Supplemental

High School Life Skills

Answer keys and standards crosswalk for every worksheet in this unit.

HSLS1 — Make Your Money Work While You Sleep

FOR TEACHER USE — WHY THIS TOPIC

Why this topic — Most students reach 18 having never distinguished saving from investing or watched compound interest actually compound. This pair builds the vocabulary and the arithmetic before students ever open an account.

FOR TEACHER USE — ANSWER KEY

The cost of waiting — $200/month at 7% average annual return: starting at age 20 (40 years) grows to about $525,000 by 60. Starting at age 30 (30 years) grows to about $244,000, even though the later starter only contributed 25% less money in total ($72,000 vs. $96,000). The extra decade of compounding is worth more than the extra decade of contributions. Credit mistake — Accept any answer that names a real misstep (missed payment, maxing out a card, closing an old account, opening too many accounts at once) and a concrete fix.

HSLS2 — The Real Price of College

FOR TEACHER USE — WHY THIS TOPIC

Why this topic — College cost is one of the biggest financial decisions a family makes, and 'sticker price vs. net price' is consistently the most misunderstood concept, surveys of high schoolers show most can't distinguish the two.

FOR TEACHER USE — ANSWER KEY

FAFSA — Free Application for Federal Student Aid; can be filed as early as October 1 of senior year. Award letter table — Net price = cost of attendance minus grants & scholarships ONLY. Loans are not subtracted from cost, they still have to be repaid, so they lower what you pay today but not your real total cost.

HSLS3 — Reading the Fine Print on Health Insurance

FOR TEACHER USE — WHY THIS TOPIC

Why this topic — Health insurance vocabulary (deductible, coinsurance, out-of-pocket max) rarely appears in any required course, yet nearly every young adult has to make a real insurance decision within a few years of turning 18.

FOR TEACHER USE — ANSWER KEY

Worked deductible/coinsurance problem — $2,000 (deductible) + 20% x $3,000 (remaining bill after the deductible) = $2,000 + $600 = $2,600 owed by the patient on a $5,000 bill. HMO vs. PPO table — HMO: usually needs a referral to see specialists, narrower network, typically lower premium. PPO: no referral needed, wider network, typically higher premium.

HSLS4 — Your First Job, Your First Lease

Supplemental

High School Life Skills

Answer keys and standards crosswalk for every worksheet in this unit.

FOR TEACHER USE — WHY THIS TOPIC

Why this topic — First paycheck and first lease are two of the earliest real-world financial documents a teenager encounters, worth walking through before the real one shows up.

FOR TEACHER USE — ANSWER KEY

FICA — $800 x 7.65% = $61.20. Net pay — $800 − $61.20 (FICA) − $88 (federal + state income tax) = $650.80 net pay. Roommate split — $1,500 / 3 roommates = $500 each. If one roommate stops paying, the lease usually still holds everyone jointly responsible for the full rent, worth discussing before signing.