

Pro/Con Paragraph...How I Became a

1/28 **Topic...** This week, we read the story, How I Became a Pirate by Melinda Long. You are to choose a career that would be interesting to write about. You will include reasons why it would be a good career and contrast it with reasons why it would be bad. You will really end up with two paragraphs when you are done this week...one detailing the pros, and one detailing the cons.

1/29 **Monday...Brainstorm ideas...** Make a T-chart listing the interesting pros (good things) and cons (bad things) of your chosen occupation. List at least 6 of each. Use descriptive language and use adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases! (Remember those? Phrases that use directional words...on, around, above, under, through, etc). You may need to do some research to get your good details.

1/31-2/1 **Thursday...Detail Sentences...** Use your brainstorm list from Monday, to choose 3 of the most interesting pros and 3 of your most interesting cons you would like to highlight in your paragraphs. Each detail needs an explanation sentence to go with it. They need to be truthful and based on fact, but you could include some humor to make it more fun.

PROS: Detail one: _____

Explanation/support: _____

Detail two: _____

Explanation/support: _____

Detail three: _____

Explanation/support: _____

CONS: Detail one: _____

Explanation/support: _____

Detail two: _____

Explanation/support: _____

Detail three: _____

Explanation/support: _____

2/5 **Tuesday...Topic/Closing Sentences...** Now that you have written the details and explanations, you must write a topic and closing sentences for the pros and cons paragraphs. Remember, your topic sentence must let the reader know what you are going to talk about in your paragraph in a catchy way. You might use one of your other brainstorm ideas you didn't include as a detail sentence. Your closing sentence must restate your topic sentence in a new way, maybe using a question posed to your blog readers to encourage conversation.

Remember we looked at online articles to find ideas for catchy topic sentences! You could begin with an appropriate quote, description, questions, a series list, and more. If you are stuck on how to start your paragraph, you might want to browse through those online articles to get some inspiration!

2/6-2/7 **Wednesday...Write your paragraph...** It is time to put all of your work together in the form of a paragraph. The topic sentence goes first, followed by your detail/explanation sentences. The last sentence is your closing sentence.

Reread the entire thing to make sure it makes sense. It should all be about the same topic, give lots of information and be written in complete sentences. You want your paragraph to be easy to read...use a variety of sentence types...use figurative language to enhance your descriptions where appropriate...I should be able to hear your voice when I read it. Publish to [Kidblog](#).

2/8 **Friday...DUE on Kidblog...**Your paragraph is due today. It should be revised/edited and published on your blog. You will not have class time to work on this.