

Environmental or Situational Analysis

Environmental analysis, sometimes referred to as ecological assessment and/or job analysis, involves carefully examining environments where activities normally occur. For example, a student may express an interest in attending karate classes at the local YMCA. In this case an environmental analysis might be conducted to look at transportation needs and the expectations at the YMCA for attending (e.g., being a member, using the locker room, taking a shower). In a second example, if a student expressed interest in a specific type of job, an environmental job analysis could be conducted comparing requirements of the job to the student's skills (Griffin & Sherron, 1996). A critical part of a job analysis should be to identify types of accommodations that could be provided to help a student perform the necessary functions of a particular job (e.g., job restructuring, modifying equipment, acquiring an adaptive device, re-organizing the work space, hiring a personal assistant) (Griffin & Sherron, 1996)" (Test, Aspel, & Everson, 2006, pp. 74). perhaps the best source for on the job accommodations is the Job Accommodation Network (www.jan.org)

www.jan.wvu.edu/