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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Biosphere expeditions
What does the organisation do?	It allows citizen scientists to take part in scientific data collection on endangered species around the world.
Where were you located?	Kyrgyzstan
What did you do?	We collected data on snow leopard populations and their prey in the Tien Shan mountains. It is hoped this information can aid our understanding of the threats facing their decline as well as encouraging government protection.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Online searching inc. organisation websites
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Teamwork. Communication. Understanding of scientific data collection in the field
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Natural Sciences Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	BirdLife International
What does the organisation do?	Global conservation organisation, deal with the IUCN Red List profiles for all birds as well as a number of research and awareness programmes
Where were you located?	Cambridge, UK
What did you do?	Proof read Red List profiles. Wrote the major threat(s): texts for around 150 seabirds, putting the threats they are facing into context for easier use. Read through journals looking for relevant articles
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Careers Service advertisement
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Improved proof-reading. Written communication from writing threats texts. Experience of working in an office situation
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - DAMTP
What does the organisation do?	I worked in the Image Analysis group of the Cambridge applied maths department. It does research in image analysis.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	A research project on using machine learning to create a map of carbon stored in tropical rainforests.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	director of studies
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Skills in machine learning, experience working in a research environment.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	7-9 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	None of the above
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Intermediate (2nd of 4 year course)
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Mathematical Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Zoology
What does the organisation do?	Research - expenses and project followed from discussion with the Ecological Advisory Panel about areas of the university estate that could use biodiversity information.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Pitfall traps & butterfly transects to look at the effect of the newly-planted Madingley wood on invertebrate biodiversity. Some research on exhibits in the Zoology museum for outreach work. Collecting data on butterfly species and body temperature. Some data checking.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Other Cambridge University Department
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I've learnt a number of fundamental new field skills from logging GPS points, to constructing, collecting and sorting pitfall traps as well as insect order/butterfly ID. Given I worked with two other students on this project at different, overlapping times, I learnt how to work on a field work in a team including the importance of setting up clear descriptions of work already done and how to continue next.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Expenses only
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	0-3 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Depends if similar estate work is proposed/offered next year?
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	



Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences
What does the organisation do?	Curates multiple collections of rocks and fossils, works in science communication and engagement with public.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Conservation, taking care of galleries, helped a bit with tours around the museum.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Other Cambridge University Department
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Learned a lot about the workings of a museum, curating, conservation.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Expenses only
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	None of the above
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	GVI
What does the organisation do?	Runs various volunteering organisations across the world, with various focuses including volunteering with children and conservation work.
Where were you located?	Hoedspruit, Limpopo, South Africa
What did you do?	Conservation work. I was based on a game reserve that was home to the Big Five animals in addition to many other smaller mammals including various antelope. My major role was in data collection regarding the behaviour, localisation, feeding habits etc. of the animals to feed into a number of different research projects, and to monitor the populations of heavily poached species.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Online searching inc. organisation websites
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Insight into the current state of conservation efforts in Africa, the major problems challenging these conservation efforts. Learnt a huge amount about the behaviours, feeding habits, social structures etc. of the wildlife of Southern Africa. Teamwork, communication with the local community to help to educate them about how they can be aiding conservation efforts.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	N/A

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Met Office
What does the organisation do?	UK's meteorological and climate research and public information. Informs gov policy on weather, risk and climate change.
Where were you located?	Exeter Devon
What did you do?	Worked with the policy and integration team and the climate science department to produce a policy card on the 1.5 degrees target of warming
For how long did you do it?	Up to 1 week
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Word of mouth/networking - Cambridge alumni, GradLink, College networks
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Understood the importance of policy making. Learnt how to translate science into something concrete. Developed my design and communication skills
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience; Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Geographical Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Traidcraft Exchange
What does the organisation do?	A sister organization to Fairtrade, Traidcraft Exchange works with small-scale producers in developing nations to harness the benefits of trade, whilst fighting injustice in global trade.
Where were you located?	Working from home - Chelmsford.
What did you do?	I researched the environmental impact of the cotton ginning and spinning processes in India, looked into the health hazards faced by workers in these sectors, and investigated how the processes could be more energy efficient and sustainable. With a weekly phone call with a supervisor, I built my information into two reports, which I fed back to various members of the organization via a conference call at the end of the project.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Word of mouth/networking - friends, family
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I developed my ability to research, reading through long reports and selecting the relevant information. My presentation and written skills then improved through collating it all into a professionally written report. I gained knowledge of the workings of a complex supply chain in a developing country, and my verbal communication skills were tested in the conference call.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	0-3 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	These sorts of organizations always need help - email and ask if you're interested.
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts;References



Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	
Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Hum, Soc & Pol Sciences Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Wildlife Sense
What does the organisation do?	loggerhead turtle conservation
Where were you located?	Lixouri, Kefalonia
What did you do?	Morning beach surveys to find turtle tracks/nests, night beach surveys to find nesting females, light pollution and beach profile (topography) surveys discussing conservation with locals/holiday makers
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Careers Service advertisement
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Improved confidence and communication skills, fieldwork experience, team working experience
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	0-3 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	None of the above
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2017
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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