

Group Work – Hammad, Alexis

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Part 1

Job	Most Appealing	Most Challenging
Cyber Security Analyst, AWS Security	The most appealing aspect of this job too me would be how Amazon AWS services are used across many companies, therefore making it applicable if I choose to work in another company. It also provides good career options and a strong foot into the door for growing my career.	Most challenging aspect would be the competition in trying to apply for the role. Alongside with this, amazon infrastructure can be complicated and therefore it would be quite the learning curve to understand their systems before developing them.
Cyber Security Analysis, SE Labs	Working for an actual cybersecurity testing company is very appealing since it would allow me to be more involved in my passion for cybersecurity.	Most challenging aspect would be working with Linux. Although I have experience with Ubuntu, it is not that advanced compared to my knowledge using MacOS or Windows.
Cyber Security - Nuclear Graduates 2026	The most appealing part of this job is that I will be gaining a lot of experience during those two years of training. However, since I will be working in a programme, it would support me in securing roles once I've completed my training.	Similarly to Amazon, applying for a role like this is competitive. However aside from this, understanding nuclear infrastructure especially physics is definitely a topic that I would have to retouch on.

Part 1 - Hammad

Job	Most Appealing	Most Challenging
Junior Network Engineer, Eight Moose	The reason why I am concerned about this job is the exposure it offers to networking infrastructure, routing, switching and firewall etc. Thus, this implies that there will be an opportunity to get loads on hands on	Challenge would be to keep up with the latest trends as this job mainly concerns about the general networking part of the field. And it will be a challenge to learn and increase awareness about cutting-edge technology, with

	practice in this work related to the networking field.	this kind of role.
Cyber Security Apprentice, Back 2 Work	This role provides with the opportunity of developing real cyber security skills by offering hands on entry point into threat detection, audits and incident response.	Difficult aspect of this job will be the stressful and high-pressure situations concerning about incident response situations requiring quick decisions.
Cyber Security - Nuclear Graduates 2026	A more specialized company that is building a core network/cybersecurity platform in C++, with work on protocols, analytics, etc.	It's a high potential role but also has higher expectations such as good grip in coding +networking knowledge

Part 2

Top Two Skills for Alexis & Hammad to Develop

- Linux – Practical way to strengthen would be to use Linux operating systems and start gaining familiarity with shell commands.
- Programming – Completing small coding challenges in C++ and Python.
- Cloud Technologies – Hands-on cloud experience with major platforms like AWS and Azure, including security configurations, is essential for translating theoretical cybersecurity knowledge into the practical skills needed for modern defense

Unique Strength

One unique strength about Hammad is that is he very creatively driven and very good at problem solving. He has a key eye for detail and a strong willingness to learn. Havign a strong willingness to learn is important as most entry level jobs are aware that you don't have much experience, however with the right attitude and teamwork any entry level job will welcome you with open arms. A lot of computer science related jobs such as security engineering (which Hammad is interested in) means that you will be learning on the job, so the demand for experience for these entry level positions are low.

Unique strength about Alexis is her exceptional ability to organize and plan task efficiently. While working on this group work it became evident that she excels at structuring work in an orderly and efficient manner. This key strength, combined with her experience in working in security operation center will be crucial in field of cybersecurity - where thoughtful planning is just as critical as precise execution when responding to incidents and safeguarding essential network systems.

Part 3

Mutual Feedback on readiness for the chosen roles

Hammad readiness for his chosen roles differ depending on which skills. I would say it is on the higher end of the spectrum. This is because although on his job documentation document, a lot of the skills ratings are on the lower end of the rating, a lot of these skills he has listed is touched on at university. For example, he listed basic knowledge of networking protocols, this is something we are currently learning about in our networking and security module. Not only this but improvements on skills such as networking monitoring would not prove challenging since learning tools like Wireshark have lots of resources to help you out.

Alexis is on the right path for entry-level cybersecurity roles, particularly those focused on security analysis and operations. Her combination of organizational strength, relevant internship experience, and eagerness to learn makes her a promising candidate. She should now focus on enhancing her technical skills in Python, Linux, and security frameworks, in-order to become highly competitive for entry level roles.

How university can bridge these gaps

University bridges the gaps of learning since it teaches us a lot of theory that will then later apply in our careers. University teaches us theory since it's our job to seek out the relevant experience to grow in our desired industry. However, university and extra curriculum, depending on how you effectively you utilise these resources can be a huge help during your employment process since major projects can be a huge talking point during your interview process as well as it allowing employers to engage in your attitude and skills capability.

An important addition to the university curriculum should be a focus on problem-solving, encouraging students to examine real-world challenges from multiple perspectives and develop innovative ideas rather than relying solely on textbook solutions. This approach would help them strengthen their critical thinking skills and better prepare to navigate the rapidly advancing world of technology.

Part 4

Joint Summary of what we both learned from comparing career paths and skills

After comparing career paths, we both learned that we are both interested in going into security, specifically security engineering and looking more into the software development side of security. I've also learnt that we share similar skills set in which one person desires and the other person is keen to learn. For example, Hammad desires to learn more about network monitoring and Alexis know a bit about it as well. It also goes vice versa with how Alexis wants to know more about Linux and Hammad knows a bit about it as well. There are skills in which we could learn from each other. Not only this but we also have similar skills that we also both want

to learn as well like version control and software development practises, although Alexis never specified this in the document seeing how it wasn't a listed skill in her job descriptions, after having a conversation, we found that it is also a skill she is looking to develop.