

This model answer has been provided by Emma Tibballs, a Bachelor of Commerce Student from Monash University. Emma was a member of the team that won the inaugural Future IM/Pact Case Competition in 2019 and has since gone on to complete an internship and work experience with two Future IM/Pact partners: Cbus in their Data Team and their Responsible Investments Team and Macquarie in their ESG Team. Emma has a strong interest in the Impact Investing field of investment management and as such her response is skewed towards this area. Your response should focus on your interests and the areas in which you see yourself working.

Tell us why a career in investment management appeals to you and what you plan to do next to learn more.

Due to my non-finance background, I first found out what Investment Management is at a Future IM/Pact event at the start of last year. Since then, I have learned so much about the industry and the career opportunities it provides.

I want to have a career that incorporates both my Commerce Degree and my values of sustainability and helping others. The Investment Management industry appeals to me because of its financial perspective and the influence it has on improving people's standards of living and the wider world.

Further, I want to work in a high-performing environment with intelligent and supportive people where I can be challenged and constantly learn. Based on my experiences so far, I believe the Investment Management industry provides this type of environment.

To gain realistic insights into what it might be like working in Investment Management, I participated in Future IM/Pact's inaugural National Case Competition in 2019. Having analysed the Social Impact project, I really enjoyed the whole experience and can see myself helping others and the environment through having a career in this industry.

Despite having learned so much about Investment Management over the last year, I know there is still a lot I can do to learn more about the industry.

A vital aspect of work, regardless of role or industry, is effective communication and effectively working in teams. To be more prepared for Investment Management and when in the workforce more generally, I will undertake many opportunities where I can work with various types of people. I will also reflect on my experiences and feelings when working in a team. This will increase my self-awareness, allowing me to identify what I can bring to a team, the types of environments I work well in and don't work well in, and the particular traits of team members which energise me or make me less effective.

I will continue to find out more about Investment Management through discussions with people in the industry. Whether it be through LinkedIn or after having first met someone at an event, I will continue to reach out to individuals to organise coffee/tea catch ups and phone calls. By preparing what I want to ask in advance and showing my genuine interest, I will aim to learn about people's career journeys, values, perspectives, key learnings and advice, their particular role, and about the organisation they work at.

A common theme I have noticed through discussions with people in the industry is the importance of keeping up to date with the market. I don't often read the news so I will actively try to get into the habit of reading newspapers such as The Australian Financial Review and The Economist at least once a week. Over time, I will increase my frequency to reach once a day. This will increase my awareness of what is happening in the market as well as help me identify the sector(s) I am most interested in and, therefore, the area(s) I might want to specialise in if I become an analyst.