

Access to
Excellence
WADHAM COLLEGE

Back to Oxford: University Next Steps



Think back to your visit to Oxford:

- What do you remember?
- How did the visit meet or surprise your expectations?



Your next steps



Oxford identified some next steps:

1- Consider your A-level choices

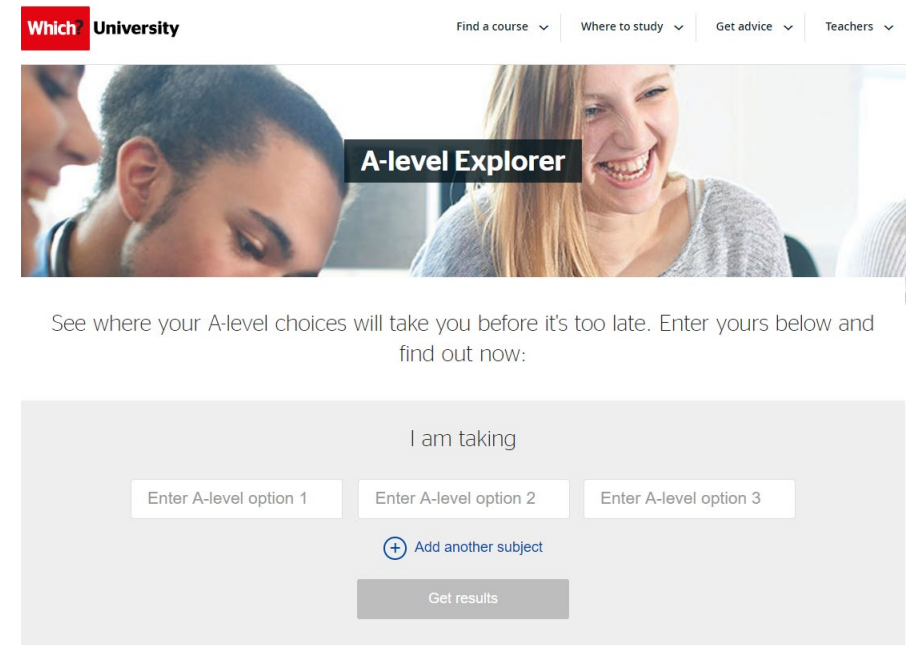
2- Thinking and talking about university

3- Exploring and developing your passions

Step 1: Thinking about A-levels

Use the Which?
University A-level
explorer to look at
where different A-
levels could take you

(<https://university.which.co.uk/a-level-explorer>)

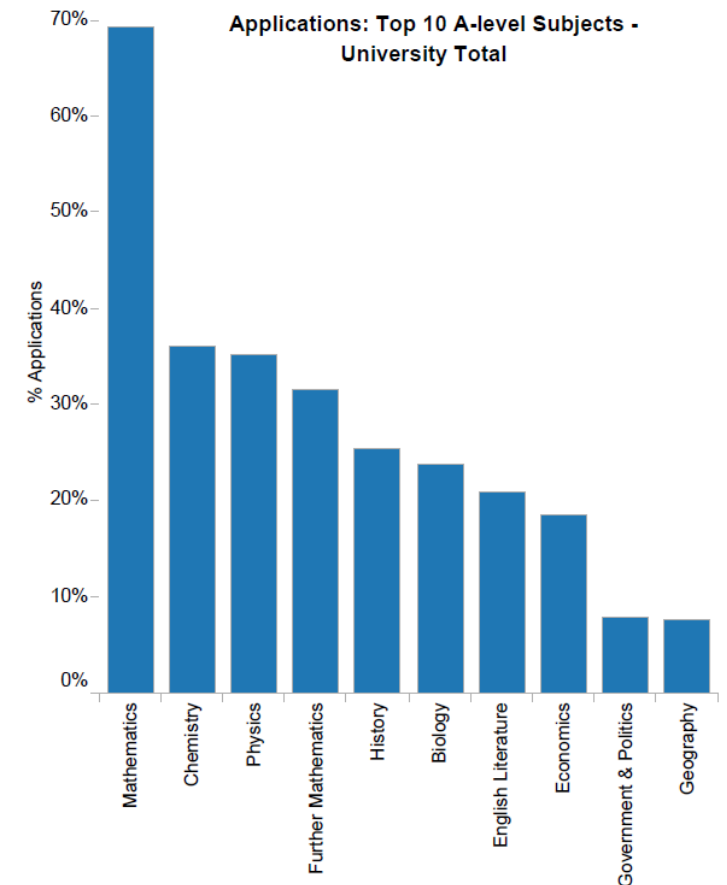


The screenshot shows the 'Which? University' website's 'A-level Explorer' section. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'Which? University' logo and links for 'Find a course', 'Where to study', 'Get advice', and 'Teachers'. Below the navigation bar is a banner image of three students (two boys and one girl) looking at a laptop. Overlaid on the right side of the banner is a black box with the text 'A-level Explorer' in white. Below the banner, there is a text prompt: 'See where your A-level choices will take you before it's too late. Enter yours below and find out now:'. Underneath this prompt is a light gray form area. At the top of the form area, it says 'I am taking'. Below this are three input fields labeled 'Enter A-level option 1', 'Enter A-level option 2', and 'Enter A-level option 3'. Below these fields is a link with a plus icon and the text 'Add another subject'. At the bottom of the form area is a gray button labeled 'Get results'.

Step 1: Thinking about A-levels

These are the most common A-levels taken by students applying to Oxford:

- Maths
- English Literature
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Physics
- Politics
- History
- Geography
- Biology





Step 1: Thinking about A-levels

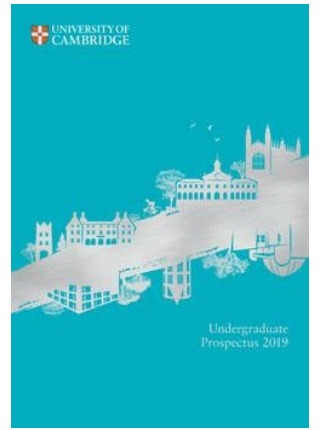
Speak to a teacher who teaches a subject you really enjoy at school. Ask them:

- How would you evaluate studying this subject at A-level?
- What is this subject like at university level?
- What would you recommend I do to extend my knowledge of the parts of the subject I really enjoy?

Step 2: Thinking about university

Have a look at some university prospectuses:

- Look at the range of courses available. Are there any courses you hadn't heard of?
- Pick a subject you like. How is the course between 2 universities different?
- If you know what you want to study:
 - What are the A-level requirements?
 - What are the university looking for?





Step 2: Thinking about university



Speak to someone who has either recently gone to university or is applying to go. Ask them:

- What is your experience of this subject at A-level?
- What is this subject like at university level, how is it similar and different to A-level?
- What would you recommend I do to extend my knowledge of the parts of the subject I really enjoy?

Step 2: Thinking about university

If you're struggling to find someone to speak to, universities also have 'ask a student' to let you ask questions to their current students about university.





Step 3: Developing your passions

The people who look at your university applications will often say they want pupils who are passionate about the subject.

PASSION LED US HERE

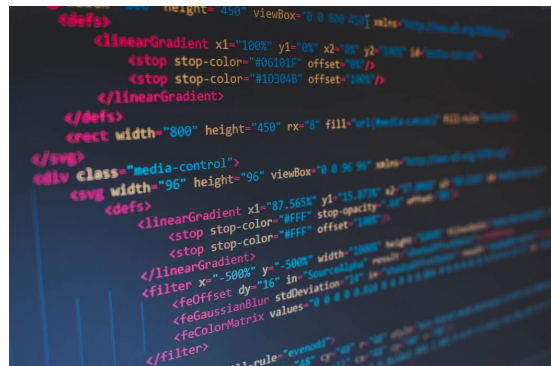
- How do you show academic passion? (without just saying, “I’m passionate about...”)
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Step 3: Ways to develop your passions



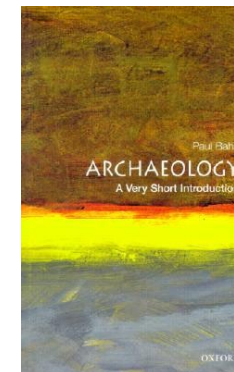
Museums



Programming Courses



Podcasts



Other book examples



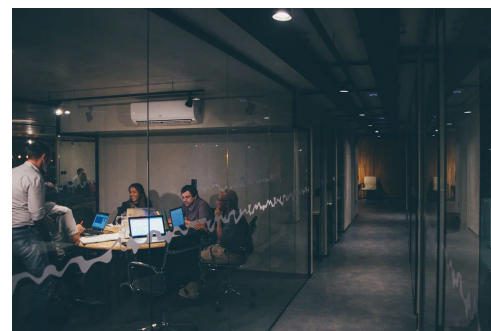
Summer Schools



University lectures



EPQ

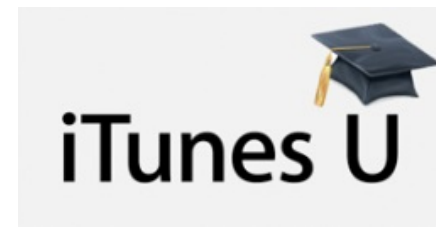
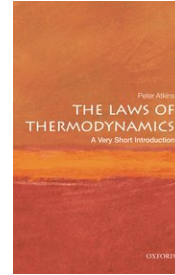
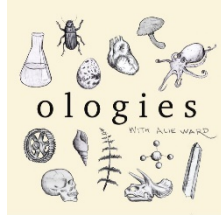


Relevant Work Experience



Other Books by author

Super-curricular activities



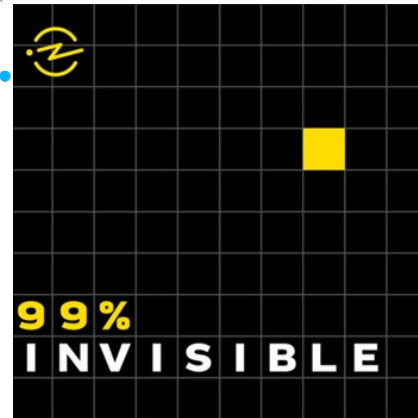
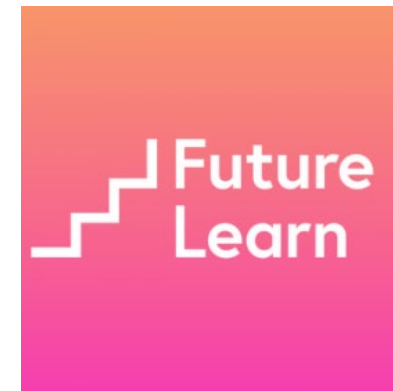
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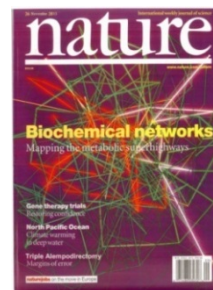


UCAS



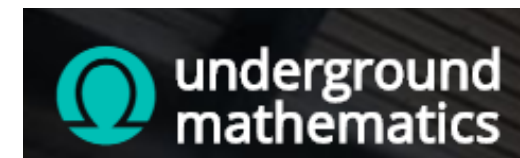
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by nature EDUCATION

TED
IDEAS WORTH SPREADING



OpenLearn

BBC iPlayer



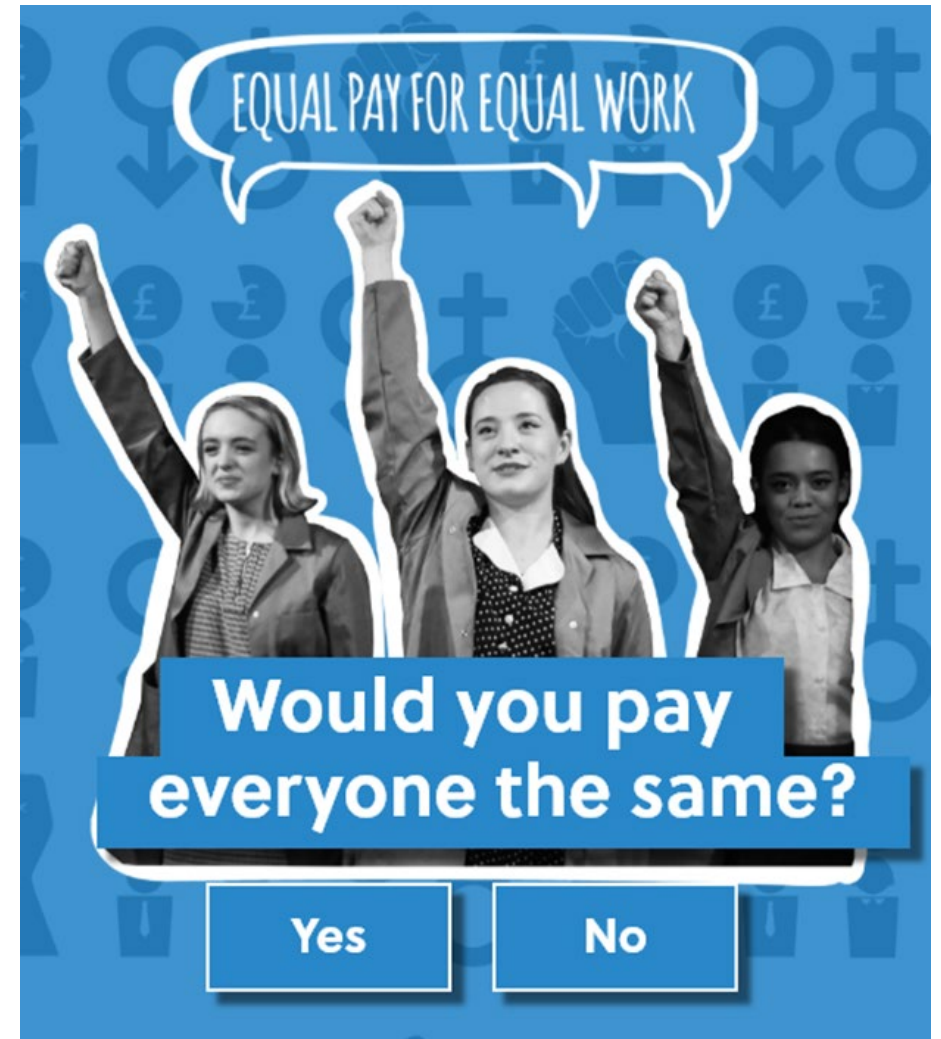
OX?LORE

Step 3: Developing your passions



Step 3: Would you pay everyone the same?

- Think about this big question
- What do you think? Why?
- What makes a 'Big Question'?



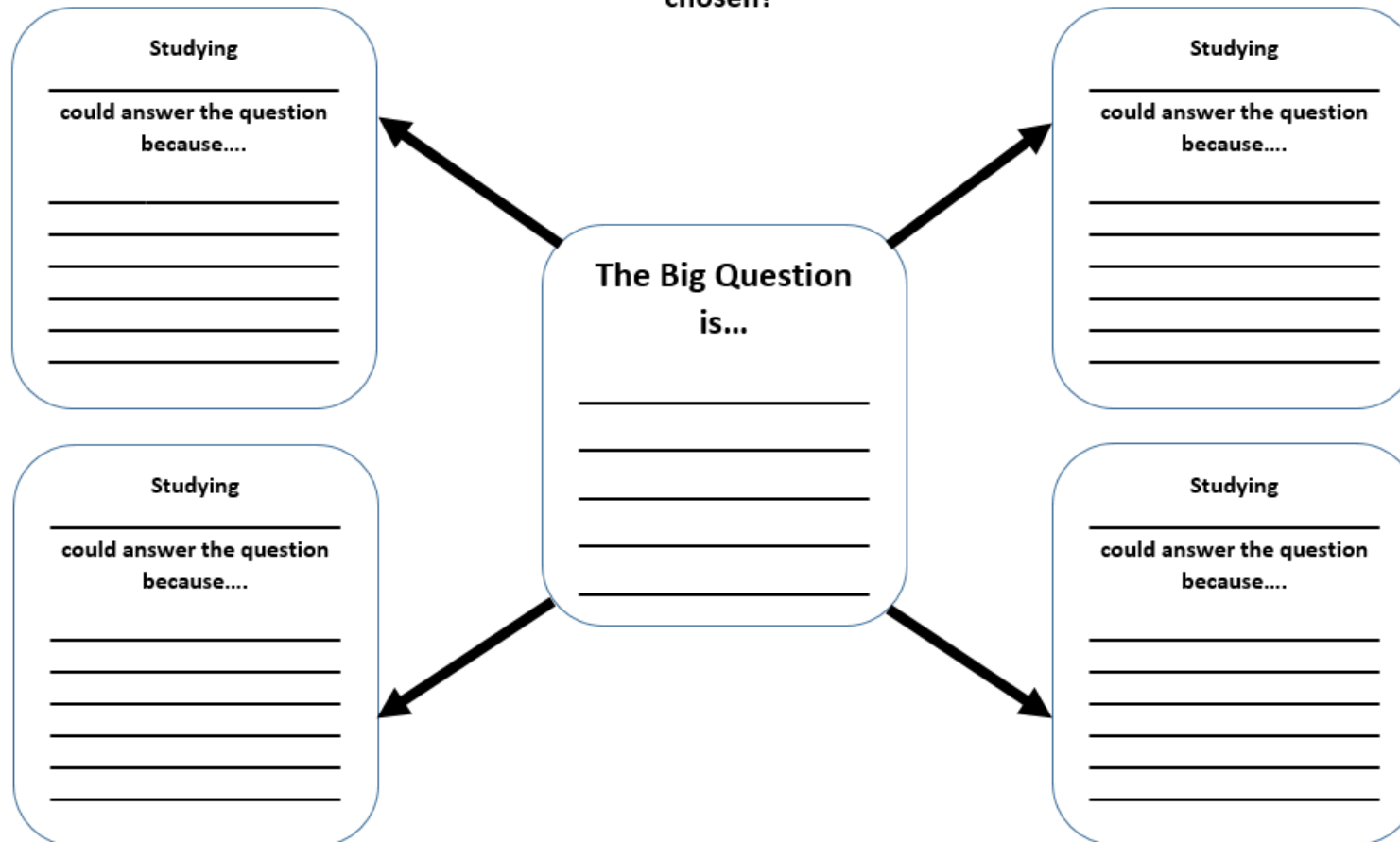
Step 3: Big Questions

Pick a Big Question that interests you and discuss why it interests you

Is falling in love bad for you?	Would you want to live forever?	Are explosions always destructive?	Is the death penalty OK?	Are humans more important than plants?
Can you choose to be healthy?	Do guns hurt more people than they protect?	Should under 18s be allowed to vote?	Should you ever fall for a chat up line?	Do aliens exist?
Is it OK to judge other people?	Does a god exist?	Do video games cause violence?	Is it OK to ban certain books?	Is it OK to clone a human being?
Should footballers earn more than nurses?	Could there be real-life X-men?	Is sleeping more important than studying?	Do you make your own luck?	Does it matter who you love?
Could we live without laws?	Should we eat animals?	Should you believe the history books?	Would you rather be free than safe?	Can war be a good thing?
Can war be a good thing?	Did the chicken come before the egg?	Can money buy happiness?	Can time travel ever be possible?	Is a robot a person?

Step 3: Big Questions

What subjects could you study at university to help you answer the Big Question you have chosen?





Your next steps



Oxford identified some next steps:

1- Consider your A-level choices

2- Thinking and talking about university

3- Exploring and developing your passions

SUMMING UP

- Decide on your next steps.
- What are you going to do to continue your journey towards university and developing your passions?

Get in touch



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