

#### Paragraph 4 examples

##### What you do outside school

During the summer I took part in Durham's Summer school. This experience was incredibly valuable because I was able to work at undergraduate level focusing on independent study and research. The work set was challenging and interesting, and I thoroughly enjoyed the access to the library, which allowed me to read differing ideas, such as those of Bernstein and Kautsky, to challenge the ideals of socialism. The focus of the week was political ideology; how differing ideologies function within modern society and the historical background to their creation. One particular area of interest to me is Marx's ideas, which are so clearly a product of their time and yet can be applied to almost every modern situation; class divide is intrinsic in our society and as I furthered my knowledge, I became more aware of its complexities.

In school, I helped Year 7 students to improve their Maths and Reading skills. This allowed me to develop my communication skills, patience and respect. I also mentored students in my peer group whilst studying Child Development at GCSE, in order to share my passion for the subject. I organised a whole school fundraiser for Ataxia UK after my close friend was diagnosed with the condition. I am always prepared to put others before myself and I pride myself on my 'can-do' approach to life's challenges.

In my free time I enjoy cycling, walking and water-skiing within the Lake District, however I have also been further afield to places such as Italy and France with school and family. I'm passionate about travel, other cultures and the more extreme sports and find it exhilarating to be pushed out of my comfort zone. Taking part in two French exchanges with the secondary school in Redon, Brittany proved to be challenging but very rewarding. I enjoyed being part of a different culture, seeing the French way of life and different customs whilst improving my general confidence, especially when speaking the language. I am proud to have recently won the school's chemistry prize and hope to pass on my enthusiasm for the subject by mentoring younger students who have the aptitude to study A level chemistry.

My outside interests are film, television and reading, these hobbies can be linked to journalism. I appreciate film and television due to how it can bring an audience together with discussion on social media. I also enjoy watching a story unfold on the screen and reading reviews about it, so that I can compare my opinion to the reviewers; which will be of particular use when writing critical analysis of specific types of media. I thoroughly enjoy reading as it enhances my use of language and develops my range of structural and analytical techniques which has furthered my ability to write.