

Examples of Personal Statements

5 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich

contract: PT

personal statement

English literature is an area of study that I feel opens endless doors and gives the ability to explore a piece of text, to delve into the meaning and to extract relevant information. An English degree at university will help me gain the ability to critically analyse a piece of literature and also develop both my written and oral communication, while pursuing my passion for reading and writing on a full time basis. The study of English and reading novels has been a deep seeded interest of mine since an early age. Through my study of A levels at Thomas Telford School I have been able to broaden the style and complexity of the novels and poetry that I read. This has included the study of classic literature as well as the study of modernist authors such as James Joyce and Angela Carter. The diversity and often complexity of the novels I have studied has allowed me to identify and discuss the different styles and techniques used by authors and apply them to other books that I read.

Studying at Thomas Telford School has fully prepared me for the structure of University life. Independent Learning Centres have allowed me to study my subjects independently, at my own pace and with access to books and ICT to conduct the necessary research and collation of information necessary. My suitability for higher education has also been reflected through the dedication and hard work required to succeed at School. Expectations throughout my school life have been very high giving me the opportunity to excel and perform to the highest standards. Early entry in GCSEs and AS Levels reflect how I have taken full advantage of the opportunities given to me and my ability to succeed to the highest level. My overall achievement in my GCSEs illustrate the effort and commitment I have shown throughout my school life and the rewards that come from such devotion and commitment to my studies. As such, in recognition for my work in lower years I was awarded a number of Excellent Achievements while last year the overall award for History was given to me in relation to my effort, commitment and ability.

Last year I took part in a work placement programme designed to give me an insight into the world of business. I spent my time within the law department of Carillion PLC and at the Wolverhampton Magistrates Court. This experience helped me gain valuable insight into the legal proceedings within large companies and gave me a first hand experience of studying and reading legal literature. Not only was this work experience valuable with regard to a possible future career but it also helped develop my communication skills and how to work effectively both individually and as part of a team.

Outside of my academic life I also enjoy extra curricular activities including playing football and listening to and playing music. I was actively involved in the organisation of a sixth form football team that allowed me to pursue a hobby that I am passionate about whilst enjoying spending time with friends in a relaxed and enjoyable environment.

The study of English at university is ideal for me as it not only incorporates a number of skills that will be essential for a future career but it also represents an area of study that captivates my imagination and interest. I look forward to the new challenges and difficulties that University will offer and applying myself fully to achieve the standards that I am ultimately capable of.

Tuesday, April 6, 2004 11:09

UCAS

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sales assistant from: October
2002
JJB Sports to: February
2003
4 Queen Street, Wolverhampton contract: PT

Stock-room supervisor from: February
2003
JD sports to:
Unit 17, Mander centre, wolverhampton contract: FT

personal statement

The impact engineering has on almost every aspect of modern living and the diverse range of fields over which it spans is what attracts me to the subject. I have a great appreciation of style and aesthetics but am also intrigued to understand the nature of an artefact and the way in which it works. Engineering is appealing because not only does it provide the opportunity to explore innovative design, but also the functional side, the problem solving and the evolution of a design and concepts that actually bear a practical purpose and would be of use in some aspect of modern society.

I feel I am very much suited to a future in engineering, which despite being an academic subject integrates various aspects of design, for which I have great passion. I believe engineering will enable me to explore my own creativity and innovation, whilst having to structure concepts around functional restrictions and specifications, which differ in every project undertaken.

I have benefited greatly from the strong industrial links held by my former school that have allowed me to participate in a number of rewarding work experience schemes. The most beneficial placement was conducted at TRW-Lucas Aerospace. I was a key member in a small team involved in the design and manufacture of a complex temperature control unit, currently in use by the company for the testing of aeronautical components. I found this to be an invaluable learning experience due to both the emphasis on teamwork and industrial design processes. In addition to this I spent time at a major architectural firm, The Alan Cotterhill Practice. This broadened my experience in a different aspect of engineering and also led to the development of valuable technical skills, for instance my familiarity of industrial design packages and ability in technical drawing.

Travel is something I have always wanted to pursue and I believe a year prior to university is an ideal time in which to embark upon this aspiration. I am currently under full time employment as a means to finance approximately six months travel through Asia, Australia and America. I hope to gain a greater sense of independence, broaden my outlook on life and I am sure that travelling will provide me with invaluable learning experiences. This period of time will also allow me to indulge myself in additional hobbies and interests, such as indoor climbing and sailing.

whilst at school I took the opportunities available to me to broaden my interests on the sporting fields, representing my school in rugby, basketball and football. Academically my achievements have been rewarded through the presentation of various awards, including the West Midlands Award for Design Technology, The Jaguar award for manufacturing and the Gold Crest award gained through my participation in the engineering education scheme.

I am looking forward to the challenge of reading Engineering at university and making the fullest contribution both academically and socially.

Tuesday, April 6, 2004 11:12

UCAS

Waitress/Catering Assistant
The Forester Arms
Wellington Road, Horsehay, Telford

from: March 2001
to:
contract: PT

personal statement

My aspirations to pursue a career in Journalism are particularly due to my strength as a student of English. Recognising this subject as my strongest, I worked hard throughout Secondary School to develop and enhance my skills in the subject. This has been successfully reflected in my excellent fluency of style, clarity of explanation, ability to create structured pieces of writing and consistent high grades. I feel that Print Journalism would utilise my writing skills most appropriately, as I have the relevant qualities to produce articles for a publication such as a magazine or newspaper.

Ultimately, writing for a magazine is my prime ambition, although experiencing different aspects of the media would enable a comparative and more informed decision. I would then like to experience sub-editing in order to utilise my skills in grammatical precision. In my first year of Sixth Form, I embarked upon a two-week work Placement at a local free publication, Axxcess Magazine, at the end of which I was offered a Summer Placement. This experience was invaluable to me in providing an insight into the world of journalism. From this encounter, I learned the importance of teamwork, time management and ability to work under pressure. I was able to contribute towards meeting the deadline of publication by creating two 'filler' articles and by producing the 'Recipe of the Week' article. Being able to observe the whole process of creating the magazine gave me great satisfaction in seeing the finished product, one fortnight later. It was particularly enlightening to see how well the Reporters, Designers and Sales Team worked together in order to congregate their ideas and contributions to the publication.

When researching the requirements of a Journalist, I encountered many qualities that suit my character quite favourably. I am confident when meeting new people, am able to work successfully both individually or as part of a team, work well under pressure and have excellent communication skills. These skills are evident within daily life.

I currently have two part-time jobs, which I feel have both taught me a great deal about the responsibilities of being employed. Both of these positions, one being a waitress in a pub and the other being a Sales Consultant at Next Retail Ltd, have provided me with the skills and attributes to cope under strenuous and busy periods, as well as being able to use my own initiative and work as part of a team.

In addition to having two jobs, I am currently learning to drive and also play Netball and Basketball for my Sixth Form teams. I am of the opinion that having such a busy schedule will be a benefit in preparing me for the demands of my chosen career.

I feel that the course I have applied for will not only aid me in realising my career goals, but will enhance my expertise and competence within the profession of Journalism. I hope to gain a greater understanding of current affairs and world issues and feel that it is absolutely necessary for me to experience the many different aspects of Journalism that are taught within the course, in order to shape my understanding of media and its role in society. Progressing into Higher Education has always been an ambition of mine, and I believe that attending University will prepare me for employment both intellectually and personally by allowing me to become more independent. I look forward to the challenges that University will present to me.

Tuesday, April 6, 2004 11:08

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