

Computer Science ~~remained shrouded in was a~~ mystery ~~to me~~ until I came across a pre-university curriculum called CS Unplugged. ~~I was~~ I introduced to computational thinking through concepts ranging from algorithms to cryptographic protocols, ~~which were~~ presented in the form of engaging activities, ~~the veil began to lift.~~ ~~Through t~~The absence of computers, ~~I helped me to realise~~ ~~d that~~ computer scientists focused on determining the best systematic solutions to problems. ~~Being f~~fond of problem solving and logical thinking, I rapidly became intrigued by this discipline. I began to understand the scope of this field after reading 'Computer Science: An Overview', by J. Glenn Brookshear, which broke down the discipline into numerous layers, ~~giving a~~ ~~it gave me a~~ solid introduction ~~and history~~ to computer science, ~~which and~~ ~~ignited a~~ ~~left me~~ craving for more. Eager to know how computers follow commands, I learnt to program my own simple applications, such as a graphical calculator and a tic-tac-toe game. ~~All this helped me to~~ ~~These experiences~~ confirmed ~~that I~~ ~~wanted to study this course at university~~ ~~my desire to pursue a computer science degree.~~

**Commented [KC1]:** A lot of the changes in the first paragraph were made to use more powerful action verbs rather than relying on weak "be verbs"

~~Studying maths and science has prepared me well.~~ I received my school's top-of-year award for achievement in mathematics and completed my mathematics GCSE a year in advance. My teacher noticed my ability and invited me to mentor some of the younger students in my school. ~~Through sharing my enthusiasm~~ ~~This gave me the opportunity to not only share my enthusiasm~~ for mathematics, ~~but to~~ ~~learned the art of also improve my ability to~~ ~~captur~~ ~~ing~~ and explaining concepts clearly. ~~As I continued my studies, my mind became more quick and intuitive and more adept at~~ ~~Studying mathematics has made me better able to~~ ~~construct~~ ~~ing~~ and ~~manipulat~~ ~~ing~~ abstractions in an effective and precise manner. ~~I have also developed a fast and intuitive mind.~~ This, along with the logical foundation this subject has given me, will aid me ~~to in~~ effectively ~~tackl~~ ~~ing~~ problems and ~~captur~~ ~~ing~~ my thoughts as specific, systematic solutions whilst programming. ~~Intrigued with how things work, I also had an aptitude for~~ ~~s~~science, ~~which has~~ ~~has always intrigued me as I am exceptionally curious about how things work.~~ ~~It has taught me how to~~ ~~helped me~~ analyse and interpret data. Also, learning about intricate biological and chemical structures ~~has enhanced~~ ~~furthered~~ ~~my ability to~~ ~~comprehension in~~ ~~end~~ the complexities of a system. Designing scientific posters with a group of students at The University of Hertfordshire, ~~I conducted research critically and analytically which led to increased confidence.~~ ~~has taught me how to be critical and analytical whilst carrying out research.~~ I am now more confident ~~with in~~ judging the validity and reliability of ~~any presented~~ ~~the information.~~ ~~I am presented with.~~ ~~I also find philosophy fascinating and frequently listen to lectures, as well as debates, that address philosophical questions.~~

**Commented [KC2]:** Added as a transition to lead into this paragraph

~~Outside of my studies, my volunteer work and employment cultivated my abilities.~~ I have taken part in a Youth and Philanthropy Initiative program, where my team and I presented on behalf of a charitable organisation. This ~~has~~ increased my overall confidence ~~and public speaking skills.~~ ~~and improved my skills of presentation.~~ Due to effective teamwork and preparation, we ranked second in a fund raising competition. I further improved my communication skills whilst working at an entertainment store, where I frequently dealt with customer enquiries. ~~I have also worked at a care home, which helped me to develop excellent people skills.~~ At my current job, ~~it is vital we~~ ~~work~~ ~~ing~~ as part of a team, ~~is essential.~~ As a group, we are responsible for managing the orders received by a company. Therefore, mistakes have low tolerance and the workload can increase unexpectedly. As a result, I have improved my attention to detail and learnt to work under pressure.

**Commented [KC3]:** The vast majority of changes in this paragraph combined sentences for conciseness as well as added in transitions to increase flow.

**Commented [KC4]:** I put the philosophy sentence up here as it seemed to relate more to studies (while not a formal study) and seemed more random where you had it. However, you will probably need to take out this sentence entirely as you need to describe communication abilities further in the next paragraph, and you will go over character limit. So this sentence can be removed.

**Commented [KC5]:** I would add a sentence here that explained how specifically your communications skills were increased. This is generic to just say your skills increased. In what way? What specific communication skills did you learn from the job at entertainment store?

I have enjoyed playing chess competitively at our school club. It has improved my attention span and made me more strategic in the way I tackle problems. ~~I also find philosophy fascinating and frequently listen to lectures, as well as debates, that address philosophical questions.~~ Keeping active, by playing sports and exercising daily, ~~I focus my mind and body on staying alert.~~ ~~helps me keep my mind alert.~~

**Commented [KC6]:** Currently, this sentence does not add any value. It is too generic. What were these excellent people skills? How does this apply to computer science etc?

Reading articles on scientific and technological development, such as algorithms that allow amputees to control a prosthetic limb with their mind, inspires me. I, too, wish to improve the quality of peoples' lives, and the quality of services, through computer technology. Learning to think in computational modes of thought ~~I will effectively solve real world problems. will allow me effectively solve real world problems.~~ I wish to study this degree at university to give my ideas life, and ~~to positively then~~ impact the world. ~~with them.~~