Tell me a bit about yourself (Make sure to show off your skills and make it clear that you will be a great data engineer. Don't forget to include a hobby at the end!)

Hi, my name is Adam and I have an academic background in Astrophysics, as I completed my bachelor's degree at Aberystwyth University and my master's degree at the University of St Andrews. As a result of my master's degree, I now have a strong experience working with the coding language python. During my masters, I completed two computational research projects with the main one simulating a molecular gas cloud orbiting in a galactic potential to investigate if tidal effects were a leading cause of star formation. Additionally, I have held numerous retail and hospitality positions, which enabled me to work in small teams as well as build my interpersonal skills and communicate positively with numerous individuals. On a personal level I find enjoyment from long-distance running as I find it to be a rewarding challenge and because of this I have completed numerous running races all over the globe. Recently, I have taken a healthy interest in photography, specifically film photography.

Why do you want to be a Data Engineer?

I am working hard to be a Data engineer because it is a fantastic opportunity to build upon the coding knowledge I have previously developed. I am naturally analytical and have a mathematical inclined personality, which I believe will be valuable when inspecting large quantities of data and making pipelines. Additionally, it will be rewarding to see the positive impacts in real world scenarios for numerous companies of successfully utilizing data and being a part of that. Particularly, in a rapidly growing sector.

What is the role of a data engineer consultant? (Two sides to this, the data engineering side and the consultancy side)

The role of a data engineer consultant consists of making pipelines to handle and manipulate large quantities of data for future clients. I also believe this role requires good interpersonal skills, to be readily approachable and transparent in the work that is being conducted.  ~ ERD transform and clean data is important to mention

What attributes make a great data engineer consultant?

I believe a great data engineer has a good attention to detail, is analytical, can utilize constructive criticism and adapt to situations in brief time periods. A great data engineer will not only have a working knowledge of the technical side of the role but also a continued conscious effort to improve their interpersonal skills such as communication and working effectively in a team with numerous individuals of different levels.

Why should we hire you?

I believe you should hire me because I am adaptable and can overcome demanding situations with a positive attitude. I’m sure many people will have experienced difficult during the pandemic, one of the challenges I faced was completing my masters with little support during the first lockdown. During this period, I completed several exams as well as my main master's thesis project in which I received my highest grade. Additionally, I work well in a team and have developed good interpersonal skills, for the past year I have been working and living in a hotel. I was given the responsibility of delegating tasks to my colleagues and ensuring the overall success of the hotel. This is supported by a strong knowledge of python, by the end of the course a knowledge of SQL and a motivation to continue to learn and improve.

Can you give an example of when you have worked in a team?

Yes, I have worked as part of a team in numerous instances. As previously mentioned, my previous employment involved working as part of a small team, I was given the responsibility to delegate tasks such as who would be working in the kitchen, who would work behind the bar etc, all while I was working amongst the roles. In an academic sense I worked as a small group of 4 at university to use the James Gregory Telescope at St Andrews university to capture the double cluster star system. This entailed working late to take multiple exposures, and then working as a group to comment on our findings.

How do you handle stressful situations?

I handle stressful situations calmly and continue to work with a methodical approach to successfully complete a task. As an individual I work best when I am slightly ahead of the work schedule as a preventative measure to prevent work build up, which subsequently leads to unnecessary stress. I take action to ensure that I have some breathing room when approaching an upcoming deadline.

What makes you unique?

I would say that my background in astrophysics makes me unique. I believe that this shows that I am a curious individual who is motivated to learn about complex and challenging topics. This has meant that I am knowledgeable about astronomy and have a strong ability with python and good writing skills. I would also say the personal challenges and life experiences I have faced make me unique, furthermore how I have responded to those experiences have made me unique.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

I would like to see myself in a senior position, who is knowledgeable about data, with the potential for a role in data engineering or a data scientist. I hope to use and apply the skills I have gained from this course to a role that I find rewarding and enjoyable, with the hope of having a positive impact to real world scenarios.