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Why? How? From the earliest age, these words peppered my speech. As a Biomedical Science undergraduate, I have worked to accumulate knowledge and am well placed to extend my learning further to study for a medical degree.

During a voluntary placement at xxx Hospital in xxx, I was fortunate to work in the Plastic Surgery Department, where I learned about levels of wound and procedures for dealing with them. I also observed an organ transplant and was intrigued by the medical procedure and the roles and relationships among the medical team. A team player myself, I was struck by the clarity of communication and degree of trust within the surgical team. Shadowing Registrars on the wards also helped me to understand the everyday workings of a hospital and the emphasis on teamwork as the doctors constantly shared notes and discussed their thoughts. Strong, intelligent, confident individuals, their interdependence and communication was remarkable and, as I too interacted with patients, I was able to prove that I share those attributes. Discussing medical articles with the consultant was a joy and proved that a doctor's knowledge is constantly developing. I have, too, spent time in xxxx, where I developed my nursing skills - patience, competence, approachability and genuine care - all of which are necessary characteristics in a good doctor.

Along with fifty other medical students, I was part of a medical brigade in xxx, taking part in dental work, pharmacy, triage and chala, a personal hygiene class for children. I witnessed the calm reassurance offered by medical practitioners as they carried out potentially traumatic procedures, and experienced the responsibility and attention to detail required in dealing with prescriptions. In the chala, we taught children how to maintain good dental hygiene through music; I rapidly developed my ability to relate to people of all ages and learned techniques to gain the cooperation of recalcitrant children. In triage I was involved in diagnostic work through the observation of blood pressure, heart rates, respiratory rates and a range of other symptoms. Having learned some Spanish in preparation for the trip, I was able to interact well with the patients.

Soon I will be shadowing paramedics at the xxxx Hospital. I am keen to experience and understand medicine in all its different forms. Medicine is a complex system, a constantly evolving animal made up of various parts. All my experiences to date have made me determined to get to know this beast better and to help it evolve in the best way possible.

As school House Prefect I liaised closely with the House Master and Headmistress to ensure that life for the 300 students in my House was smooth. I willingly took on the responsibility and proved myself able to work alongside people regardless of their background or status. I have always been exceptionally well organised and able to utilise my time effectively and efficiently, skills which will be crucial as I study for a medical degree. To become a doctor takes intelligence, commitment, dynamism, self-motivation and unflappability. I have all those attributes. Today, 'why' and 'how' remain my two favourite words: my thirst for knowledge and understanding remains unquenched.

Aside from my academic experiences, I am a highly active person. Champion in 100m and 200m at my Secondary School, I have also played Academy football for xxxxxxxx in xxxxxx as well as captaining the Sunday league football for xxxxxxxx. I am part of xxxxxxxx, a charity which helps deprived children in developing countries stay out of trouble through sport while also providing food and shelter. All these experiences have further developed my leadership skills and my sense of belonging to a team whilst doing the best I can as an individual.

I have a deep sense of satisfaction every time I help to make someone's life just that little bit better.