**Why are there internships?**

Have you ever wondered why internships exist? If so, you’re not alone. Many young people think that internships are just time consuming because you don’t have so much time in your summer holidays. But in fact, internships are very useful for your whole career. Do you want to know why?

Most stuff you learn in school is just theory. The real practice, the whole action, takes place in real jobs like software engineer or programmer. Internships give you the perfect opportunity to gain experience you would barely get in school. If you are working in a hospital, there isn’t really a timetable you can look at and know when the next lesson begins. Sometimes or maybe often you are interrupted while performing a task because a colleague needs something from you. I have to do 8 weeks of voluntary internships in total but there aren’t any options for work experience at my school.

In Austria most internships are paid. And that’s good because if an internship in a city like Vienna were unpaid, it would be nearly impossible to live in this city for a month. The prices are just too high. In addition, most students do their internships in a period of one month.

In my summer holidays I was an intern at a hospital for a month and it was great. You learn so many things which you might need in so many situations. I would like to do an internship a second time because it was fun and I also earned money, so why not?

What about you? Have you ever asked yourself whether you should do an internship?