

How to structure In-class or Proctored online Timed Essay and how to manage time

ARTICLE AND PROMPT FOR PRACTICE

Read the article below

Identify the main idea/ the argument of the author of this article

Decide if you agree or disagree with the author's argument

Write an essay with a clear Thesis Statement that will state Your opinion about the main idea of the article (the author's claim).

Your essay should:

- Have an Introduction, 2 Body Paragraphs, Conclusion
- One of the Body Paragraphs should discuss the counter argument
- Refer/quote from the article

The Worst and Best Jobs of My Life

by Fidel Sanchez

Any job you choose can greatly influence your life. Jobs can give you a feeling of hope, fulfillment, accomplishment, and fulfillment or leave you feeling broken, devastated, depressed, with a sense of hopelessness that never seems to go away. I have two jobs in my life that have greatly affected me, one job made me feel important and useful, while the other job made me feel the exact opposite.

The first job I had was as a teacher's clerical assistant in high school. The credit hours were essential if I were to graduate, so I took the job. I would help my teacher, Ms. Witherspoon, with the hordes of student papers that came her way. She would decorate them with soul-crushing "F"s or award-winning "A"s, along with tidbits on how to do better next time. I would then leisurely type in all the information about each student's performance poor or near-perfect academic performance into the computer.

Correcting the piles of homework assignments and multiple-choice tests was time consuming because she had so many students, but this task became a hobby. That line of work made me feel important, and, furthermore, I knew what I was doing, and I felt I was making a difference.

Now, my second job was the exact opposite of the first I wanted to go to college, and my parents wanted to help me by paying my tuition. However, my parents, due to medical reasons, could not work, so it became my responsibility to support them and to earn money for college. I started to search for job openings around my neighborhood. Finally, I found employment at a company called Sun **Optics**; there I would make a fair amount of money.

The company made glasses for people with visual problems. I thought the job would be **exciting** since I was trying something new in my life. I would receive clear, see-through bags of frames along with an **ophthalmologist's** description of what the customer wanted for his or her glasses. Then I would put them on a specified colored tray with a round circular piece of plastic that soon would become lenses. My first day on the job was **atrocious**. Nearly cutting my finger as I tried to dull the sharp edges of freshly cut lenses did not impress my boss. Learning how to heat plastic frames with burning hot sand in order to put in the lens was challenging, too. Learning to drill a hole in the lens was challenging, too. My employers were supposed to teach me how to do these extra things, but they never did. When I talked to them about it, all they did was **belittle** me and make hostile remarks.

I was more a **liability** than an **asset** as I continued to work for Sun Optics. Dread came over me as I would get up every morning to go to work. The anxiety left me the day my parents told me they could start working again, so I was able to quit this job and start college. The thought that I might have to face unpleasant jobs later in life made me realize that I had better start making good, sensible, and well-thought-out choices about what I want to do with my life, so it's up to me to choose a career that will make this enterprise enjoyable and rewarding.

Optics: the study of vision and light

Exciting: stimulating happiness

Ophthalmologist: a specialist in the diseases of the eye

Atrocious: extremely evil or cruel; monstrous

Belittle: to roar in a deep, loud voice

Liability: having legal responsibility and being open to lawsuit

Asset: an item that is owned and can be turned into cash.

