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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

<u>Institute of Cancer Research</u>	<u>Rolls Royce UTC, Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy</u>
<u>Institute of Cancer Research (The)</u>	<u>Rothamsted Research</u>
<u>Institute of Science and Technology (IST)</u>	<u>Royal College of Pathologists</u>
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<u>Medical Research Council Laboratory for Molecular Biology</u>	<u>University of Copenhagen</u>
<u>Mitochondrial Biology Unit</u>	<u>University of Dundee</u>
<u>Montreal Institute for Learning Algorithms</u>	<u>University of Edinburgh</u>
<u>MRC Epidemiology Unit</u>	<u>University of Edinburgh</u>
<u>MRC-LMB Studentship</u>	<u>University of Erlangen-Nurnberg</u>
<u>National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT)</u>	<u>University of Oulu, unit of medical imaging, physics and technology</u>
<u>Raremark</u>	<u>University of Surrey</u>

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Academia Sinica
What does the organisation do?	It is the national research institute of Taiwan and they offer various summer student programme across many different departments. In the programme, you would be given a summer project to do. It could be completely new or extension of a work done by your supervisor depending on how you arranged it.
Where were you located?	Taipei, Taiwan
What did you do?	I worked on a particle physics project and I extended my supervisor's work of calculation of neutrino-nucleus interaction coherency with different sources against different detector target and threshold. This required me to build my own programs with MATLAB to do scientific computing. And in the end, has to present to other physicists and students.
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.)?	I learnt a lot about physics in general, and develop important skills in coding and independent research. But mainly I found that I probably will not stay in academia in the future. So I think it is a great opportunity for all the enthusiastic first-years to see if they are actually interested in these sort of job.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	References

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	The Institute will help you arrange one (not 100% sure as I am a citizen)
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	Addenbrooks Hospital, Department of Surgery
What does the organisation do?	The research team lead by the Saeb-Parsy Group was researching novel methods of freezing and then thawing tissue for preservation purposes. This has major implications for transplant surgery by allowing organs to be stored for longer and be less damaged during the process all in all increasing the number of available organs for transplantation.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	I worked with the team on data collection and analysis as well as making some of the equipment needed to run the experiment. This involved culturing and maintaining T Cells and logging temperature profiles of different preservatives as they were frozen and thawed.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Medical Tripos held an evening where researchers came in to advertise their work for summer placement students
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	This project was vital in allowing me to become comfortable with many fundamental lab techniques before I started my own project as part of my Part II course in third year. Not only this but it was my first insight into the lab working environment and the daily life of an academic clinician who practices medicine but also has a heavy hand in research.
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;References

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	n/a
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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	AF ChemPharm
What does the organisation do?	Custom synthesis for industrial chemistry
Where were you located?	Sheffield city centre
What did you do?	Conducted experiments and added new compounds to the company database
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.)?	Really good experience of more advanced lab techniques and doing science in a business environment
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	No
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?	

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	AkzoNobel
What does the organisation do?	Multinational company which creates paints and performance coatings and produces specialty chemicals for both industry and consumers worldwide.
Where were you located?	Slough, Berkshire
What did you do?	Evaluated the applicability of a new external standard Quantitative NMR (qNMR) technique for quantification of small molecules (e.g solvents, biocides) and polymers in paint formulations. I Investigated the linearity, accuracy, precision and detection limit of the qNMR method for molecules contained in paint and compared these with the existing internal standard method. I also optimised the experimental parameters (e.g. number of scans, pulse sequence delays, spectral width, receiver gain, acquisition time) for routine measurements, ultimately producing a standard operating procedure of the qNMR method for use by AkzoNobel analytical chemists.
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.)?	I learnt how to independently record, process and interpret NMR spectra (¹ H, ¹³ C & ³¹ P nuclei, and 2D spectra). Learnt how to quickly assimilate lots of information (about paint formulations & reading the literature on quantitative NMR) and then develop robust experimental methods. Experienced presenting my findings to colleagues in the department and answering technical questions about my research, as well as thinking about how to use the constructive criticism I received in making my investigative methods better.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	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?	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	Artios Pharma
What does the organisation do?	Biotech company investigating DNA damage response
Where were you located?	Cambridge, UK
What did you do?	10 week lab-based research internship
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Insight into working in research and development in industry. Lab skills.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	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?	No

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	Babraham Institute
What does the organisation do?	The Babraham Institute is a biological research institute based just outside of Cambridge, interested in healthy ageing research, epigenetics and lymphocyte signalling. There are various laboratories in the institute - during the summer I was in the lab of Dr Michelle Linterman.
Where were you located?	I stayed at college over summer, as the Babraham Institute was within cycling distance from college along a good cycle path (around 45 minute cycle each way from Wychfield, Trinity Hall). Alternatively there was a free bus that left from Parkers piece at
What did you do?	I worked in the laboratory of Dr Michelle Linterman under the supervision of Dr Alice Denton. I was in the laboratory for 10 weeks and during this time used tissue sectioning and confocal microscopy to compare the cellular composition lymph nodes in old and young mice.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	The project was quite independent, which has helped me to begin my masters project in my fourth year off well. I had also never done tissue sectioning or confocal microscopy before, so these were skills I got to practice. In the lab there were three PhD students who I was able to talk to about their experiences of a PhD and what they did after finishing their undergraduate degree - for instance, two of them had worked as research assistants before embarking on a PhD.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
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?	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?	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	British Antarctic Survey
What does the organisation do?	Polar research.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Conducted a literature review and helped a PhD student with their research.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I always liked BAS as an organization and am glad I got an insight into their structure and culture.
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?	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	British Heart Foundation
What does the organisation do?	BHF provides grants to research projects dedicated to cardiovascular science throughout the UK.
Where were you located?	Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford
What did you do?	Assisted my supervisor carrying out an investigation to assess the viability of the green fluorescence protein-tagged murine macrophage in an adoptive transfer study.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Thorough understanding of what a life as an academic would be. Hands on and independent research experience. Learnt a great deal of laboratory skills and communication skills in science.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	No

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?	Good representations of all sectors in science and industry at Career fairs.

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	Building Bridges US/EU summer school
What does the organisation do?	Organising maths summer schools
Where were you located?	Budapest
What did you do?	Learning maths
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.)?	Maths, and a girlfriend
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?	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):

Mathematical Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	California Institute of Technology
What does the organisation do?	Caltech is a private research university that hosts world-class research groups in a diverse range of areas, as well as teaching a cohort of the top STEM undergraduates in the United States.
Where were you located?	I was located in Pasadena, CA, USA.
What did you do?	I worked in a research group within the department of Applied Physics for 8 weeks. I conducted computational research into a specific problem in condensed matter physics with good results - they will be published in a journal soon.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	College Exchange Scheme
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I gained a great deal of understanding about the typical experience of conducting graduate-level research, as well as the procedures for applying to the United States for graduate school.
What were your average weekly earnings?	> £400
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?	Financial support / sponsorship during your studies; Helpful contacts; References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	I was given advice by the Caltech admin office on the required documents for applying for a US Visa.

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	Caltech
What does the organisation do?	University level research and teaching
Where were you located?	Pasadena, California
What did you do?	Research intern for 10 weeks as part of their SURF programme. There are over 400 SURF students each year from Caltech but also all over the world so it's a great community.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	General independent research skills along with more specific skill in the area of Physics I was interested in.
What were your average weekly earnings?	> £400
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?	Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	Yes - a VISA. But they help you through this.

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?	They pay is high (>\$6000) compared to most other research placements, particularly in Europe however this doesn't include accommodation (you live at the Uni with other students), flights VISA etc. It's still a lot of money.

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	Caltech
What does the organisation do?	University - research
Where were you located?	Los Angeles, US
What did you do?	Undertook a 10 week research project investigating the spatiotemporal evolution of slip on a subduction megathrust off the coast of Costa Rica.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
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.)?	Research skills and insight invaluable, and made me consider a phd
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	applied through us embassy

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 Institute of Medical Research
What does the organisation do?	Medical research
Where were you located?	At Addenbrookes hospital, in Cambridge
What did you do?	Project based on the endoplasmic reticulum. Learnt a lot of molecular biology based laboratory techniques.
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.)?	Laboratory skills. Insight into the life of an academic and potential career pathways after uni. Research skills to undertake literary sorts and reviews.
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?	Further vacation experience;References
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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge Institute of Public Health and Primary Care
What does the organisation do?	Research into issues surrounding Public health
Where were you located?	Cambridge, near Addenbrookes
What did you do?	Helped to conduct a meta-analysis into the effects of orphanages, foster care and adoption on children mental health, physical health, cognitive development, physical growth and quality of life.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Insight into how research is conducted, deeper understanding of subject area, helpful connections with academics and students in related fields
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	Would depend if the department is in need of research assistants in future
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):

Psych & Behav Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University
What does the organisation do?	Research
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Coded a mathematical model for interference in meiosis.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Coding and research 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?	Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts;References
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	Cambridge University
What does the organisation do?	Research
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Run my own research project
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Appritiation to the field, research 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?	I contacted a PI and created the position, so depending on the students ambition and the relevant PI
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):

Information withheld.

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Cavendish Laboratory
What does the organisation do?	Physics department of the University of Cambridge
Where were you located?	Cavendish Laboratory, West Cambridge Site, Cambridge
What did you do?	I did a 9-week project where I developed an incoherent laser source for use in experiments with ultracold atoms. This was mostly experimental, but also involved some computational modelling.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	My DoS put me in contact with the research group
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	The project allowed me to gain hands-on experience in the lab, practise my communication skills within an academic context, and to familiarise myself with research in cold atoms and at the Cavendish in general. All these skills will be beneficial in my scientific career. Along its academic aspect, the project allowed me to experience Cambridge in the summertime, for instance, I rowed, which is something I had always wanted to try but had never had time for during term time. The long evenings and nice weather made the whole experience even more enjoyable.
What were your average weekly earnings?	> £400
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?	A PhD offer; Helpful contacts; References
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 - Centre for Mathematical Sciences
What does the organisation do?	It is the mathematics department of the University of Cambridge.
Where were you located?	Cambridge.
What did you do?	I spent 8 weeks working on a research project with my supervisor, working through papers and thinking about extending the work done in the field so far.
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.)?	I gained a lot of insight into academia and the subject.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	Helpful contacts;References
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):

Mathematical 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 Anatomy
What does the organisation do?	Researches and provides teaching in the areas of human anatomy.
Where were you located?	Cambridge, Downing site
What did you do?	Produced prosections for teaching but also undertook a research project investigating a particular part of anatomy.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Opportunity was posted as part of my course
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I gained a lot of different skills involving manual dexterity but also had the opportunity to be provided with more teaching in the department.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
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?	Helpful contacts;References
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):

Med and Vet Sci Tripos (Med) Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics
What does the organisation do?	Part of the Faculty of Mathematics here at Cambridge.
Where were you located?	Cambridge: Centre for Mathematical Sciences
What did you do?	Carried out research in fluid dynamics.
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.)?	The experience showed me that research is the career path I would like to take, and I gained skills in understanding how to write papers and cash out research in a mathematics department.
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?	

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):

Information withheld.

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Chemistry
What does the organisation do?	Researches on chemistry.
Where were you located?	Cambridge.
What did you do?	I did a 10-week project on a ubiquitin assay that allows measurement of changes of free ubiquitin pool.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	I spoke to my supervisor directly on the project.
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I gained many useful lab skills which are not taught in the first year, such as handling SDS-PAGE and doing Western blottings. My supervisor was particularly helpful in demonstrating analytical skills for data analysis.
What were your average weekly earnings?	> £400
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?	References
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	Cambridge University - Department of Earth Sciences
What does the organisation do?	This is my department in Cambridge, and for part of my degree I had to complete field work over 6 weeks.
Where were you located?	St Anthony, Newfoundland, Canada
What did you do?	Produced a geological map of the area
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.)?	Understanding of metamorphic rocks in the field, and lots of personal skills such as teamwork and resilience.
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?	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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Geography
What does the organisation do?	Teaches Geography at Cambridge
Where were you located?	Switzerland
What did you do?	Assisted researchers in the field, gathering data for an ongoing study.
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.)?	Insight into how a project is taken into the field, and how gathering data works in a practical manner. Also, it was a valuable experience in terms of teaching - the leader of the project will be teaching our course this year, and the material was directly relevant to what I have already learnt in my first year, and will also be pertinent for this year too.
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?	It is dependent on what research is required, and where.
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):

Geographical Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy
What does the organisation do?	Research in materials science, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses.
Where were you located?	Cambridge, UK
What did you do?	Research project on multimedia learning and producing effective educational video tools
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.)?	Cinematography skills, writing/communication, public speaking
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	There is a follow up this summer. But no plans to continue after this
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Financial support / sponsorship during your studies
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 - Department of Plant Sciences
What does the organisation do?	Academic research
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Laboratory work
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Emailed a potential supervisor directly
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Lab practical skills. Presenting work.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Psychology
What does the organisation do?	Research on addiction
Where were you located?	Cambridge, UK
What did you do?	Conducted experiment on rats programmed to accelerate data processing process data from RNAscope Microtomy
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
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.)?	Insights into academic research especially addiction research and animal facility Microtomy RNAscope elementary programming
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
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?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	Vacation experience: rather repetitive no expenses covered

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

Psych & Behav Sciences Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Cambridge University - Department of Veterinary Medicine
What does the organisation do?	I worked in a group that studied transmissible cancers in dogs and Tasmanian devils.
Where were you located?	Cambridge, UK
What did you do?	I planned, and worked through my own research project based on canine transmissible venereal tumour. I did this under the close support and guidance of a supervisor throughout the 8 weeks, working in the on site laboratory.
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 - Cambridge alumni, GradLink, College networks
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I learnt multiple laboratory skills which will be useful in future lab work. After applying for financial support I gained an understanding of writing applications for scientific grants, something I am sure will be helpful in the future. I also developed my presentation skills and am more able to communicate complex scientific ideas clearly.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
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?	References
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?	Whilst the research placement itself was unpaid I applied for and won a BBSRC vacation studentship of the value of £250 per week which covered my living costs. This studentship has also given me the opportunity to present at a veterinary student conference this term, an extremely valuable 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 - Department of Zoology
What does the organisation do?	Scientific Research
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Spent 6 weeks in the Butterfly Genetics group conducting research into population genetics of the <i>Danaus chrysippus</i> (the African Queen butterfly) and its male killing endosymbiont. This work was an extension of my Part II Zoology research project that I had conducted the previous academic year. My research was funded by The Genetics Society Summer Studentship programme which also meant that at the end of August I had to go to Edinburgh with all other recipients of the studentships from across the country for the programme's 4 day workshop. Here we had talks from academics on the committee of the Genetics Society, presented our summer research to everyone and took part in a range of other activities.
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.)?	Independent research experience, wet and dry lab skills, presentation skills/communicating science.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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;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?	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 - 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):

Natural Sciences 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
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Extracellular Recording of AN1 and Effects of abdominal ganglia on Central Pattern Generation of Crickets
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.)?	Anatomy skills, Extracellular recording skills, Fluorescent staining
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;References
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	Cambridge University - Department of Zoology
What does the organisation do?	Doing research about acoustic system of crickets.
Where were you located?	At Cambridge.
What did you do?	Cutting experiment, extracellular recording.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Experiment 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;References
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	Cambridge University - Sainsbury Laboratory
What does the organisation do?	Plants and microbial research
Where were you located?	Queens' College, Cambridge
What did you do?	Photolithography optimisation and micro-fabrication.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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 experienced what it is like to do research at lab.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	The laboratory did not ask for that.

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	Cambridge University Department of Chemistry, BP Institute
What does the organisation do?	The BP Institute has a wide variety of research projects taking place at any one time, with applications to geology, chemistry, engineering, fluid dynamics, and numerical simulation.
Where were you located?	Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
What did you do?	This short summer project explored the adsorption of a variety of amines (primary, secondary and tertiary) adsorbed from simple alkanes to the surfaces of iron oxides. I used NMR to characterise the amount of material adsorbed and the molecular level structure and behaviour. These materials are key to a number of applications such as low friction and anticorrosion although the molecular level understanding of their behaviour is still largely unknown.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	An idea of what research (e.g. for a PhD) might be like, an insight into how research groups work within the chemistry department and the knowledge that this is not the kind of work I want to do!
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	N/A
Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Finalist
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	Centre for Family Research
What does the organisation do?	A research organization in Cambridge that investigates development in children from a family perspective as well as different family forms.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Collected primary data by administering tasks to children and coded existing data to be used for future studies.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Research experience and skills
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	Helpful contacts;References
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):

Information withheld.

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Centre for Quantum Technologies
What does the organisation do?	The Centre for Quantum Technologies in Singapore is a Research Centre of Excellence hosted by the National University of Singapore. The Centre brings together physicists, computer scientists and engineers to do basic research on quantum physics and to build devices based on quantum phenomena.
Where were you located?	Singapore
What did you do?	Investigated theoretical and numerical models for open quantum systems.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	St John's College Exchange Scheme
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Understanding of lifestyle for an academic researcher. Established contacts in the field.
What were your average weekly earnings?	Expenses only
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?	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?	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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	CHaOS
What does the organisation do?	Demonstrate fun science experiments to children in schools around the country, and also to families at public events - (hopefully) enthuse and encourage children to think about science as a career
Where were you located?	I was on the summer roadshow, so we moved around the UK. One week we were based around Diss (England), one weekend Bristol (England) then South Wales around Cardiff.
What did you do?	Demonstrated science experiments in schools during the week- the same but to the public on weekends- Camped nearby
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Signed up to organisation emails at Freshers' week
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Communication skills- Experience camping!- Working with children - Further understanding of my subject - An experience of what teaching or working in education / science communication might be like
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?	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?	NANeeded a DBS - already had one via CUSU

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	Chinese University of Hong Kong
What does the organisation do?	University/research institution
Where were you located?	Hong Kong
What did you do?	Research project at the School of Biomedical Sciences
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Valuable research experience in a laboratory setting, both wet and dry laboratory work
What were your average weekly earnings?	
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?	No
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts;References
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	Georg-August University Gottingen
What does the organisation do?	Public University with research institutes
Where were you located?	Gottingen, Germany
What did you do?	ERASMUS + Exchange involving a one-week Hadron Collider Summer School and a research project within the ATLAS collaboration operating one of the four detectors at the LHC.
For how long did you do it?	More than 12 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.)?	C++ and ROOT computing skills, presentation skills for the weekly research group meetings, knowledge about particle physics
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	A job offer; Helpful contacts; References
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?	Finalist
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	Helmholtz Zentrum Munich
What does the organisation do?	Biological research
Where were you located?	Munich
What did you do?	Built a convolutional neural network-based model that predicts functional regions of the human genome - gained experience with machine learning and dealing with big biological data - prepared a written report and held 2 oral presentations
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.)?	Insight into the life of a computational biologist in a fully computational lab - computing skills and introduction to machine learning - expanded network - improved scientific communication skills
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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;References
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	Institute of Cancer Research
What does the organisation do?	Researches processes and therapies relating to cancer to advance knowledge and clinical treatments about the disease in all its forms.
Where were you located?	London
What did you do?	I shadowed two researchers and assisted them with some of their experiments. I researched a niche area of knowledge to try and aggregate the current information available on that area.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Christmas
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 gained confidence in my interview skills. I also learned various different technical skills which I hadn't been exposed to before, such as laser microdissection. I also gained insight into what life is like as a cancer researcher.
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?	I got an interview because I knew somebody involved in the charity. Others may be able to apply and get an interview but I can't say for sure whether they would be considered or not.
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience; Helpful contacts; References
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?	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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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Institute of Cancer Research (The)
What does the organisation do?	They develop drug compounds against various cancers. I was part of a medicinal chemistry team doing organic synthesis.
Where were you located?	Sutton, Surrey
What did you do?	I had my own organic project developing molecules that are commonly used in drug compounds. The rest of the research group all work on a specific target. I learned how to work in an industrial lab and how to run my own research project with guidance from a PostDoc. I gained much experience in practical chemistry which has been very useful for my masters project.
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.)?	Lots of lab experience and some idea of what it would be like to work in a lab permanently.
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;References
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?	For my project I could have received funding from the RSC but my application was not approved by the chemistry department and so I did not receive the allowance that I could have done. Luckily my college were able to provide me with some funding but I think there should be more of a departmental effort to help fund these programmes to widen access to these schemes.

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	Institute of Science and Technology (IST)
What does the organisation do?	It is an international institute dedicated to research, as well as graduate education in the natural and mathematical sciences (mainly Biology, Physics, Mathematics and Computer Science).
Where were you located?	Klosterneuburg, next to Vienna, Austria
What did you do?	I was affiliated to a research group in the institute (namely Quantum Dynamics group), where I participated in their current research area of interest. Particularly, my project was mainly computational, focusing on numerical simulation of many-body localized systems.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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've gained an insight into how research looks like, as well as the opportunity to be a part of it. Moreover, I've learned a lot about a field in which I'd like to pursue a PhD.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	I am currently supervised by the researcher I worked with for my Part III Project.;Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	I did need a work permit since I am not a national of Schengen area. I obtained the visa in my home country, and the process was simple since IST provided a sponsorship document. It took about a week.

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	ITER
What does the organisation do?	Worlds largest fusion experiment.
Where were you located?	Marseilles, France
What did you do?	Programming project
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.)?	Gained insight into science industry, skills in programming/ project research, understood importance of science communication.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	Fast track through recruitment process;Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	online research

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	John Innes Centre
What does the organisation do?	The John Innes Centre was is an independent research centre on the edge of the UEA that carries out world leading research in the field of plant sciences.
Where were you located?	Norwich, UK. Living in University of East Anglia Accommodation and working a 10 minutes walk away.
What did you do?	I had my own 8 week research project with a group there. I was investigating the iron binding of the BRUTUS-like proteins in Arabidopsis. I also had weekly training given by staff at the centre and then a retreat at the end where we got to present our research.
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.)?	I gained a lot of scientific skills in terms of working in a lab directing my own research and lab techniques. We also learnt various other things about how to give presentations, biotech startups and other general science skills such as some coding. In addition they provide accommodation so I was living with others on the scheme so I made some good friends.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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;References
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?	I would highly recommend the scheme. It is one of very few biosciences paid internships that I could find and was very well run with lots of useful extra activities so I had a great summer.

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	Johnson Matthey Noble Metals
What does the organisation do?	Sustainable technology developer and manufacturer - I was working in a factory which works with precious metals to solve various engineering problems; from catalyst technology via 3D printed ceramics to developing sensors to reduce engine emissions.
Where were you located?	Royston, Hertfordshire, UK
What did you do?	Worked for 10 weeks with the R&D team to develop a Platinum wire for sensing applications. I designed and conducted experiments, as well as working with the project manager to analyse and draw conclusions from the data produced,
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Department-advertised scheme
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Experimental skills in SEM, SRT, microscopy, Met Prep, cold drawing, hot rolling, ICPCommunication skills; worked with R&D team, factory operations staff, external contractors, analytical skills; report writing, data analysis, risk assessing
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	A job offer;Helpful contacts;References
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	Junior Researcher Programme
What does the organisation do?	An independent research organization that manages 4-5 psychology research groups per year, matching students with a mentor (usually a PhD student) to conduct research.
Where were you located?	Siena, Italy
What did you do?	Summer school for meeting our teams and planning the research project
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	A great way to gain a publication before further study, as well as institutional contacts across the world.
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?	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):

Psych & Behav Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Max Planck Institute for Iron Research
What does the organisation do?	Scientific research
Where were you located?	Dusseldorf, Germany
What did you do?	A project on the tribology of steel samples. Conducted experiments and analysed data with the support of a PhD student and supervisor.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Improved my lab skills and gained an insight to what it would be like to do a PhD. Conducting the work abroad was also a very exciting experience and gave a lot of opportunity to travel around Germany.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	Fast track through recruitment process; Helpful contacts; References
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?	2017
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	Application through the Materials Department.

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	Medical Research Council Laboratory for Molecular Biology
What does the organisation do?	Research in biochemical and biophysical sciences
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	About a month was doing simple dogs-body work for a postdoc I was with, then I was given an experiment to conduct and writeup for the last two months.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Gained insight into lab based research as a career and whether I like it, also basic lab skills and understanding of how to be part of a group and conduct lengthy experiments.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	10-12 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Speculative applications are the best way to go I think, alternatively there are more competitive placements also available.
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts;References
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	Mitochondrial Biology Unit
What does the organisation do?	Research into all aspects of mitochondria. I was personally involved in correcting mitochondrial disease
Where were you located?	Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
What did you do?	I aided research efforts into gene therapy for mitochondrial disease
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 - Cambridge alumni, GradLink, College networks
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	I gained experience in lab research and learnt rather a lot on the science itself.
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?	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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Montreal Institute for Learning Algorithms
What does the organisation do?	It's a research institute for machine learning.
Where were you located?	Montreal, Canada
What did you do?	Interned as a research assistant, - exploring the field- designing algorithms for novel problems- working with a professor
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
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.)?	I explored the research world, getting a clearer view on whether I want to do a PhD or not. Plus, I learnt domain-specific knowledge much more in-depth than it was possible during my undergrad.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	A job offer;Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	The HR department from the institute helped me apply for a visa.

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):

Computer Science Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	MRC Epidemiology Unit
What does the organisation do?	Scientific research into Epidemiology e.g. studies on genetic/environmental studies of diabetes, proteins affecting cancer which could then be used for detection purposes, hands on laboratory research.
Where were you located?	Cambridge
What did you do?	Worked on a project looking into whether two specific proteins CCL18 and CD44 are biomarkers of cancer and therefore whether they can be used as an early detection method for cancer. Did laboratory work, data analysis and wrote up a report on the project theory, method and results so far. Also did a presentation to some of the researchers and data analysts on the theory, method and results of the project so far.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Greater understanding of how research occurs outside the university setting and how to apply theoretical concepts to a contextual setting. Learned about how a project is followed through from initial research to analysis to writing up. Improved my technical laboratory skills, data analysis skills and confidence in presenting to a large audience.
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?	Speculative so would have to just email and find out
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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	MRC-LMB Studentship
What does the organisation do?	Biological research institute
Where were you located?	Cambridge, Addenbrookes Site
What did you do?	12 week lab project. Growing yeast, extracting RNA, preparing samples for sequencing. I also go involved in Journal Clubs and attended seminars and presented my research.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Loads of lab techniques, analysing and presenting skills
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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;References
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	National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT)
What does the organisation do?	NARIT is a research institute under the Ministry of Science and Technology. Its main missions are to carry out, support, and promote the development of astronomy and astrophysics in Thailand through research, public outreach, and educational activities.
Where were you located?	Chiang Mai, Thailand
What did you do?	I did a research project under the supervision of the researcher there. The project was about analysing GAIA data to find relationship of properties of variable stars. At the institute, I had a chance to look around other research groups e.g. atmospheric sciences and optics where they had collaboration all over the world and had a lot of world class projects to work on.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	I contacted the institute to see whether they have places available.
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Computational skills e.g. MATLAB and data analysis skill.
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?	A job offer;Fast track through recruitment process;Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts

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?	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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Raremark
What does the organisation do?	Startup, online platform for patients with rare diseases as a community.
Where were you located?	London
What did you do?	I analyzed research papers, and read pharmaceutical company websites as well as online news articles in order to synthesize recommendations for the company as to what disease areas they should invest in, and notes that they should bring up to clients interested in working with us.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 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.)?	Practice in critical reading of professional papers and utilizing them in the synthesis of an argument-Experience in helping to develop and manage customer bases -skills of Writing concise reports from a wealth of information for use in important presentations
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	Would have to discuss with the leaders, are looking to grow as a company so may be interested in more interns.
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience;References
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	Rolls Royce UTC, Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy
What does the organisation do?	The UTC conducts research into all aspects of the metallurgy of high temperature alloys; from investigating their response to production processing, understanding the relationships between their microstructure and properties, and developing new alloys. The UTC is based at the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, the top-performing Science Department in the UK. This provides the UTC researchers with access to the state-of-the-art electron microscopes and equipment required to conduct their research.
Where were you located?	Cambridge, Cambridgeshire
What did you do?	Investigating the effects of oxygen on the superelastic behaviour of a Ti-Nb alloy
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.)?	Laboratory skills, interpersonal communication, research ability (ie attention to detail, learning how to be thorough etc)
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Rothamsted Research
What does the organisation do?	Rothamsted Research is a world-leading, non-profit research centre that focuses on strategic agricultural science to the benefit of farmers and society worldwide.
Where were you located?	Harpenden, UK
What did you do?	I investigated cell wall composition changes in response to aphid attack and Methyl Jasmonate exposure in wheat. I grew wheat seedlings both in soil and medium under different treatments, then did biochemical extractions. I learned to use HPLC and LC-MS for analysis of the extracts. Then did statistical analysis on the data obtained. The results I obtained fit very well the hypothesis my supervisor proposed.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Practised coordinating, planning, organising when to do what and whether the supervisors are available. Learned about experimental design, brainstorming with the group. Refreshed my knowledge of R and statistics.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	Rothamsted offers many internships
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience; Helpful contacts; References
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?	Finalist
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	Royal College of Pathologists
What does the organisation do?	Professional membership organisation, which also carries out charitable/outreach activities.
Where were you located?	London
What did you do?	A two day pathology summer school, which I treated as a preview for part of the second year medicine course. Also networked with pathologists, and medical students from across the country.
For how long did you do it?	Up to 1 week
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 pathology as a career, advice from academic pathologists about pursuing an academic career in medicine, new medical student friends from universities across the UK and from Europe, a preview of some of the pathology taught in second year.
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):

Med and Vet Sci Tripos (Med) Penultimate

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Stoney Farm
What does the organisation do?	Rearing sheep/lambing (farm)
Where were you located?	Okehampton, Devon, England
What did you do?	Lambing - around 13 hours a day
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Easter
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Vet in the year above
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Skills as a vet for future career
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
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?	References
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):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	STOR-i
What does the organisation do?	Operation and Statistical research PhDs in partnership with private companies. Its a Center for Doctoral Training (CDT) which aims to give an industry focused PhD experience.
Where were you located?	University of Lancaster
What did you do?	8 Week research project on Wavelet Methods in (statistical) change point analysis, as well as a few training/ problem-solving days and general life at stor-i type stuff.
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.)?	To be honest towards the end it got a bit rough because the project went quite badly, but I learned that statistics research is actually pretty cool (hard as that is to believe :)
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	Fast track through recruitment process;Helpful contacts;References
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):

Natural Sciences Tripos Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	Tu Berlin Institute for Theoretical Physics
What does the organisation do?	Teaching and research
Where were you located?	Berlin, Germany
What did you do?	Researched the chemotactic strategy of the E Coli bacteria, computationally and theoretically
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Language skills from being abroad, computing skills, insight into life as a PhD in Germany
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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;References
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	TWI
What does the organisation do?	Research and consultancy in manufacturing and joining technologies. They have divisions in Materials, Structural Integrity and Joining Technologies (e.g. welding).
Where were you located?	Granta Park, Great Abington, Cambridgeshire
What did you do?	Non-Destructive Testing Intern- Project title: X-Ray Microscopy of MEMS Components.- Designed parts on SolidWorks to incorporate into TWI's developing X-Ray Microscope (XRM).- Operated an X-Ray detector in order to locate defects in MEMS components, and determine the detector's effectiveness for use in a new XRM.- Wrote programs on Python, MATLAB and ImageJ macro language to operate the XRM and to correct and stitch the resulting images, which to be implemented into the TWI's XRM.- Wrote a report detailing and explaining the effects of different image correction techniques on XRM images, which is now being used by TWI as a reference guide for future work.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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 gained experience of working in industry. For example, how difference the pace is, the kinds of people I would be working with, and an insight into working with clients as opposed to self-guided research. I also gained a lot of programming experience as I taught myself Python.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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

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?	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	UC Berkeley/ Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)
What does the organisation do?	UC Berkeley: university LBNL: US National Laboratory
Where were you located?	Berkeley, CA
What did you do?	Research on arsenic removal from drinking water.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Wet lab skills and US research culture
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	Might be hard unless one has an US citizenship
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts;References
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):

Chem Eng via Engineering Finalist

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	University of Copenhagen
What does the organisation do?	It is an University
Where were you located?	Copenhagen, Denmark
What did you do?	I was assigned a research project for 6 weeks, my supervisor was the PI of the lab
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Skills: How to write reports, how to record NMR spectra, increased my laboratory skills (columns, synthesis design etc.)Insight into the day-to-day work of a synthetic chemist
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
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?	References
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	University of Dundee
What does the organisation do?	Research, teaching, business.
Where were you located?	Dundee, Scotland.
What did you do?	10 week paid summer internship program. Competitive entry. Worked in a bioinformatics lab (Tom Owen-Hughes) with a PI and day-to-day mentor. Completed research and presented results at a conference-style event.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Bioinformatics skills. PhD opportunities. Networking with scientists. Opportunity to live independently in Scotland.
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
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?	Fast track through recruitment process
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?	Finalist
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	University of Edinburgh
What does the organisation do?	Chemistry Department at the University of Edinburgh
Where were you located?	Edinburgh, Scotland
What did you do?	Spent 6 weeks in the Eleanor Campbell research group. Conducted research into materials used for CO ₂ capture from power plants. Then wrote a report on my results.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Speculative application
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Insight into what a research career is like, gained better lab skills, better report writing skills and communication skills, gave me better experience for my CV
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?	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):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	University of Edinburgh
What does the organisation do?	Higher education
Where were you located?	Edinburgh
What did you do?	Royal society summer studentship in the soft matter group of the physics department
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.)?	Greater understanding of the scientific research process, and skills in experimental physics
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	Many royal society studentships with a variety of industry fellows are available. I don't know if this particular one will be offered in future.
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?	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):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	University of Erlangen-Nurnberg
What does the organisation do?	A university is a public research university in the cities of Erlangen and Nuremberg in Bavaria, Germany.
Where were you located?	Erlangen, Bavaria, Germany
What did you do?	Researched on recrystallisation behavior of Co-based superalloys following indentations to introduce stress and heat treatment, which contributes to the general understanding of Co-based superalloys' properties when subjected to stress prior to failing, crucial for development of next generation Co-based superalloys. Analyzed the recrystallized areas of samples, including the preferential direction for grain growth, size and shape and recrystallisation tendency.
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 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.)?	Insight into German culture, both inside and outside of the lab. Laboratory and sample preparation skills gained.
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?	Helpful contacts

Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	Yes, a business visa for Germany.
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):

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Vacation Work Feedback (provided December 2018)

Name of organisation	University of Oulu, unit of medical imaging, physics and technology
What does the organisation do?	Research group studying changes in cartilage during osteoarthritis.
Where were you located?	Oulu, Finland
What did you do?	I did biochemical assays to measure the concentration of collagen and proteoglycans found in cartilage samples taken at different stages in the progression of osteoarthritis. I also analysed gene expression data that the group had previously collected.
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 got an insight into academic research life outside of Cambridge and how it was like to work as part of a research group. I also improved my laboratory skills and learned new methods such as spectrophotometric techniques to measure concentrations of different molecules.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
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?	I emailed speculatively asking if they were looking for a summer worker and they said they had funding. They may have more funding in future but I am not certain.
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	References
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	University of Surrey
What does the organisation do?	Virology research
Where were you located?	Guildford, Surrey, UK
What did you do?	Helped with experiments relating to viral sensing pathways, and carried out some of my own experiments.
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.)?	Working independently, lab skills, working with other people, gained scientific knowledge
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):

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