

7. Teacher

Ted, 34, has been a high school English teacher for 10 years. Like all public-school teachers, his salary is set by the State based on a) his level of education and b) his number of years of service. With his Bachelor's degree, his salary has increased every year, but this increase stops at Year 11, which is next year. In order to keep earning more money, he must earn a Master's Degree. This will allow him to continue to get raises every year until year 30.

Ted has been working towards his Master's in Education during the summer. He'd like to take classes during the school year, but as a teacher of writing, he often works many hours at home to read and evaluate his students' writing. During the day, he works with many students and is on his feet most of the day. While it can be a challenging environment, to Ted, it is also an invigorating one. Ted is a people person who likes actively working with students.

Ted's love of writing compels him to share his skills and passion for communication with his students. His students' successes are what keep him motivated, and money aside, earning his M.Ed. will only make him a better, more well-educated teacher.