

My Job in an Apple Plant

Working in an apple plant was the worst job I ever had. First of all, the work was physically hard. For ten hours a night, I took cartons that rolled down a metal track and stacked them onto wooden skids in a tractor trailer. Each carton contained twenty-five pounds of bottled apple juice, and they came down the track almost nonstop. The second bad feature of the job was the pay. I was getting the minimum wage at that time, \$3.65 an hour, plus a quarter extra for working the night shift. I had to work over sixty hours a week to get decent take-home pay. Finally, I hated the working conditions. We were limited to two ten-minute breaks and an unpaid half hour for lunch. Most of my time was spent outside on the loading dock in near-zero-degree temperatures. I was very lonely on the job because I had no interests in common with the other truck loaders. I felt this isolation especially when the production line shut down for the night, and I spent two hours by myself cleaning the apple vats. The vats were an ugly place to be on a cold morning, and the job was a bitter one to have.

Activity 1

The paragraph on the apple plant, like almost any piece of effective writing, has two essential parts: (1) a point is advanced, and (2) that point is then supported. Taking a minute to outline the paragraph will help you understand these basic parts clearly. Add the words needed to complete the outline.

Point: Working in an apple plant is the worst job I ever had.

Reason 1: _____

a. Loaded cartons onto skids for ten hours a night

b. _____

Reason 2: _____

a. _____

b. Had to work sixty hours for decent take-home pay

Reason 3: _____

a. Two ten-minute breaks and an unpaid lunch

b. _____

c. Loneliness on job

(1) No interests in common with other workers

(2) By myself for two hours cleaning the apple vats

"My job in an apple plant
Paragraph has two parts: 1) a point is
advanced, and 2) that point is then supported.

Outline the paragraph and Add
words to complete it.

Point: Working in an apple plant is the worst
job I ever had.

Reason 1: Physically hard work.

a. Loaded cartons onto skids for ten
hours a night.

b. Each carton having twenty-five pounds
of bottles, coming down the ~~the~~ track
continuously.

Reason 2: low pay

a) \$3.65 an hour and ^a quarter extra
for night shift.

b) Had to work sixty hours for decent
take-home pay.

Reason 3: Hated the working conditions.

a) Two ten minutes breaks and an
upaid lunch.

b) Had to spend most time outside on loading dock in near zero-degree temperatures.

c) Loneliness ^{at} on job.

d) No interests in common with other workers.

2) By myself for two hours cleaning the apple vats.

Correct the structure