Chapter 4

Data File 4-1 Making Decisions

**Directions:** Read the following case study and answer the following questions to learn more about decision making.

Arvind was 17 when he dropped out of school. People tried to talk him out of it, but he had a mind of his own. People told him he could do well in school if he would just apply himself, but he wasn’t in a listening mood. The thought of being on his own was exciting. He wanted to earn some money, have some fun, and buy a car. Once the pressures of school were off, Arvind felt great—at least for a while.

That was Arvind’s story a number of years ago, but time has passed and things have happened. Read below about events in Arvind’s life, and answer the questions as you analyze what happened.

Activities

1. In the months after Arvind left school, he looked for a job. His choices were limited, so he took a position at a fast-food restaurant and bought a car. Why do you think Arvind had trouble finding a job?

<<Place Answer Here>>

2. Eventually, Arvind found a better job. He was hired to sell advertising for a radio station. It didn’t pay very well, but at least it seemed like progress. Arvind wanted to move out of his family’s home, but that wasn’t possible. Why do you think he couldn’t leave?

<<Place Answer Here>>

3. Arvind partied with friends and went out with different girls. When he met Ria, he believed that she was the one for him. He really wanted to have his own place, so he kept job hunting until he found one that paid better. It wasn’t great, but it was enough to get a small apartment. Arvind and Ria got married. She had a low-paying job, too, but when the first baby came along, she had to quit. Child care would have cost more than her job paid. Arvind started to worry. Why do you think Arvind was worried?

<<Place Answer Here>>

4. As time went on, Arvind became more frustrated. He hated his job, and he just couldn’t get ahead with it. He thought about going back to school, but he had to work to support his family. He didn’t have money to pay for school anyway, and another baby was on the way. He had borrowed some money from a family member, and Ria was upset that he had done that. Why do you think Ria was upset? What do you predict is ahead for the couple?

<<Place Answer Here>>

5. Decisions that people make in life can have long-range effects. Analyze what happened to Arvind. What decision did he make that had high impact? What might have happened if he had made a different decision?

<<Place Answer Here>>

6. Ask your instructor where to save your documents. This could be on the school’s network or a flash drive of your own. Name your Word document *FirstnameLastname*\_Activity4-1.docx (i.e., JohnSmith\_Activity4-1.docx).