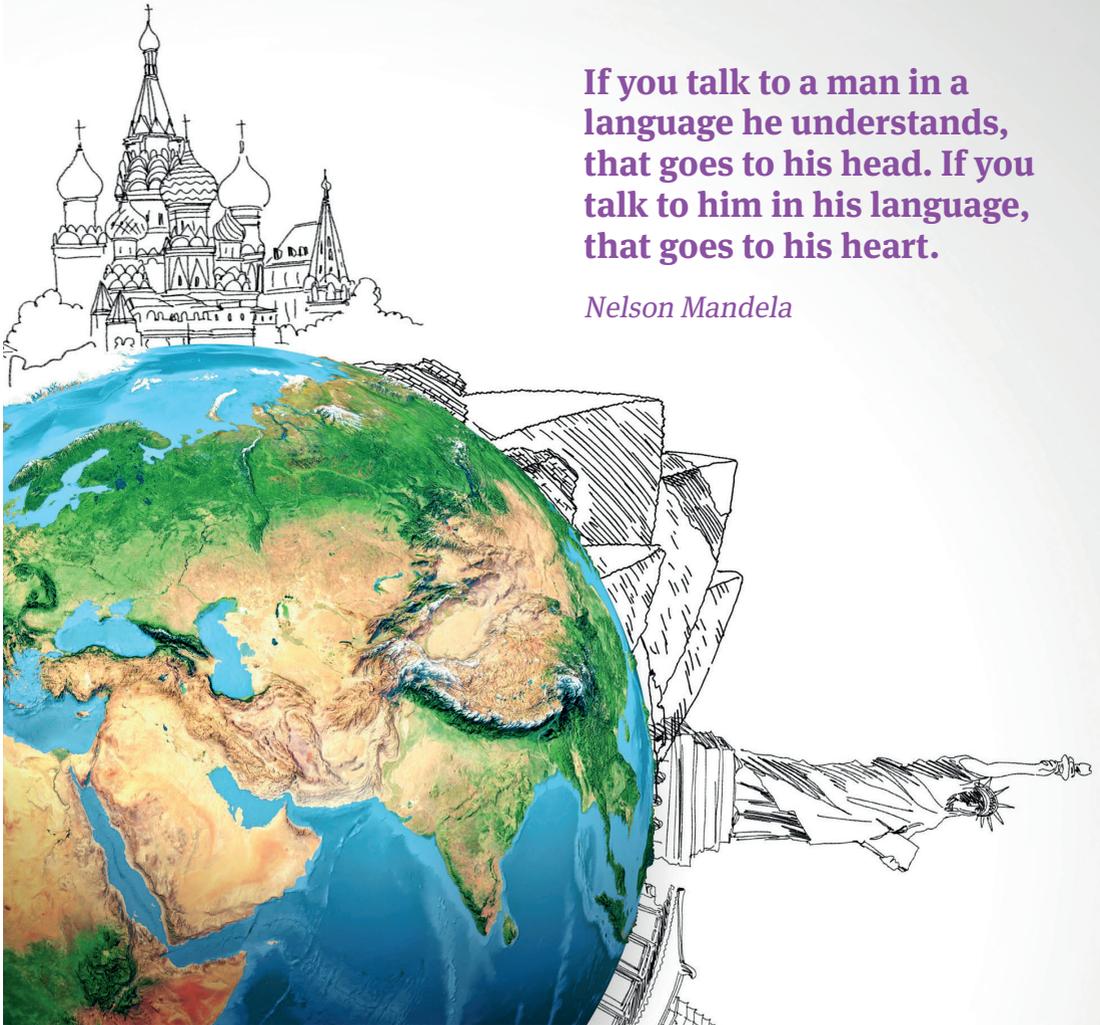


Languages for your future

If you talk to a man in a
language he understands,
that goes to his head. If you
talk to him in his language,
that goes to his heart.

Nelson Mandela



Hospitality and Tourism

Stuart Broomfield



Job title:
Hotel Manager

Company:
Macdonald Holyrood
Hotel

This Hotel Manager recognises the importance of connecting with guests in their own language.

What are your experiences with languages?

I studied French at school for two years but unfortunately did not keep it up. I regret this now. In Hospitality, language skills add to your employability as well as enhance your working experience. I have dealt with many French guests and being able to speak to them in their own language would have meant I could connect with them better, ensure their visit was comfortable and do my job to a high standard.

How do languages impact your current job?

All employers are looking for employees that can demonstrate key skills and applicants who have a language stand out from the crowd. Visitors to the Macdonald Holyrood Hotel come from all over the world. Edinburgh is an international city which attracts travellers all year round, from Europe, the Far East, the Americas and beyond. Employees who can speak other languages are able to welcome guests to the hotel in their mother tongue and engage with them on a deeper level.

To have a second or third language adds to your employability.

Stuart's advice:

- Hospitality is the biggest industry in the world and it's all about communication and being able to connect with others.
- Learn a language. Language skills will improve your employability.
- Always set your targets high. If you want to work in a restaurant, work in a great restaurant. If you want to work in a hotel, work in a four or five star hotel. Reach for the stars.
- Commit to high professional standards and deliver them consistently. This will make you a better employee marked by integrity and high personal standards.

More information:

Stuart's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltstuartbroomfield

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in tourism
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/the-tourism-industry

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Macdonald Holyrood Hotel
www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/macdonald-holyrood-hotel/

IT

Scott Morrisson



Job title:
Managing Vice President
of Communications
Research

Company:
Gartner Inc.

Qualifications:
Degree in Electronic
Systems; MBA

**This Technology Analyst knows
that when building relationships
with clients abroad it really helps to
speak their language.**

What are your experiences with languages?

I speak, read and write French and German fluently and can read Spanish.

From my first experiences inter-railing around Europe I discovered that it really helps to speak the local language! While I was at university studying engineering I did a practical placement in a company in Germany. I was immersed in the language, including slang that they didn't teach me in school. Working in an office in which 90% of the staff were German meant I had to ramp up quickly!

How do languages impact your current job?

My whole career has benefitted from being open to languages and to new cultural experiences. I use French a lot. In France, there's an expectation that you'll speak French, and sometimes I spend a whole day presenting in French to customers in Paris.

I regularly visit customers in France and use French to speak to clients in Quebec. Because I have been open to learning other languages and living abroad, I know I can work anywhere in the world.

Scott's advice:

- Many global professionals speak English but they will always welcome working in their own language. Learn their language and give yourself the edge.
- For a wider range of opportunities for your future, learn a language. It can give you confidence to live and work abroad.
- You should never stop learning, but the earlier you start, the easier it is to get the hang of languages.

More information:

Scott's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltscottmorrisson

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in IT
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/the-it-industry

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Gartner Inc.
www.gartner.com

Marketing

Amy Baxter



Job title:
Product Marketing
Manager

Company:
Rolls Royce PLC

Qualifications:
Degree in French and
Spanish

**Studying languages has given this
Marketing Manager the strong
communication skills and cultural
awareness that her employers value.**

What are your experiences with languages?

At school, everyone studied French in S1. I didn't like it – I hadn't studied languages before and I had never been to France, but in S2 I had the chance to start Spanish. I used to go on family holidays to Spain so I could relate to it. I ended up studying Spanish and French to Higher level and on to university.

How do languages impact your current job?

Rolls Royce PLC is a major global company. The language of our business is English, but it's always helpful to have language skills, in particular when meeting new colleagues or customers. I have hosted Mexican customers in Spanish and represented the company in French at the Paris Air Show. The company values my language skills but more importantly they value strong communication skills and cultural awareness, both of which go hand-in-hand with knowledge of languages.

Amy's advice:

- Read, watch or listen to as much as you can in the language you are studying – newspapers, magazines, children's books, advertising, songs – the more you can immerse yourself in the language, the better.
- Don't worry about understanding every single word.
- Read about subjects you are interested in – if you like travel or sport, read about these.
- Get as much practice speaking the language as you can and don't be afraid of making mistakes. If you make a funny or embarrassing mistake, it will be so memorable that you won't make that mistake again!

More information:

Amy's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltamybaxter

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in sales
www.prospects.ac.uk/sales_sector.htm

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Rolls Royce PLC
www.rolls-royce.com/

Museums

Campbell Price



Job title:
Curator for Egypt and Sudan

Company:
The Manchester Museum

Qualifications:
PhD in Egyptology

French and German are essential languages for scholarship and enable this Museum Curator to access a full spectrum of research and information.

When did you become interested in languages?

I wrote to an Egyptologist when I was 16 and asked what subjects I needed to study to follow a career in Egyptology. He encouraged me to study French and German.

I took part in a French exchange when I was 17 and being able to make myself understood in a language other than English was stimulating and made me want to speak and read the language more when I got home. I still study French and I've made a special effort to improve my German because I didn't study that as much at school. I've also learned colloquial Arabic from my Egyptian colleagues.

How do languages impact your current job?

At conferences, it is accepted that you communicate in English, but if you don't understand French and German you won't be able to access research and other literature. When I go to Egypt for archaeological field work, the people I work with sometimes have no English at all so the only way to communicate is to use Egyptian Arabic.

Campbell's advice:

- French and German are essential languages for scholarship.
- Volunteer in a museum while at school.
- Join an amateur society. I joined an amateur Egyptology Society and met people who gave me advice about where to study and what to expect.
- Read as much as you can!

More information:

Campbell's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltcampbellprice

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

Career as a Museum or Art Gallery Curator
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/node/20296

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

The Manchester Museum
www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/

Music industry

Chris Cusack



Job title:
Venue Manager and
Musician

Company:
BLOC, a live music
venue in Glasgow

Speaking another language enables this Venue Manager to secure acts from abroad and has opened up opportunities to tour Europe with his band.

What are your experiences with languages?

I began studying French at secondary school and most of the basics have stayed with me. This foundation has been built on through trips to France as a musician and bookings I've made here in Glasgow for French acts. I do regret not pursuing French further, to Higher, at school.

During an extended trip to Spain more than a decade ago, I began to be interested in Spanish. I enjoy the language and really engage with the culture so I have continued studying it via audio lessons on my iPad.

How do languages impact your current job?

Language skills are important for me on a professional level. I have to communicate with artists and managers from across the globe and my French and Spanish have been invaluable in booking acts.

They have also enabled my band to secure tour dates in Europe and helped us make many new friends. As a band, we find that making an effort in another language can be a great way to break the ice with people. It shows you are trying to engage with their culture and not just turning up assuming that everyone speaks English.

Chris' advice:

- Take every opportunity to talk to native speakers in their own language – this has been invaluable in developing my language skills.
- Audio lessons on iPads and other platforms are a great way to learn another language outside the classroom.
- It's never too late to learn a language. I regret not pursuing languages when I was younger, but I have made up for it now!

More information:

Chris' full job profile
bit.ly/sciltchriscusack

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in the music industry
www.ukmusic.org/skills-academy/

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Pharmaceuticals

Anne Morrison



Job title:
Senior Medical Writer

Company:
Novartis

Qualifications:
Degree in Pharmacy

Learning French and German has opened up a career in the pharmaceutical industry for this Medical Writer and has given her the credibility to work in a multi-lingual environment.

What are your experiences with learning languages?

I studied Higher French at school and when my husband and I decided to accept a job opportunity in France, it served as a good base from which I could improve my language skills. For many years we lived in Antibes in the south of France. We then decided to move to Alsace near the border with Germany and I started to learn German.

How do languages impact your current job?

We've now moved back to Scotland with our three young children and I currently work for a Swiss pharmaceutical company. I work from home in Scotland for most of the time, but I usually spend one week in four in the office in Switzerland.

I usually speak English at work, but also French as I have many French colleagues and my German comes in handy too. Having at least one additional language certainly helped me get this job as there are few people in the company who speak only one language and the company actively recruits people who can work in an international environment.

Anne's advice:

- Try your best to communicate – even if you're not always accurate.
- Have fun with the language and experiment with it. Don't be shy about making a mistake – people appreciate that you're a learner.
- Languages broaden your horizons. Be open to experiencing a new culture through friends, films, books, travel, etc.

More information:

Anne's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltannemorrison

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in the pharmaceutical industry
www.rpharms.com/about-pharmacy/careers-in-pharmacy.asp

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Novartis
www.novartis.co.uk/

Publishing

Julianna Dunn



Job title:
Licensing Executive

Company:
Harper Collins
Publishers

Qualifications:
Degree in French and
Italian

This Licensing Executive's language skills give her the ability to negotiate for her company on a global level.

What are your experiences with languages?

I spent a year in Belgium as part of my degree. This developed my communication skills in French, enough to use colloquialisms! After I graduated I taught English in Italy and I am currently learning Russian. My knowledge of more than one language means I can form connections between different languages. I love being able to communicate with non-English speakers and see this as a real achievement.

How do languages impact your current job?

I use French every day to communicate with our French-speaking customers and clients. They really appreciate the efforts I make to communicate with them in their own language. Editors in our company also seek me out if they need clarification of, or support with, Italian products.

I am able to negotiate translation and reprint rights with international publishers and approve their publications of our materials. I also travel to International Book Fairs where I meet existing clients and seek out new business for the company.

Julianna's advice:

- Take every opportunity to practise your language on native speakers, even if they speak English!
- Listening to radio or TV programmes in the language you are learning can really help improve your skills.
- Language learning develops intercultural awareness and shows you are creative, dedicated and can learn independently. Employers value these skills, so don't be afraid to highlight them in your CV.

More information:

Julianna's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltjuliannadunn

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in publishing
creativeskillset.org/creative_industries/publishing

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Harper Collins Publishers
www.harpercollins.co.uk/

Science

Philip Hoggan



Job title: Chair of Theoretical Chemistry, Professor of Chemistry and Surface Physics

Company: Institut Pascal, Clermont University, France

Qualifications: PhD in Theoretical Chemistry

Languages have played a pivotal role in the career of this Scientist, enabling him to live, study and work abroad, as well as connect with researchers across Europe.

What are your experiences with languages?

I grew up speaking French and English at home and studied Welsh, German and Russian at school. After graduating, I went to France for a year's postgraduate study with every intention of returning to the UK. However, I stayed in France, completed my PhD and I continue to live and work in France to this day!

How do languages impact your current job?

Languages have played a pivotal role in my career. My professional life is essentially describing chemistry in French but other languages are important too. Many experts in the field of solid state physics are Russian and prefer to speak Russian over English. I make regular use of Russian here in France and also on trips to Russia and Ukraine.

I travel to conferences and Russian has helped me work in other countries where similar languages are spoken, such as Slovakia. German has been useful for trips to Poland and Hungary.

Philip's advice:

- Russian and German are really useful languages for scientists.
- Learn another language to give you the confidence to live and work in another country. This will broaden your career options.
- You never know when knowledge of other languages will be useful – I funded my PhD translating scientific papers from French to English.
- Knowledge of one language can make it easier to understand others.
- When travelling abroad for work it can help to have a few phrases in the language of the host country – you don't need to be fluent!

More information:

Philip's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltphiliphoggan

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

Careers in Life Sciences
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/the-life-sciences-industry

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Université Blaise Pascal
www.univ-bpclermont.fr/rubrique97.html

Sport

Susan Young



Job title:
Outdoor Pursuits
Instructor

Company:
Freelance

Qualifications:
Degree in French and
Russian

Languages have opened up job opportunities for this Outdoor Pursuits Instructor and feature in her plans for the future.

What is your experience with languages?

I studied French at school and began Russian as a beginner at university. My dad encouraged me to pursue languages; he speaks fluent German and some French too. Studying languages at university gave me the opportunity to spend some time abroad. I studied for a semester in Voronezh in Russia and spent a semester in La Réunion, a French island in the Indian Ocean. When I finished university, I volunteered with a charity in Russia working with street kids and orphans.

How do languages impact your current job?

I spend the summer with groups of French visitors on walking holidays in Scotland. I am driver, walking guide, translator and anything else that is required, so I use my French on a daily basis! I hope to start doing the same with Russian visitors too. I spent a few winters working in ski resorts in the Alps where it's not essential to have languages but you get better jobs if you do.

I am currently doing an MSc in Translation. My plan is to get freelance translating work to fit around my current job, and if I need to reduce my outdoor work in the future as my body starts to give up, I can increase translating.

Susan's advice:

- Volunteering abroad can be a great way to improve your language skills and get some experience for your CV.
- Languages can help you get better jobs within sport and the tourist industry, especially if you want to work abroad.
- A passion and lots of experience in outdoor pursuits can open doors to jobs in this field, but it's a good idea to work towards qualifications to improve your employability.
- Don't put all your eggs in the one basket, and plan for the future! Languages are allowing me to plan for a career when I am not able to work in sport any more.

More information:

Susan's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltsusanyoung

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in sport
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/content/jobs-in-sport

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

Facts

Language Facts

Myth: Everyone speaks English

Only 6% of the world's population speak English as a first language and 75% don't speak any English at all. English is not enough.

Myth: The only jobs with languages are teaching and translating

The UK needs more people in the workplace who can add an understanding of languages to their occupational skills.

Myth: Everyone in business speaks English

There can be great advantages for British businesses if employees can communicate in another language. More than a third of UK businesses value language skills among their employees in order to build relations with overseas suppliers, customers and other contacts.

Myth: The languages on offer in Scottish schools are not relevant

The major European languages, in particular French and German, continue to be the languages most in demand from UK firms with Spanish and Chinese seen as increasingly valuable.

Myth: You need to be fluent for languages to be of any use

A little language can go a long way. Conversational language skills can contribute to your career and employees who can demonstrate intercultural skills are of real business value in the workplace.

What subject can...

- increase your confidence?
- improve your employability?
- give you a global outlook?
- help you develop good study skills?
- improve your first language?
- give you a head start for learning other languages?
- stretch your brain and give your memory a boost?

Languages!

References available from:
bit.ly/languagesforyourfuture

SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages
Leading on Languages

www.scilt.org.uk

scilt@strath.ac.uk

Languages help a range of people every day in their careers and personal lives

Lots of jobs need languages and some of them are included in this pack. You can see more examples on the SCILT website - bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles.

SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages

Leading on Languages

www.scilt.org.uk

www.strath.ac.uk/ciss

If I'm selling to you, I speak your language. But if I'm buying, dann müssen Sie Deutsch sprechen.

*Willy Brandt
Former German Chancellor*

