

Basket of goods

there are some jobs

you lose / there are some jobs

you stick at or get or get

stuck to:

1. hours worked valued less than
basket of goods

made up for by

the amount of stationery (stick, stuck)

i have stolen from the stationery cupboard.

i am using fistfuls of mechanical pencils

to represent the deficit

between the minimum

and the living

wage. **2.** at tesco i offer to trade

sellotape for

the remainder of my

basket of goods. (no dice) "basket of goods"

doesn't that sound nice? not basic

but

sort of

baked or like a dog bed or a baby's crib or something

full of fruit? employers ask why: **3.** the staff

(apple) turn over.

the staff get

stuck but

they don't

stay.

[interview with barista whilst they steam milk:]

A: *i have tried to feel grateful for*

minimum wage

but i have only ever felt

hungry.

A: *i wish i could reconcile how*

stuck

i feel (8 coffee shops in 10 years)

with how many jobs i've left. i wish i could reconcile how

stuck

i feel with

how little you expect me to

stay.

4. the Living Wage

takes fistfuls of fresh air on its lunch break.

it puts on its coat and hat and turns the light off leaving the office last

it welcomes *living*

into what has

only ever felt like

work.