

Middle School PLVS

Finding a Job

Directions: Answer all parts of the question on the answer sheet provided.

Finding a job can be a job in itself – it can be very difficult! It helps to have a plan, be prepared, and be organized.

- A. Describe three educational benefits from having a part-time job.

- B. List three items that you will need before applying for a part-time job, and explain where to get those three items.

SCORING GUIDE

4	Student gives correct answers for parts A and B. All explanations are clear and complete. There is evidence of clear understanding of the concept.
3	Student gives correct answers for parts A and B. Explanations are correct, but possibly unclear. There is less evidence of clear understanding.
2	Student answers 1 (A or B) part of the question completely correct. There is some evidence of understanding.
1	Student gives only parts of correct answers. There is little evidence of understanding.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant (does not add any new information to the question)
B	No response



Middle School PLVS Open Response/Reason to Write - Persuade

Choose only ONE of the following tasks to complete:

WRITING TASK 1

SITUATION:

Getting a first job is an important step for many young adults. Babysitting, yard work, newspaper route- there are many opportunities for you to go to work. You believe that you are ready for a job but your parents aren't so sure.

WRITING TASK:

Write a letter to your parent/guardian persuading them that you are ready for your first job. Include details about the skills that you have that will make you a good employee and some of the benefits you will gain from having a job.

OR

WRITING TASK 2

SITUATION:

Your school newspaper is going to publish articles about teen workers and their jobs to convince readers that work experience outside the classroom can have educational benefits. They have asked for students to submit articles about their work experiences.

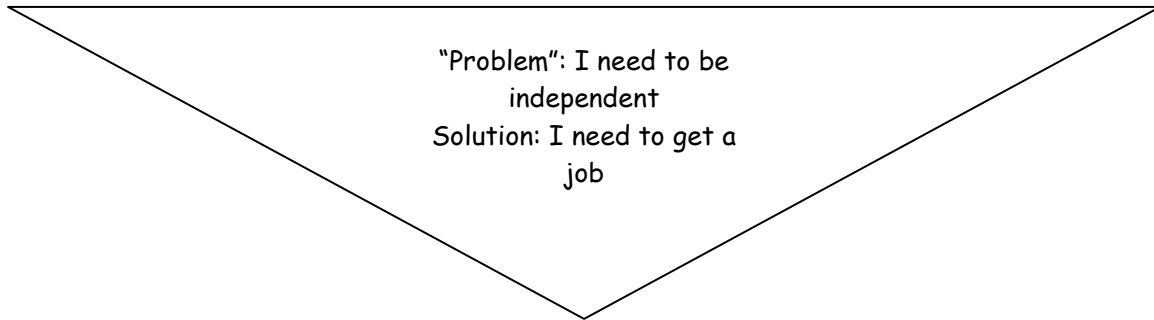
WRITING TASK:

Write an article for the school newspaper informing its readers about a job that you have had. Include details about the skills you needed to be successful and the benefits you received from having a job. Be sure to include details about how your job has helped your education.

Middle School PLVS Open Response/Reason to Write - Persuade

SCORING CRITERIA FOR ON-DEMAND WRITING
<p>PURPOSE/AUDIENCE: the degree to which the writer maintains a focused purpose to communicate with an audience by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Narrowing the topic to establish a focus• Analyzing and addressing the needs of the intended audience• Adhering to the characteristics (e.g., format, organization) of the form• Employing a suitable tone• Allowing a voice to emerge when appropriate
<p>IDEA DEVELOPMENT/SUPPORT: The degree to which the writer develops and supports main ideas and depends the audience's understanding by using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logical, justified, and suitable explanation• Relevant elaboration• Related connections and reflections• Idea development strategies (e.g., bulleted lists, definitions) appropriate for the form
<p>ORGANIZATION: The degree to which the writer create unity and coherence to accomplish the focused purpose by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaging the audience and establishing a context for reading• Placing ideas and support in a meaningful order• Guiding the reader through the piece with transitions and transitional elements• Providing effective closure
<p>SENTENCES: The degree to which the writer creates effective sentences that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Varied in structure and length• Constructed effectively• Complete and correct
<p>LANGUAGE: The degree to which the writer demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Word choice• Strong verbs and nouns• Concrete and/or sensory details• Language appropriate to the content, purpose, and audience• Concise use of language• Correct usage/grammar
<p>CORRECTNESS: The degree to which the writer demonstrates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correct spelling• Correct punctuation• Correct capitalization• Appropriate documentation of ideas and information from outside sources (e.g., citing authors or titles within the text, listing sources)

Middle School PLVS Open Response/Reason to Write - Persuade



Reason One: I know how to be on time
Example: Getting up for school on my own

Reason Two: I know how to follow directions
Example: Chores around the house: room, laundry, garbage

Reason Three: I need to learn value of money
Example: Earn for what I like to spend on: movies, shopping, cell phone

Reason Four: I need to learn time management
Example: Use calendar; waste less time



October 14, 2006

Dear Mom and Dad,

It's time for me to be a little more independent-I want to get a job. I know what you're thinking, "There's no way she's ready for a job," but if you will give me a chance to explain, I think you will see that I am ready and that a job will be good for me.

First of all, I already know how important it is to be on time. You have to admit that you don't have to get me up for school anymore. I always set my own alarm clock and get up when it goes off. Every morning, I have plenty of time to shower, dress and eat breakfast. I'm always at the bus stop several minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Can you even remember the last time you had to drive me to school because I missed the bus?

Another thing that I do well is follow directions. Over the past year, you have given me more chores around the house: cleaning my room, taking out the trash, sorting the laundry, and loading/unloading the dishwasher are just some of the things I am expected to do. At first, you did have to remind me sometimes to do what I had been told (OK, maybe you had to remind me a lot), but now I accept full responsibility for my jobs and do all of the things that you ask me to do.

Hopefully you now believe that I am ready for a job, but just in case you still have doubts, let me tell you about some of the benefits I will get from having a job.

Who always says that I don't understand the value of a dollar? You do. Earning my own money will help me learn that lesson. When I have to work and see how long it takes to earn a certain amount, I think I will appreciate money more. You've said more than once that you're tired of constantly handing money over to me. Going to the movies, buying new jeans and shoes, and text messaging on my cell phone are all things that I enjoy. Let me get a job so I can help pay for some of my own things.

You may be thinking that with school and all of my responsibilities around the house that I don't have time for a job, but I do. I only want to work part time, mostly on the weekends. I spend a lot of time talking on the phone and watching TV. If I get a job, I really will have to learn to manage my time more effectively. I can use a calendar to schedule my hours at work and any test or projects that are coming up at school. I already know what days the garbage has to be taken out and when you do laundry so that will be easy for me to add to my schedule as well.

Hopefully, you can tell that I have given this a lot of thought. I already know the importance of being punctual and following directions, and I need to have the chance to learn how to manage my own money and time. It is time for me to get a job, and I'm ready.

Sincerely,