

Language Ambassadors

Profile



CLARE GREENHALGH

Occupation: English Assistant

Company: University of Nantes

Degree/University:
BA French and German, Cardiff University

Languages spoken (native and learned):

English, French, German (and I studied Italian for a year)

“Learning another language is one of the most fascinating things you will ever do and many people I’ve met have told me that not carrying on with a language is one of their biggest regrets. The assumption that everyone speaks English is far from the truth and knowing a foreign language not only means you can communicate with others across the globe, but it opens you up to many new cultures and experiences. Professionally, being a native English speaker with at least one other language makes you a very desirable candidate for any job, not just teaching or translating, but in all sorts of fields.”

“I have always loved languages and although I now hold English conversation classes for French university students, my knowledge of French is invaluable. I couldn’t live in France and communicate with people daily without my languages and I certainly wouldn’t have got this job without them.

“Knowing other languages actually makes your native language far more interesting which is why I enjoy teaching English just as much as using foreign languages (especially comparing cultural differences!) and being able to hold a conversation with ease and make friends in a foreign country is a very satisfying feeling! When a language becomes more than just a school subject, it becomes so much more enjoyable and it’s great knowing that whilst I’m working in another country, I can soak up even more of the language simply by watching a film or reading a magazine.

“I know that in the future, whether I decide to become a teacher or not, my experience with foreign languages will be a great asset.”

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