

**Worksheet A: For students who have received offers**

Now you have received a response from all the universities you have applied to, you have some decisions to make.

You may feel confident that you know what you want to do next, but take some time to complete this worksheet. This will help you to make sure you have covered everything and are making the very best decision.

This resource asks you a series of questions to help you to think about your decisions and the reasons behind them.

**Be honest with yourself as this is about your future.**

**Activity one**

Revisiting your reasons for applying to each course and university

1. What did you apply for?	
Course	University

2. Which is your favourite course and university?

**3. Please rate the decision-making criteria that are important to you when deciding on a course and university. There are blank spaces so you can add any other factors that are important to you.**

Decision-making criteria	Ratings				
	Not important	Not very important	No preference	Quite important	Very important
Location					
Interesting course content					
Academic reputation					
Employment rates					
Quality of the 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					

**4. Step one** – Under ‘I have received offers from...’, write down the universities and courses that have given you an offer.

**Step two** – Under ‘Decision-making criteria’, list the decision-making criteria you have marked as important or very important in question 3.

**Step three** – Give each university and course a mark out of five, awarding the highest score (5) to those that fully meet your criteria and the lowest score (0) to those that do not (example below).

**Step four** – Add up the marks for each university and course.

🕒 You may need to revisit some of the research you did when preparing to apply to remind yourself of course content, reputation, experience when visiting the university, and so on.

**Example**


	I have received offers from...				
Decision-making criteria	Mathematics at University A	Mathematics and Statistics at University B	Mathematics at University C	Mathematics at University D	Mathematics at University E
Location	5	2	3	2	1

	I have received offers from...				
Decision-making criteria					
Score					

5. Is the course and university with the highest score in question 4 the same as the course and university you stated as your favourite in question 2?

6. If so, explain why.

7. If not, consider why your favourite course and university did not have the highest score. Will this affect your decision on which offer to accept as your firm and insurance choices? If not, why not?

 **Now is the time to revisit your research.** Make sure you know as much as possible about the courses and universities you have received offers from (for example, the modules, teaching methods, reputation, location and student life).

## Activity two

Comparing the offers you have received


This activity will help you decide which offer to make your firm choice and which to make your back-up insurance choice (if you want one).

Remember, there is no set formula for this decision – you need to make the best decision for you. This activity is provided to help you consider your options.

**1. Complete the grid below to compare the offers you have received.**

University	Course	Have you visited this university?	Offer	Subject-specific requirements	Non-academic requirements (such as DBS checks)

 Be careful to look at the fine detail of each offer, particularly the subject-specific requirements.

 Check UCAS to find the deadlines that apply to you and contact the relevant university admissions team if you are unsure.

2. In the table below, mark how confident you are about achieving each offer. Decide:

- which offers you will realistically be able to achieve
- which offers will be challenging but possible for you to achieve
- which offers you think you will not be able to achieve.

Remember to speak with your teachers, consider your predicted grades and, where possible, the results of any mock exams.

University	Course	Realistically able to achieve	Challenging but possible to achieve	Will not be able to achieve	University score (from page 3)

3. Of the offers you have rated 'Challenging but possible to achieve', which has the highest university score from activity one?

--

4. Will this be your firm choice? If not, why?


5. Of the offers you have rated 'Realistically able to achieve', which has the highest university score from activity one?

--

6. Will this be your insurance choice? If not, why?


Final checklist:

7. Have you visited the universities you plan to make your firm and insurance choices? Yes/No  
 If not, are you able to arrange a visit to the university before making your decision? Yes/No

8. Is your insurance choice lower than your firm choice? Yes/No  
 If not, will the offer provide a backup if you miss your firm choice? Yes/No

Do you need to find out more before you make the final decision?

9. Write down what you need to know and how you will find the information.

Example

What do I need to know?	How will I find the information?
<i>More about the university campus</i>	<i>Visit university campus or do a virtual tour</i>

What do I need to know?	How will I find the information?

### Activity three

#### Developing your action plan

1. Use the table below to list what you want to do next, the information you need and where you will find this information.

**Example**

Objective	Tasks	Help needed	Potential barriers to completing the task	Evidence of achieving the task	Completion or review date
Visit uni	Check open day dates	Friend to visit with me	No open days available - speak with admissions staff	Attended open day	1 month before UCAS deadline

Objective	Tasks	Help needed	Potential barriers to completing the task	Evidence of achieving the task	Completion or review date