

Subject: Commerce

Class: SS1

Week: 6

Topic: Occupation II

Subtopics:

- Factors Determining Occupation
 - Factors Affecting Employment
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Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- ✓ Explain the factors that influence a person's choice of occupation
 - ✓ Identify factors that determine employment opportunities
 - ✓ Distinguish between occupational choice and employment availability
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1. Introduction to Occupation

An **occupation** is any legal and productive activity that people engage in to earn a living. People choose different types of occupations based on personal and environmental factors. However, not all who choose an occupation will find employment in that field—thus, understanding employment factors is important.

2. Factors Determining Choice of Occupation

These are the key elements that influence the type of work a person decides to do:

a. Education and Training

- A person's level of education or professional training can limit or expand career options.
Example: A lawyer must attend university and law school before practicing law.
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b. Interest and Passion

- Personal interests and motivation drive people into careers they enjoy or feel called to.
Example: Someone who loves drawing may pursue a career in graphic design.
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c. Skills and Talents

- Some jobs require unique skills, which can be innate or acquired through learning.
Example: A skilled tailor can start a tailoring business without formal education.
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d. Health Status

- Certain jobs require good health and physical strength.
Example: A construction worker needs physical fitness, while a sickly person may opt for office work.
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e. Availability of Capital

- People may need startup capital for business-oriented occupations.
Example: A person who wants to start a bakery must have money to buy equipment.
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f. Family Background and Influence

- Parents' occupations, family business, or expectations may influence one's occupational choice.
Example: A child of a musician may follow in the same path.
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g. Location/Geographical Environment

- Geography plays a role. Coastal areas may have more fishing jobs; urban areas may offer office jobs.
Example: People in rural areas might farm, while city dwellers work in banks or tech.
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h. Job Availability

- Some people take available jobs, even if it's not their first choice.
Example: A trained accountant may work as a cashier due to lack of accounting jobs.

3. Factors Affecting Employment

While occupational choice is personal, **employment** depends on external economic and social conditions.

a. State of the Economy

- A strong economy boosts business activity and employment, while a weak economy increases unemployment.

b. Technological Changes

- Automation and machines can replace human labor in some sectors.
Example: Bank ATMs reducing the need for cashiers.

c. Population Growth

- If the population grows faster than job creation, unemployment will rise.

d. Government Policies

- Policies like job creation programs, taxation, investment incentives, and education reforms affect employment.

e. Infrastructure

- The presence of electricity, roads, internet, etc., encourages business growth and job creation.

f. Educational System

- A mismatch between what schools teach and what industries need may lead to unemployment.

4. Distinction: Occupational Choice vs. Employment Availability

Occupation Choice

Based on interest, skills, education

Determined by individual

May not lead to immediate employment

Employment Availability

Based on economic conditions, demand for labor

Determined by the market/government

May force one to take unrelated jobs