

## PSYCHOLOGY

My decision to apply to study Psychology at University has been influenced by several factors, my personality, my family background, my career ambitions and my enthusiasm for aspects of psychology that has developed during my A level studies.

I want to study Psychology, not just because it will help me develop a set of transferable skills to take with me into graduate employment, not just because I find it interesting and stimulating, not just because it helps me understand myself and the world around me, and helps me mature into a better person, but because I want to make it my career. I want to study beyond a degree onto masters and possibly even PhD level. I want to carry out research, to develop our understanding of the human mind and behaviour, and ultimately to try and help make a difference to people's lives.

My experiences so far on this planet have been varied, and encompass a range of emotions. My parents divorced when I was nine and there followed five years of court battles over several serious issues, which were only resolved when my views were finally taken into account. As a young boy who had to encounter episodes of fear and oppression, I have since been able to grow up and experience great happiness, times of fulfilment, and a sense of belonging. I have also encountered confusion, had cope with a personal sense of loss, and to deal with depression. However I have been lucky enough to receive the guidance of professionals who have helped me process my past and develop into a perfectly normal well rounded young adult. My goal is to specialise in depression, and research the effect divorce has on children.

As for me as a whole I am a kind, well mannered, sociable person with a great love of sport, especially football (playing and watching). I was a member of Tenby Sea Cadet Corp for a number of years and attended several training courses, camps, Navy Days and sporting competitions, which as well as being great fun gave me the opportunity to develop my life skills. I have a local summer job in a seafood bar on the harbour, and as well as selling seafood I make light refreshments and beverages. I have worked there for three seasons now, and am often left in sole charge of the shop, with the responsibility of opening up in the morning and cashing up and locking up at the end of the day. I think it's important to make an honest living, and have used most of my wages this year to pay for all my driving lessons, and hope to take (and pass) my test in the near future.

I was born in Germany and lived there for 6 years. I took German at GCSE and can hold a reasonable conversation. I am lucky enough to be well travelled having visited many places in Europe, the Caribbean and family in the USA. After my A level exams I plan to Inter rail across Europe for a month with friends before we all head of to university.

I believe that everything that has happened in my life so far has had a reason behind it, and has ultimately made me the person I am today. I look forward to all the wonderful opportunities that studying Psychology will add to my life, and to be able to make a positive contribution both academically and socially to your University.