

A teenage gene-ious!

_____ ¹ the age of 17, Fred Turner has been awarded 'UK Young Engineer of the Year'.

Fred has straight brown hair. His brother Gus has curly red hair. Fred was determined to find out why their hair is so different. So he built a DNA testing machine _____ ² his bedroom.

He spent almost a year building the machine, using things he found _____ ³ home, including an old video recorder. The machine would normally cost £3000, but Fred built his _____ ⁴ £450. It's like a DNA photocopier.

He collected DNA, _____ ⁵ inside his brother's cheek. "The machine makes copies of this DNA so you can test how it reacts _____ ⁶ different temperatures. Heating and cooling the sample allows you to separate the DNA, so I was able to see whether mine was different _____ ⁷ his," said Fred.

He discovered that Gus has a particular gene that gives him red hair.



Fred has always been interested _____ ⁸ science and his parents have always encouraged him. "They both took me _____ ⁹ science museums when I was younger."

His passion for science will continue _____ ¹⁰ Oxford University, where he'll be studying Biochemistry _____ ¹¹ September. He said, "I'm not sure where I'll be _____ ¹² ten years, but I'd like to run my own technology business."