

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CASE STUDY

Which Path Works—And When?

What + Why: Decide which pathway works under each condition, and defend your reasoning with evidence.



In real life, financial decisions depend on goals, timing, and unexpected events. Use what you've learned to evaluate how each pathway performs across different conditions.

Supporting Materials:

Saving vs. Investing Pathways (Ages 18-22) (Case Study)

Time Jump: Ages 18-22 Analysis (previously completed)

Instructions:

1. Answer the two reflection questions using evidence from your work on the **Time Jump: Ages 18-22 Analysis** activity.
2. Use the Which Path Works—And When? rubric to help guide your reflection.

Which Path Works—And When? Rubric

Criteria	Strong (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Beginning (1)
Claim Student states a clear, specific answer to the question being asked.	States a clear, specific claim that directly addresses the question. Identifies a pathway and condition without ambiguity.	States a claim but it is general or partially addresses the question.	Attempts a claim but it is vague, incomplete, or only implies an answer rather than stating one.	Does not state a claim or the response does not address the question.
Evidence Student supports the claim with specific data from the case study materials (including evidence from the Time Jump Analysis activity).	Cites at least two specific pieces of data from the case study materials by name to support the claim.	Cites one specific piece of data, or references the case study materials in general terms without naming specific figures.	References the case scenario but does not cite specific data from the case study materials.	Does not reference the case study materials or any data.
Conditionality Student recognizes that the strongest pathway depends on circumstances.	Clearly explains that the most appropriate pathway changes depending on the condition and identifies what specific factor drives that difference.	Acknowledges that the answer depends on the condition but does not explain what drives the difference.	Hints at conditionality without directly addressing it.	Treats one pathway as universally strongest without acknowledging conditions.
Trade-Off Reasoning Student explains what is gained and given up across pathways.	Clearly explains the trade-off (what each pathway gains and what it sacrifices) and connects it to why no single pathway can be strongest under all conditions.	Identifies a trade-off but explains only one side (what is gained or what is lost), but not both.	Mentions a trade-off without explaining how it connects to the pathways or conditions.	Does not identify or explain a trade-off.