

Three example journal entries:

Student 1

At the beginning of the week we had a reoccurring issue with one of the main clients which occurred just before I came to work. Once I knew the error was the same, I went ahead and informed them straight away of the details we had found so far. Therefore, I was managing client liaison and what the next steps forward were, whilst my team informed me that this was in fact an issue on their side rather than ours. This is working towards my objective of being proactive and tackling cases without hesitation. Then Tuesday came around and oh boy that day was fun from start to finish. It was employee appreciation day and the Covent Garden office had booked out a ping pong night including pizza and drinks! This by far was the best night of the week. I made new friends within our office, people I don't usually speak to who are actually quite fun! It definitely helped to break down barriers and at this point I feel like I know almost everyone practically. Again, this contributes to my networking objective. I got to know our Head of Engineering a lot better (Sunil) who will help me work on some SQL deployments. The opportunities right now are really reeling in and I am putting myself out there and making the effort I need to make to get to where I need to be. So my SQL skills will definitely improve. Wednesday was a boring day obviously mid-week you really do feel the stretch of the working day! Nevertheless, I kept myself entertained. The main thing I have learnt this week is that networking is KEY! It reinforces what I said previously about being allowed to work with implementation – this is due to me putting the effort in. if you don't ask you don't get! Anyway Pat, who also graduated from QM is helping me set up Node JS on my mac so I will bring that in next week and get coding! I am definitely meeting my technical and people objectives that I had set.

Student 2

This week I had a chance to sit down with my line manager and set targets for my internship. It was good to get some initial feedback on my performance so far and gain an overview of projects I'll have the chance to work on top of the general day-to-day responsibilities. Delphine was very positive about my progress so far and had constructive advice for improving going forwards. She said I've been picking things up very quickly and she'd been really impressed with the work I'd done so far and my ability to keep calm under pressure. It was really reassuring to hear as I'd felt a bit like I'd been drowning somewhat in the workload so far and hadn't had a chance to prove my capability. It was also interesting to hear that she thought I appeared calm as the last few weeks have been some of the most stressed, I've ever felt! In terms of areas for improvement she emphasised that it was important for me to learn the art of shouting about my achievements which she said is key to succeeding at L'Oréal. Whilst she sees that I really like to sit and quietly get on with my work, it doesn't necessarily mean that others will realise this. It's not something that comes naturally to me, as I'm more comfortable letting my work speak for itself, but it is something Delphine says she's more than happy to help push me to do. It's a necessary task if I want to apply for the graduate scheme especially as it requires being endorsed by a manager outside of the team, and so exposure of the work I'm doing is key in getting people outside of the team to notice my achievements and work ethic.

Student 3

I spent the whole of this week communicating with the TRIPLE development team. I was given the objective of finding out the main procedures that are used in the system. This task required me to analyse and understand the different sorts of procedures and tables that are located within the TRIPLE database environment. I managed to complete two out of the five procedures I was asked to analyse. By doing this task I have developed a basic understanding of several financial terms grasping concepts such as front/back office books and cost centres which are where the costs and credits of a book are logged. Regrettably, I feel as if I am of not much use as the majority of the tasks require an in-depth understanding of finance terminology. I feel as if I will need to develop my finance and business knowledge much further if I am to be truly useful to [the company]. Additionally, I have come to learn the schema of Book Mapping Service contained within TRIPLE. I now know how each table is merged with another to develop a master table. This master table is then used to identify rouge trades. I have struggled in meeting the deadline I had set myself to hand in this document to my manager. Luckily, the deadline is not strict, and the document's purpose is essentially for me to understand the system and learn what it is about. I hope to set myself achievable deadlines in the future so that I can avoid being in this situation again.