

- 3 Had to clean apple vats after work
~~slept, ate, and worked—no social life~~
3 No real friends at work

Under the list, Gene was now able to prepare his scratch outline:

- The apple plant was my worst job.*
1. *Hard work*
 2. *Poor pay*
 3. *Poor working conditions*

After all his prewriting, Gene was pleased. He knew that he had a promising paragraph—one with a clear point and solid support. He saw that he could organize the material into a paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting points, and vivid details. He was now ready to write the first draft of his paragraph, using his outline as a guide.

TIP

Chances are that if you do enough prewriting and thinking on paper, you will eventually discover the point and support of your paragraph.

Create a scratch outline that could serve as a guide if you were to write a paragraph on your best or worst job experience.

ACTIVITY 5

Writing a First Draft

To write your first draft, begin by reading the prewriting you completed for the assignment. Then review your working topic sentence and your scratch outline. Make sure that each item in your outline supports and develops the main point in your working topic sentence. If it doesn't, cross it out. For example, let's say Gene's scratch outline had these items: (1) hard work, (2) poor pay, (3) poor working conditions, and (4) friendly coworkers. Gene would want to eliminate item 4 because it does not support his working topic sentence—"The apple plant was my worst job."

Once you have reviewed your outline, you're ready to write your first draft. Start by writing down or typing your working topic sentence. Then put down the