



Part I: The Story



One Saturday, you get an idea—why not take a trip to the mall? When you get there you pass by the new releases at the record store, this week’s issues at the comic shop, and you stop in at Barry’s Bikes. There’s a monster mountain bike in the window that you just can’t pass up. It’s red and gray, with sleek handlebars and shimmering spokes—a real bike, not some little kid’s toy. You’d be the envy of everyone at your school with this thing. You have to have it!

But then you see the price tag: **\$599!** “I’ll never be able to get this bike,” you mutter as you begin to walk away. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a wizard appears.

Hey, weirder things have happened at the mall.

The wizard looks at you and mumbles from behind his huge gray beard. “Don’t have enough money for that bike, huh?” You dig around in your pocket to come up with a measly 76 cents. You look up from your sad handful of change to see the wizard laughing. “You’re going to need a lot more than that,” he says. You ask him if he can just make the money magically appear. “Of course not,” he says “But there are lots of ways to get money. I should know, I’m a financial wizard!”

What are some of the ways you could get enough money for the bike?

Part II: Questions

(Use the back of this sheet to record your answers.)

1 The wizard offers you three jobs. Which would you choose? Why?

Job 1

Babysitter

- \$10/hour
- 4 days per week
- 5 hours per day

Job 2

Camp counselor

- \$7.50/hour
- 5 days per week
- 7 hours per day

Job 3

House painter

- \$8.25/hour
- 4 days per week
- 8 hours per day

3 Based on information below, which job would you choose now? Why?

Job 1

Babysitter

- no taxes
- no equipment needed

Job 2

Camp counselor

- 7% taxes
- no equipment needed

Job 3

House painter

- no taxes
- equipment needed \$10/day

2 How long will it take you to earn enough money to buy the bike with the job you chose? Support your answer.

4 How long will it take you to earn the money for the bike with *this* job?