What did you study?

I studied French and German at University. I spent my Year Abroad in Soissons, North of France.

What did you learn during your year abroad and as an au pair?

Lots of social skills: I was meeting lots of new people so I was always watching and learning what was polite, how I should be doing things etc. I obviously used my language skills and I learned a lot about looking after children too of course.

How has this affected your career choice?

You will hear a lot about how hard it is to find a job in the UK but having a language really opens up options. I've applied for companies here and in Europe, something I couldn't have done without my degree.

What inspired you to learn French & German?

I loved both countries and I liked that I could do something lots of people around me couldn't. I would love to learn Japanese as well!

Best thing about learning another language?

Making amazing friends from lots of places and being able to tell people off if I hear them saying English people don't speak any languages!

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How useful is it to have another language in your daily life?

As soon as you have at least one language under your belt, you will notice its presence everywhere. I work in a shop at the moment and have served customers in their native tongue, meaning they bought more, which was great.

Best aspect about being an au pair?

I was lucky to have a family I loved, but my confidence grew a lot as well.

One piece of advice...

Fear of making mistakes is normal but you can only improve if you just speak!