

5 WORK SKILLS LANGUAGES WILL GIVE YOU



COMMUNICATION



In school: You'll have to work with a partner for a lot of language learning, especially spoken dialogues. Over time you'll become more open and confident in holding a conversation. You'll learn to express yourself through body language and understand what other people mean even when...

CRITICAL THINKING



In school: You'll develop an understanding of different issues in the country you study and be able to compare them to the UK. You'll be encouraged to think about why approaches and perspectives are different, and question the information you're presented with.

INDEPENDENCE



In school: Learning a language encourages you to develop your own sense of independence as you'll have to use your initiative to practice grammar and remember vocabulary.

ADAPTABILITY



In school: Learning a language encourages you to be adaptable, staying open to new ideas and being flexible enough to respond to any challenges that come up – like figuring out ways to remember particularly complicated grammar.



RESOURCEFULNESS



In school: If you don't know a word or phrase, you have to be able to explain things in other terms. Since you can't always find a translation, it's good to learn how to be understood through other means.



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Sources: For source data please request the information by emailing data@successatschool.org



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HOLA

WHERE CAN

LANGUAGES

TAKE YOU?

GUTEN TAG



BONJOUR



ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Almost 200,000 people work in Advertising & Marketing in the UK. **Jobs increased by a third between 2011 and 2016!**

Career paths: Event planner, market research, sales executive



BANKING & FINANCE

Technology is becoming increasingly important across this industry – but **62% of employers say the digital skills gap is widening**, more than in any other industry.

Career paths: xxx



EDUCATION

Primary school and nursery teachers have one of the **highest rates of job satisfaction** in the UK. Over 450,000 teachers work all across the UK.

Career paths: English as foreign language teacher, languages teacher



HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

When it comes to jobs, tourism is the UK's fastest-growing sector. It's also the **third largest employer**, accounting for nearly one in 10 jobs in the UK.

Career paths: Tour guide, translator, travel agent



LAW

91% of first degree law graduates find work and/or further study within six months of graduation. There's also a demand for those with knowledge in online law.

Career paths: Barrister, paralegal, solicitor



PUBLISHING & MEDIA

The Publishing & Media industry employs 430,000. Jobs in film, TV, video, radio and photography are growing rapidly, with **17% more jobs now than in 2011.**

Career paths: Broadcast assistant, presenter, subtitler



SOCIAL CARE

Social workers, care workers and other Social Care professionals help vulnerable children and adults in a vast industry which **employs over 1.8 million people** across the UK.

Career paths: Care home assistant, support worker, youth worker

WANT MORE CAREERS ADVICE?



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Data sources: https://www.engineeringuk.com/media/356/enguk_report_2017_synopsis.pdf; <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/news/31-05-2018/nr247-higher-education-student-statistics/subjects> (Fig. 15); <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployee/press/datasets/employmentbyindustryemp3> (May 2016); No of new rail jobs: <https://successatschool.org/advicetools/947/careers-in-rail-VRP/>; <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployee/press/datasets/employmentbyindustryemp3> (May 2016); No of businesses: <https://www.statistics.gov.uk/377/careers-in-education-industry> (in the table); <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BSGService?social=14407&lng=en> (UK 2011 roadmap reference here); No of workers: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork>; <https://www.aetneng.com/assets/default/files/pdfs-of-see-future.pdf> (p.4)

Careers in Modern Foreign Languages

It is amazing how far studying modern foreign languages can get you. Not only does it give you an opportunity to learn to write and speak the language(s) fluently, but it also offers the chance to explore a broad range of other mediums including literature, philology (the study of literary texts), film and translation.

The diversity of modern foreign languages makes it an enriching and rewarding choice, especially in an increasingly global world where additional language skills are essential for businesses to thrive.

Learning a language develops confidence, communication and interpersonal skills, which are all invaluable and transferable assets to the working world.

Jobs directly related to Modern Foreign Languages include:

- Academic researcher
- Interpreter
- Political risk analyst
- Secondary school teacher
- Translator

Jobs where Modern Foreign Languages would be really useful include:

- Broadcast journalist
- Detective
- Diplomatic service officer
- Education consultant
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Patent examiner
- Private tutor
- Publishing rights manager
- Sales executive
- Tour manager

Typical employers

Some modern language graduates work on a self-employed basis as interpreters or translators. However, many others are employed by companies who trade or offer services internationally, or to non-English speaking customers and suppliers.

Language graduates are therefore employed by a wide variety of employers and sectors, including:

- business services
- charity work
- engineering
- media
- museums and libraries
- public administration
- teaching
- tourism
- transport and logistics.

Skills for your CV

Studying a modern language degree will help you to become a good communicator (both orally and in writing), and will also give you the skills to:

- effectively gather, assess and interpret information
- lead and participate in discussions and groups
- organise your workload to meet deadlines
- develop opinions and propose ideas
- read pages of text and pick out the essential points.

Spending a year abroad during your degree helps you to develop cultural awareness, adapt to new and changing surroundings and to work both in a team and independently.

In an increasingly global jobs market, these skills are highly valued by employers, whichever career you go into.

Studying modern foreign languages at university – topics you may cover:

- Academic skills
- Applications of linguistics
- Elements of linguistics - sound, structure and meaning
- Narrative and cultural identity
- Reading culture
- History and politics
- Managing research and learning
- Conflicts, crisis and identities
- Culture, power and resistance
- Year Abroad Research Project (YARP)
- Audio-visual translation

Famous people who studied Modern Foreign Languages:

- Paula Radcliffe – the long-distance runner has a degree in modern European studies from Loughborough University.
- Julia Donaldson – studied drama and French at the University of Bristol before writing award-winning children's books such as The Gruffalo.
- Huw Edwards – the presenter of BBC News at Ten studied French at Cardiff University.
- Fiona Bruce – the newsreader and TV presenter read French and Italian at the University of Oxford.