Geoprofiles

(I gave this as a homework assignment for GEL/ESC 1300, Introduction to Earth Sciences which I taught at Eastern Illinois University during the Spring 2007 semester)
While we were discussing volcanoes and igneous petrology, you heard me rambling on a few times about my research studying past volcanism and how magma forms/is modified. Well, there are more geologists out in the world than just volcanologists/petrologists (like me). Going through our textbook, you may have noticed a number of 1-2 page summaries called Geoprofiles. These are summaries that describe different types of work geologists/earth scientists perform, why they chose to become one, and what they like about geology/earth science. These also help demonstrate why geology is such an important science in our day-to-day lives and provide a glimpse into the types of careers that are possible as a geologist/earth scientist.

Assignmet (DUE 3/27/07):

So, here’s the assignment. I want you to scan the Geoprofiles (read them!) and pick out one that interests you more than the rest. Then do the following:

1) Read the article again.
2) Write a summary that summarizes what the article was about. This should include and address the following:
   a. What does the geoscientist in the Geoprofile you picked do for a living?
   b. Why do they like it?
   c. What do you think is most interesting about their work (e.g. Why did you pick this summary over the others)?
   d. What do you think would be the most challenging aspect of their work?
   e. So, do you want to be a geologist? (if so, also come talk to me!)

Format Requirements:

These summaries should be between 1 to 2 pages long and use at least 1.5 line spacing (no double spacing). Page margins should be 1" (all around). I will be grading these on the following criteria:

1) Did you address points a, b, c, d, & e above?
2) Spelling, grammar, writing quality. So, this means you should use your spell-checker and proofread your final summary!!!

Geoprofile list:

1) Geology & public policy (p. 10)
2) Sculpture out of stone (p. 54)
3) Exploring for oil and natural gas (p. 175; lots of jobs in the oil business now, geologists with an M.S. start at about $60-80,000 too!)
4) Geology in Hollywood (p. 228)
5) Listening to the Earth (p. 244)
6) Secrets beneath the sea (p. 316)
7) Applied hydrogeology: understanding water as an agent of mass wasting (p. 408)
8) Controlling dust storms through revegetation (p. 551)