

Writer's Name: _____

Pros, Cons, and Hooks for Jobs other than Pirates

Inspired by How I Became a Pirate by Melinda Long

Instructions: Today you will be writing a descriptive and organized piece about a job and its pros and cons.

First, you will do a little bit of research or thinking about a job. In the table below, brainstorm and list 6 interesting pros (good things) about the job you will be writing about. Then, list 6 interesting bad things. Include descriptive words (like adjectives and adverbs and prepositional phrases) in your brainstorm. Also, list six subordinating conjunctions you plan to use in your rough draft.

The job I'll be writing about: _____		
Pros	Cons	Subordinating conjunctions I'll use when writing this:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Next, circle your most interesting pro and con from the list above.

Recall Melinda Long's great introduction in *How I Became a Pirate*? "Pirates have green teeth—when they have any teeth at all." Take your most interesting pro and con, and turn them both into two similar sentences that might be an interesting introduction to a story about the job you're writing about. Use a subordinating conjunction somewhere in each sentence.

My pro sentence:
My con sentence:

Have a classmate help you decide which of your two sentences would make a better introduction.

Finally, use the graphic organizer below to pre-plan an interesting four-paragraph piece of writing that talks about the pros and cons of being the job you have thought about. Try to use the rest of your subordinating conjunctions in your sentences.

When you have pre-planned your paragraphs, write your actual draft on a piece of notebook paper and prepare to share it with a classmate.

	Paragraph #1: Start with a short introductory sentence that grabs your attention. Use your pro or con sentence from the other page. By itself, is this a good enough introduction, or should you add a sentence or two to follow it?
	Paragraph #2: Which should come first? Pros or cons? Decide. Then, write an interesting paragraph that explains most (or all) of the pros or cons. Can you write so skillfully that your list of ideas doesn't seem like a list at all? Can you make your explanations sound more like a conversation than a bulleted list of ideas?
	Paragraph #3: Which one is left? Pros or cons? Write an interesting paragraph that explains most (or all) of the pros or cons. Can you write so skillfully that your list of ideas doesn't seem like a list at all? Can you make your explanations sound more like a conversation than a bulleted list of ideas?
	Paragraph #4: What sentence (or two) would conclude this writing nicely? Might you create a conclusion that refers back to your first sentence? Or...?