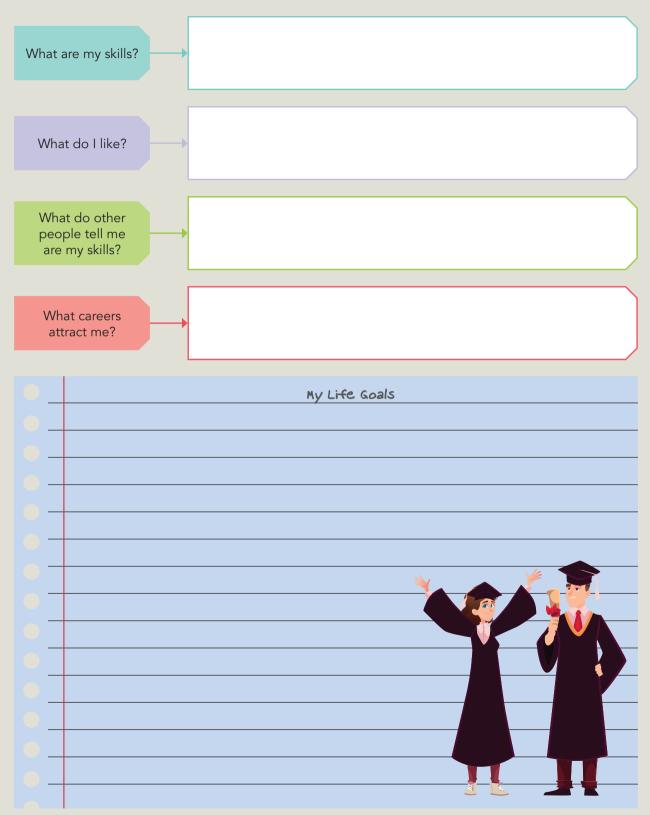




BLOCK 3

RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 2. MY VOCATION





RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 3. FOCUSED THINKING

TAKE THE LEAD

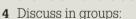
Sometimes, when faced with unexpected situations, you may feel confused and overwhelmed by the situation, not seeing your alternatives clearly. To make responsible decisions in any situation, you should stay focused on and analyze the alternatives and consequences to try to make the best possible choice. Focused thinking helps us consider important aspects such as priorities, values, information, and consequences before deciding what to do.

Materials

- Printed handout
- Pen or pencil

STEP BY STEP

- 1 Print the handout on the next page or copy it in your notebook so you can work on it.
- **2** Read about Jane's situation and analyze the alternatives she thought of. Discuss in groups the following questions:
 - **a** Are they objective?
 - **b** Are any of them prejudiced? Which one?
 - **c** Is she thinking clearly? Why?
- **3** In groups, discuss and write down objective and constructive alternatives to Jane's situation. Then discuss which one could be a good solution and why. Write down your conclusions. Then share your answers with the class.



- **a** Have you ever faced a situation where you had to make up your mind quickly and decide what to do?
- **b** Were you able to analyze the situation and make the best decision? Or did your emotions and prejudice get in the way?
- **c** Why do you think it is important to focus your mind and think in a clear way to solve a problem?

If you want to learn more about critical thinking, go to: http://edutics.mx/5bU





RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 3. FOCUSED THINKING

Jane borrowed two books from a classmate, Amelia, to work on a school project. The books were quite expensive. They were very useful as they had the specific information she needed for the project. She was on the subway carrying them in a bag on her way to Amelia's house. When Jane was walking up the subway stairs, she realized she had left the bag on the seat of the subway car. She rushed back and explained the situation to a station policeman. The man gave her a phone number to call later that day and check if the bag was turned in to the Lost and Found. Jane was really worried and later that day



when she called, she felt desperate because the books were not there. She thought of many ways to avoid dealing with the problem, such as: "I'm going to tell Amelia I still need them, to give me some time to think." "She will be mad at me if I tell her the truth." "I'll tell her my mom wants to read them." "I could tell her someone stole my bag in the subway."

Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3

	Conclusions
•	
• _	
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RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 4. HEAD AND HEART

TAKE THE LEAD

When making decisions, you sometimes could make impulsive choices which you could later regret, or you sometimes take too long in making up your mind and then it's too late because the opportunity has passed. Most of your decisions are partly emotional and partly rational. It is important that you consider both aspects when making a decision. You should develop critical thinking abilities to find a balance between what your heart tells you to do and what your head says.

STEP BY STEP

- Print the handout on the next page or copy it in your notebook so you can work on it.
- 2 In pairs, read the situation and the aspects Bruno took into account to make his decision. Pay attention to how he divided the aspects into emotional and rational ones. Discuss with your partner if Bruno's decision was made with a balance between his emotions and his reasoning.
- 3 Using Bruno's situation as an example, write a decision you have to make in your personal life.Make a list of things you have to take into account in order to decide in a responsible way.
- **4** Divide your list into emotional and rational aspects. Then, in pairs, discuss if your decision is too rational or too emotional and exchange ideas to find aspects that may balance it.
- 5 Discuss in groups:
 - **a** Why do you think it is important to balance your head and your heart when making decisions?

 ${\boldsymbol{b}}\$ Why do you think critical thinking is important in our lives?

c How can it help you make better decisions?

• Pen or pencil

Materials

Printed handout



If you want to learn more about how your emotions

influence your decisions, go to: http://edutics.mx/5bJ



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RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING

INTROSPECTION 4. HEAD AND HEART

Bruno has finished high school and wants to apply for a job in a call center. The company will supply him with training while working. It's an attractive salary, but he has to work eight or nine hours a day, which leaves him with little or no time to study computer engineering. He really wants to be able to rent a small apartment with a friend to share the rent and be independent. Bruno listed the things that attract him about getting this job and the things he has to take into consideration.

Head	Heart
He can't apply for university now.	He wants to be independent.
He will have very little time to do	He can rent a small apartment
anything else.	with a friend.
	He can save some money (maybe).

A decision I have to make soon:

Things to take into account

