

# College Talk Warm Ups - NPR Podcasts

Extra Credit Forms

Name:

## Title of Podcast: First Test For College Hopefuls? Decoding Financial Aid Letters

National Public Radio has done some solid investigative journalism with post high school education, college choices and funding, and the challenges posed. The shows run in length from 4:00 to 7:00. This form will provide extra credit guidelines for listening to and commenting on the individual shows. Links to each story are posted on the Buddha blog - as is each story's extra credit form. My suggestion is that you listen to the podcast two times - once for taking notes and once without - you'll do a better job on the assignment and gain more from the experience. Also, for the ones that you find particularly informative - sit down with Mom and Dad, listen together and talk about the topic...it is essential that your parents are also educated on the challenges of college funding.

**Three things to note:** One, while it is possible to skim through NPR podcasts via the summary blogs posted on the website, the beauty of the presentations come from listening. Take the time to listen; these are professional productions. Two - Extra credit dates will coincide with Econ class. They will be posted regularly along with the podcast links. While SCI and Government students may do the extra credit as well, they must adhere to Economics due dates. So check the blog regularly or work ahead. Three - extra credit will consist of a 3% bump on any Marking Period grade for form completion. After MP final % grades have been totaled - you may take a portion or all of the accumulated percentages and bump up your final grade. However, I will give 3% only for completed *College Talk Warm Up Evals*. If you do not reflect on your answers with some depth, don't expect any extra credit.

All assignments must be turned into Mr. Wood on hard copy at the beginning of class hour on due date for full credit.

### 1 - Podcast Summary

In your own words what was this podcast all about?

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### 2 - LOANS can be confusing

Fed or Staff or L or LN - Understanding the Loan criteria is a little crazy. What does Mark Kantrowitz say to help you through the process? What does he say about the net price of college? And how do you get there?

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### 3 - **WARNING** - Be aware of Frontloading

This can be a real problem. What is it? Why is a problem? What do you think about it?

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### 4 - Annual starting salary in relationship to your total debt burden

What does Kantrowitz say about your total debt burden in relationship to your starting salary? If this is the case what pressure does this put on your choices? What adjustments could you make?

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### 5 - Unforeseen Family Financial circumstances

If your family financials change drastically after you've been accepted you can get an adjustment. What might be some of these unforeseen circumstances? What would you do if this happened to you?

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**6 - Relationship to YOU?**

Check out the sample letter from a generic university, midway down this podcast sight. It's does a pretty good job of walking you through a complicated process.

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**7 - "Take Away" in a Word -**

In a word what if anything valuable did you "takeaway" from this podcast? Tell me the word and follow it up with an explanation.

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**8 - Evaluation of the Podcast (circle one)**

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|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------|----------|----|
| 1 - Was this podcast informative?     | YES | Maybe yes | Maybe no | NO |
| 2 - Was this podcast interesting?     | YES | Maybe yes | Maybe no | NO |
| 3 - Would you recommend it to others: | YES | Maybe yes | Maybe no | NO |

Why or why not on recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Any Final Thoughts?**

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