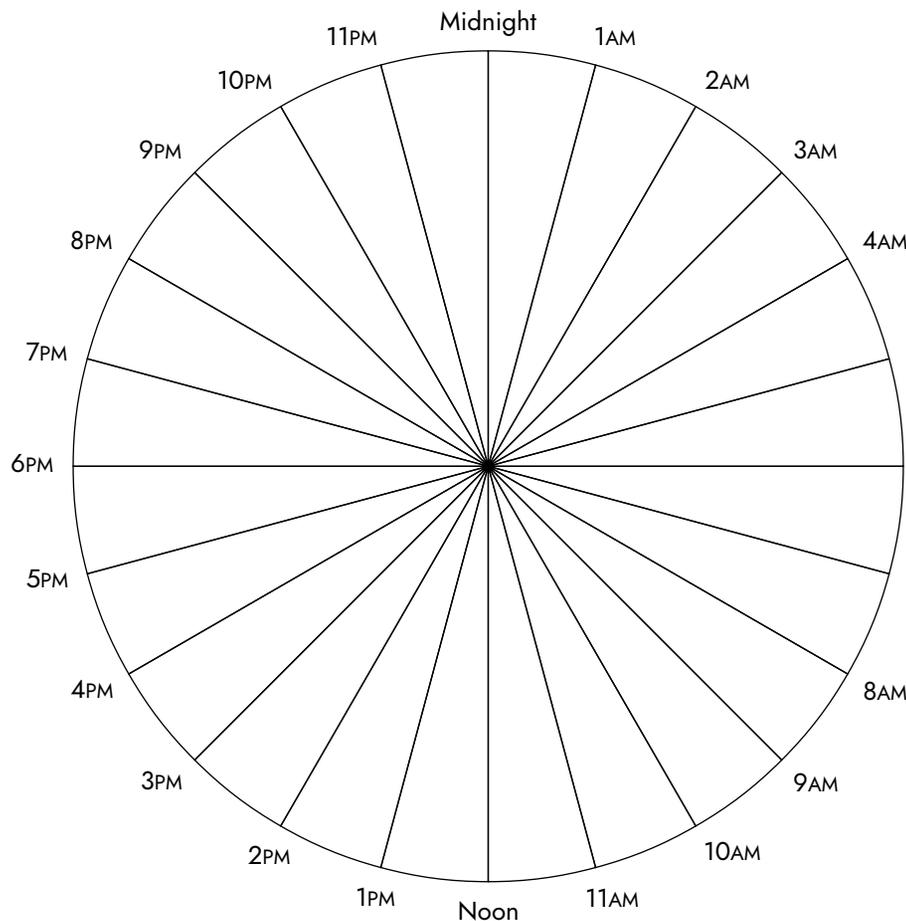


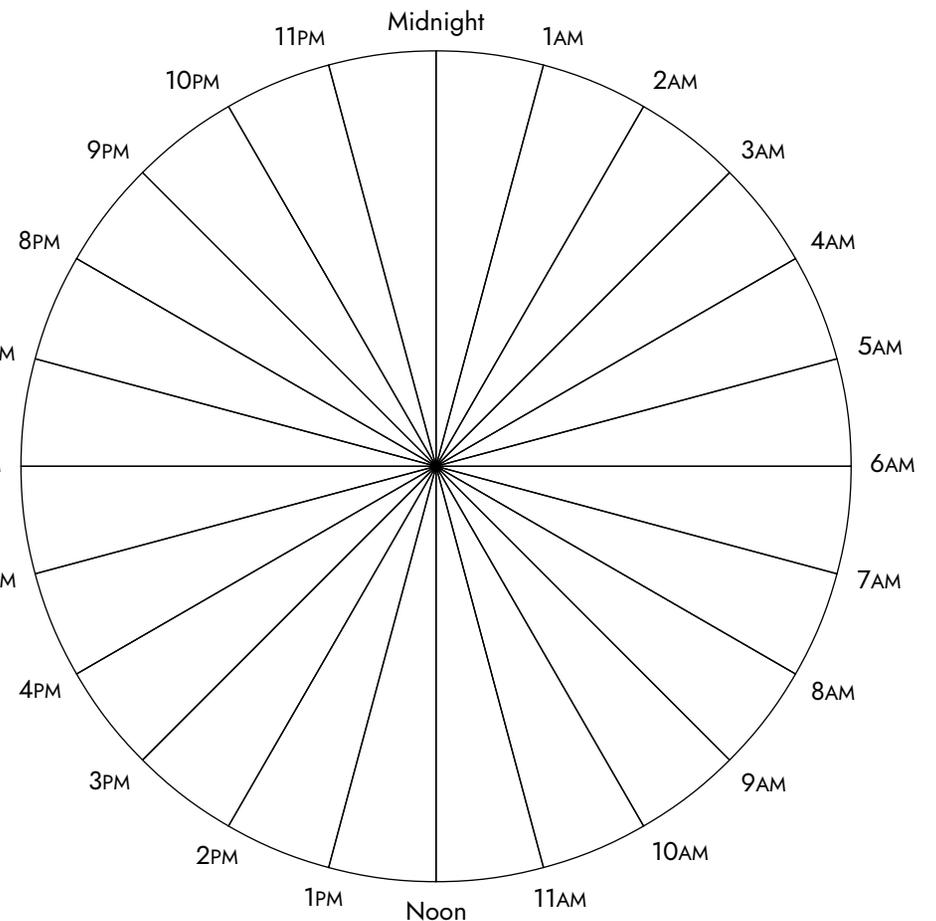
Understanding Child Labour: 24 Hour Clock

Print this page and fill in the two clocks, one representing your typical day and one following Maya's story.

Your Day



The Day of a Child Labourer



Understanding Child Labour: Profiles

A JESSICA, CHILE

Jessica is 16 years old. She works one night a week after school and on Saturdays at a trendy clothing store downtown. Most of her pay cheque is spent on clothes from the store and going out with her friends. Her parents didn't want her to work, but she insisted. They made a deal that she is allowed to keep working as long as her grades stay the same or improve.

B BRIAN, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Brian is 17 years old. He has been working at McDonald's for two years and has worked his way up to the position of "crew chief", making \$9 an hour. Brian works 4 or 5 times a week after school or on weekends. He would rather work less, but his mom is a single mom and needs help supporting Brian's brothers and sisters.

C JAIME, COLOMBIA

Jaime is a 10-year-old mine worker in Amaga, a tiny town about an hour from one of Colombia's larger cities. The area is very poor and many families depend on their children's pay from working in the mines. Jaime wakes up at 4 a.m. and works up to 10 hours below ground in the mines. Jaime has to haul heavy sacks of coal up narrow slippery tunnels. He is paid \$18 per week.

D JULEKHA, BANGLADESH

Julekha is 10 years old and has been a domestic worker from the age of five. Her father is paralyzed and cannot walk. She has three sisters and four brothers. Julekha works for a family that lives across town from her. Her main job is to take care of the family's young child, but she also helps in household chores. Most days she works from 8 am until 6 pm for the family, and when she returns home around 7 pm she helps take care of her brothers and sisters. Julekha has never attended school because of her family's poverty, but she would like to learn to read one day.

E ISHMAEL, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Ishmael was only 7 years old when he was taken from his village to be a soldier. Military men came into his village at night and ordered everyone out of their house. The men made all of the young boys come with them, and hurt anyone who refused or tried to hide. Ishmael goes through rigorous military training and is forced to take drugs that make him feel dizzy and kind of like he's dreaming. He often sees people being killed by the military men, and he has been told he will never see his family again.

F NOOR, PAKISTAN

Noor is 13 years old and works sewing soccer balls in one of the poorest areas in Pakistan. Earlier this year she was going to school, but her one year old brother became very ill and needed medicine. Noor's mother borrowed \$100 to buy the medicine but had to use Noor as collateral for the loan. Noor earns 5 cents an hour, and spends 10 to 15 hours a day stitching but interest is being charged on the loan at such a high rate that the loan doubles every few months. This growing debt may even be passed on to Noor's children and grand children.

G PRAMA, INDIA

Prama works for her parent's busy food cart. She works at the cart 4 days a week when her father works his other job as a rickshaw driver. Prama learns how to read and write 3 days a week from a local woman who teaches children in her home. Prama often falls behind because she has to miss classes twice a week and she doesn't have time to play in the evenings because she is always catching up with schoolwork.

H CHAD, IOWA

Chad is 15 years old and works at a construction company in the summer. This is his second year working for the company and he has learned a lot during his summers working. This year Chad has been promoted and gets to work on laying the foundations of buildings. The tasks are more complicated, he has to do some heavier lifting than last year, and he has to be very careful around the cement truck because working with cement can be very dangerous. After his promotion, Chad now earns \$16 an hour and he is saving up his money to buy a car.

I MARIA, MEXICO

Maria just turned 18 and has a job waitressing full time near the resort area in Cancun. She makes the minimum wage of \$7 an hour. On top of this, she usually makes about \$50 in tips every shift. Maria likes her work, and other than being on her feet all day, the only part she doesn't like is that her managers make her wear high heels and a short skirt.

J CARLA, ITALY

Carla babysits her two little brothers every day after school, while her mom works a night shift at a restaurant. Carla is 11 years old and once home from school she makes dinner, bathes her brothers, and tucks them into bed. After they are asleep she finishes her homework, makes herself lunch for the next day and goes to bed herself. Carla doesn't get paid for her work, but she feels good about being able to help her mom because she knows money has been tight since her dad left.

Place all the labour profiles along a Labour Line - draw your own labour line or use the provided worksheet - organizing them from "good work" to "bad work"

Understanding Child Labour: Labour Line

Print this page or draw a larger version for group work. Read over and organize the profiles (profiles A-J) along the Labour Line from "Good Work" to "Bad Work". Consider what makes work "good" and "bad".

Good Work

Bad Work



Understanding Child Labour: Root Causes of Child Labour

1 ROOT CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR - BARRIERS TO EDUCATION

Basic education is not free in all countries and is not always available for all children, especially in remote rural areas. Where schools are available, the quality of education can be poor and the content may be disconnected from what life is like in that country. In situations where education is not affordable or parents see no value in education, children are sent to work, rather than to school.

2 ROOT CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR - CULTURE AND TRADITION

In many places, women are expected to spend their life working at home. Often they are taken out of school at a very young age (if they go at all) and are put to work cooking, cleaning, and taking care of younger siblings. Sometimes girls are married off at very young ages – as young as 5 or 6 – to men in their community. Often, once these girls learn housekeeping skills at home, they will also find jobs doing housework for richer families.

3 ROOT CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR - MARKET DEMAND

Child labour is not accidental. Employers may prefer to hire children because they are “cheaper” than their adult counterparts. Some employers also use child labour because they are easy to fire or treat unfairly. Sometimes adult workers get together to demand better conditions for their work. Usually children do not do this and just accept whatever treatment they are given. Some employers also claim that children’s small hands are better at doing work like weaving carpets or tying knots on soccer balls.

4 ROOT CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR - INCOME SHOCKS ON HOUSEHOLDS

Sometimes unexpected things happen to families (like natural disasters, or sudden illnesses). This may create a need to get more money very quickly, or it may mean that a family member who used to earn money is no longer able to do so. If a parent gets very sick or dies, children may need to drop out of school to take care of their family.