

Worksheet B: For students who do not hold any offers

Lots of students find they receive no offers or do not receive the offers they hoped for.

We understand this can be very disappointing, particularly if you have set your heart on a particular course. However, there are still lots of options available to you. This worksheet is provided to help you decide what your next steps will be.

Activity one

Understanding university responses

It is important that you understand why you have not received an offer. This will help you decide on your next steps.

1. Complete the table below with details of the entry requirements for the universities and courses you applied to.

University					
Course					
Grade requirements					
Subject-specific requirements					
Non-academic requirements (eg work experience)					
Do your predicted grades meet or exceed the grade requirements?					
Do you meet the subject-specific requirements?					
Do you meet the non-academic requirements?					
Have you requested feedback?					

2. Reflecting on the grid of entry requirements above, do you meet all of the requirements for the courses you applied to? Yes/No/Maybe If no or maybe, provide details below.

Look back at your personal statement

3. How does your personal statement clearly demonstrate your suitability for the course?

4. How have you demonstrated an interest in the subject area and your relevant subject knowledge?

5. How have you demonstrated your relevant experience and skills?

Think about your interview and/or test

6. If you had to undertake an interview or test, how well did you do?

7. How would you improve your interview technique or preparation for tests?

Lessons learned

8. What are the top three lessons you can learn from the reflection above?

 We encourage you to ask university admissions teams for feedback on any interview you attended. This will be invaluable for future interviews (for university or employment).

Activity two
Next steps

You may want to apply to different courses or universities (now or next year), or you may decide to improve your grades or take a gap year and apply again next year. If so:

- You can apply for other courses until the end of August through **UCAS Extra**.
- After UCAS Extra closes, you can enter **Clearing** if you are still interested in going to university that year.
- You can apply again next year with your actual grades, or resit examinations to try to improve your grades.

Most importantly, you should take this as an opportunity to reconsider where your strengths, interests and capabilities lie and reassess your decision-making criteria.

I want to apply through UCAS Extra or Clearing this year

Complete activity three, four and five.

I want to improve my grades by taking resit examinations

Check university policies on resits and speak with your teachers, advisers, parents or carers. Then complete activity four and five to create an action plan.

I want to take a gap year

Speak with your teachers, advisers, parents or carers and decide what you would like to achieve during your gap year. Then complete activity four and five to create an action plan.

Activity three

Decision-making activity

1. Rate the decision-making criteria that are important to you when deciding on a course and university to apply to through UCAS Extra or Clearing. The blank spaces allow you to add any additional criteria that are important to you.

Decision-making criteria	Rating				
	Not important	Not very important	No preference	Quite important	Very important
Location					
Interesting course content					
Academic reputation					
Employment rates					
Quality of academic facilities					
Opportunities for study abroad or work placement					
The accommodation					
Availability of financial support					
Opportunities available outside your studies (such as clubs and societies)					
Availability of part-time work					

