



خوش آمدید [Khush Aamdeed]
My name is Faraan, I work for the
British Council and can speak Urdu
and Arabic.



What did you study?

I studied Arabic and Economics at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies), which is part of the University of London.

What skills do you use in your job?

I often have to translate as well as keep up to date with local news reports. I also have to build relationships with co-workers and knowing their language is a great, fun way to make friends.

How many languages do you speak?

I speak three languages:
Urdu, Arabic and English.



What is the best aspect about your job?

Being able to travel to different countries and speak with people in their own language. It gives you an entirely new perspective!

What encouraged/inspired you to learn the languages you speak?

Realising that not everyone speaks English! Especially having travelled to other countries and realising how little English is spoken away from tourist areas inspired me to learn Arabic and Urdu.

How has studying languages affected your career choice?

It has opened up the possibilities of working with other cultures and communities, especially in the Middle East.

Are there other languages you would like to learn?

I am attempting to relearn French, which I have forgotten since GCSE, and would love to learn Spanish next, so that I can travel to Spain and Latin America.

One piece of advice...

Don't be overwhelmed by not being fluent quickly. Even basic conversation can get you very far in life!