

Hola

ابحرم

สวัสดี

IS IT JUST
ABOUT
LANGUAGE? ✨

ようこそ

Hallo

Merci!

COVERING LETTER

WHY DO LANGUAGES MATTER?[★]

Language and Careers Classroom Activity Pack



Dear Language Teacher,

Within this pack of posters, postcards and activity booklets, you will find a pre-designed classroom activity for Year 9 students.

The activity can take about 60 minutes to complete. This can be spread over one or two sessions. It can also be run as an entire group session in 30 minutes. It aims to encourage students to think about languages, careers and the skills they have already gained through learning a language. The activity is designed by the University of East Anglia and meets the following Gatsby Benchmarks:

- Learning from career and labour market information (Benchmark 2)
- Linking curriculum learning to careers (Benchmark 4)
- Encounters with further and higher education. (Benchmark 7)

Ideally, students should complete this activity in small groups to allow discussions to take place.

Please find overleaf a sample lesson plan.

FURTHER RESOURCES

BRITISH ACADEMY PROJECT ON LANGUAGES AND EMPLOYABILITY
www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/born-global

LLAS SEARCHABLE RESOURCE OF 700 REASONS TO STUDY LANGUAGES
www.llas.ac.uk/700reasons/700reasons.html

PROSPECTS LANGUAGES CAREER ADVICE WITH INFORMATION ON SKILLS
www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/modern-languages

TARGET LANGUAGES CAREER ADVICE WITH INFORMATION ON SKILLS
targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/degree-subjects-your-options/301040-what-can-i-do-with-a-modern-languages-degree

INFORMATION ON UEA LANGUAGE DEGREES
www.uea.ac.uk/lcs/undergraduate-degrees



LESSON PLAN

MATERIALS:

- Activity booklet, one per group.
- For making posters: coloured card or paper, white paper, pencils, pens
- or crayons for colouring, scissors (optional: pictures to collage and glue).
- The activity pack will require interaction with the UEA posters and postcards.*
- Students will need access to the internet to conduct market research on careers for this activity.

1 5 MINUTES WARM-UP EXERCISE

Separate students into small groups. Ask the question: **why do languages matter?**

Give a few minutes for students to discuss their response with their group. Be prepared for the response, we should not bother with languages. This response presents a good opportunity as it can be challenged over the course of the activity. Note down some of the responses on a white board and then inform the students you will come back to these points at the end of the class. Hand out the activity booklets and ask students to use these to help them with the activity.

2 10 MINUTES ACTIVITY 1: WHAT ARE SKILLS?

For this activity, students need to explore what the word 'skills' means, what skills are.

The activity booklet will take them through this. It has helpful pointers about what skills are and asks students to discuss key technical and soft skills in their groups.

3 20 MINUTES ACTIVITY 2: POSTCARDS

For this activity students must read one or more of the postcards, identify the job promoted on the postcard and brainstorm the skills needed for that job (a specific skill is already included on the postcard).

Distribute or rotate the UEA postcards across the groups*. Students will need access to the internet to research the jobs and skills needed. In the last 5 minutes, ask the groups to answer the following question: which skills can you gain when learning a language? Give time for the groups to discuss this and ask each group to contribute one skill. (FOR A SHORTER SESSION: run activity with the entire group).

4 20 MINUTES ACTIVITY 3: UNDERSTANDING MY SKILLS

This activity asks students to think about what makes them special, what they are good at.

For example, good with computer games, singing, maths, cooking, sport etc. What skills do they have to be good at for this activity? Students then design a poster highlighting the skills they need to learn a language and the skills they gain from learning a language. They can complete the poster as a group and these can then be displayed in the language classroom. This activity ends by asking students to search these skills plus language jobs on Google to see which jobs come up (i.e. communication and language jobs). (FOR A SHORTER SESSION: run activity with the entire group).

5 5 MINUTES CONCLUDING THE SESSION

Ask students (whole class or in groups) to think again about the question asked at the beginning of the activity: **why should we bother with languages?**

Have their answers changed from their original responses? Follow up with these questions: which careers interested them from the postcards? What do they think are the main skills they have acquired through learning a language?

*If you would like further physical copies of the postcards or of the activity booklet, and/or a PowerPoint presentation of the resources, please contact us at ppl.schooloffice@uea.ac.uk with your name and school postal address.

We hope these materials will be useful to you and will help inspire more linguists. Please do send us any feedback you have.

POSTCARDS



LANGUAGE AND
COMMUNICATION
STUDIES

ARIS ERDOGDU



**SPANISH WITH
TRANSLATION AND MEDIA**

“I work as a Communications Manager for an organisation that promotes DAB+ digital radio. I oversee all external communications and produce a weekly newsletter that goes out to over 5,000 members. Today, I drafted a press release on the uptake of DAB+ across Europe, and worked on putting together a comms plan for an upcoming event. I also work freelance for a football translation and interpreting agency. I recently went to the Arsenal training ground to interpret an interview with a new Greek player.”



**LEARNING A LANGUAGE
GIVES YOU PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

RISK-TAKING

HOW?

You develop your risk-taking skills when 'trying out' vocabulary or phrases you have recently learnt in your speaking/writing – even when you know it's not perfect.

How Aris takes risks in his job

“Last month, I attended the Arab Radio and TV Festival in Tunis to give a presentation on the rollout status of DAB+ worldwide. I took a risk by giving a presentation on digital radio to over 50 participants, including broadcasters, regulators and journalists from various countries in North Africa and the Middle East. I was the only employee from my company attending the event and, therefore, the sole person responsible for maintaining and building on the reputation of our organisation.”



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University of East Anglia

LANGUAGE AND
COMMUNICATION
STUDIES

CLIFFORD CHUNG



JAPANESE AND MANAGEMENT

“I am now the manager at Mineichi Europe, a food exporter based in London specialising in the Asian region. Recently, I was sent to Tokyo to help a client host a booth at one of the largest food exhibitions in Asia. I was in client meetings with potential buyers from everywhere around the world. I was invited to the British Embassy in Japan for a networking reception with representatives from companies and government sectors.”



**LEARNING A LANGUAGE
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BEING A GOOD COMMUNICATOR AND LISTENER

HOW?

Having to concentrate in order to understand the language you are learning when you hear it makes you a better listener as a whole, as you learn to focus on the important message. Likewise, learning how to express yourself clearly in a second language has a beneficial impact on how clearly you express yourself in your first language.

How Clifford uses being a good communicator and listener in his job

“In my work, I am the middle man between suppliers and clients. Being a good communicator and listener helps me understand what everyone from different backgrounds needs and desires. It is crucial for me to maintain a good relationship to keep everyone comfortable and keep them informed.”



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LANGUAGE AND
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CHRISTINA O'CONNOR



**JAPANESE FROM BEGINNERS
WITH TRANSLATION AND MEDIA**

“I work in the charity sector for Child.org and just switched from running awesome immersive events in East Anglia to supporting newbies to the sector. Today, I came up with ideas for a My Crazy Ex-Girlfriend singalong (which I have never seen), discussed the many benefits of mass participation events for fundraising, and learned about the charity’s Baby Box Program being set up to help new mothers and babies in Kenya (which is just amazing!).”



**LEARNING A LANGUAGE
GIVES YOU PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

PUBLIC SPEAKING

HOW?

When learning a language you will practise speaking in front of an audience in your target language. If you can do it in another language, you can easily do it in your first language!

How Christina uses public speaking in her job

“As part of my role, I facilitate training. This means stepping out in front of 100 people, engaging them, and ensuring they understand what is being discussed, with little prior knowledge of who I will be facing. I need to be able to read a room, adjust the style and speed of my speech, and also to speak clearly and confidently no matter the question asked. Once you have stood in front of a class giving a speech on environmental issues in Japanese, or worked to make yourself understood when you want to find lentils in a shop in Japan, addressing 100 English speakers seems pretty simple in comparison.”



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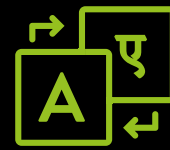
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LANGUAGE AND
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CHLOË SPREADBOROUGH



**FRENCH AND GERMAN WITH
INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATION**

“I am an In-house Translator and Proof-reader at a translation agency in Hamburg, which was my dream job and I love it. Today, I proof-read a few translations by freelancers, checked the work of a new recruit and gave him feedback on his translation, and dealt with feedback from customers. German customers have a high level of English and often have questions about the text which leads to a better product.”



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CULTURAL AGILITY

HOW?

Learning languages develops your ability to adapt and communicate flexibly and comfortably with different people in different environments and cultures.

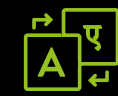
How Chloë uses cultural agility in her job

“Translation involves more than just relating the words on the page in a new language. It is important to understand the culture of the people writing the text and convey their message to the readers of the translation in a way that has the same feel and significance. It is very exciting to be an invisible mediator between languages and cultures. For example, in a recent marketing text which used a popular German fictional character known for his physical and moral strength, I used Superman to convey the same message.”



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GEORGINA POTTER



**FRENCH AND GERMAN WITH
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“I work in International Executive Search recruiting for senior level positions. Every day I speak with people in multiple territories in EMEA (Europe, Middle East & Africa), and further afield, presenting new career opportunities and helping develop and accomplish career aspirations.”



**LEARNING A LANGUAGE
GIVES YOU PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

HOW?

Being precise in your writing of foreign languages, spelling unfamiliar words and checking grammar to ensure your work is accurate helps develop this skill.

How Georgina uses attention to detail in her job

“Attention to detail is imperative in my role as an Executive Search Consultant. Every piece of documentation we share with clients and candidates is checked meticulously before leaving our office to ensure we are maintaining the high bar we set ourselves. This attention to detail is what sets our business apart from our competitors.”



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LANGUAGE AND
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JADE



**SPANISH FROM BEGINNERS
AND FRENCH WITH TRANSLATION
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“I have worked as a Modern Languages Teacher and now work for the Royal Air Force. I am training to be a specialist Weapons System Operator (Linguist). My day began with battle physical training followed by Arabic lessons. I am learning Arabic from beginner to near-native level over the course of 18 months. I will soon put my skills into practice with immersion training in Jordan.”



**LEARNING A LANGUAGE
GIVES YOU PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

RESILIENCE

HOW?

Coping with the challenges of working, studying and living with people of different cultures gives you a wealth of experience which helps you deal with all kinds of challenges.

How Jade uses resilience in her job

“Last year, I completed a wilderness course to develop and enhance survival skills. We were taught how to survive with little equipment, create a shelter and find sustenance. Following a phase of isolation, where my new-found skills were put to the test, I persevered through arduous times to overcome the difficulties encountered. Such resilience shows that I can survive alone and serves to demonstrate that I am capable of more than I think!”



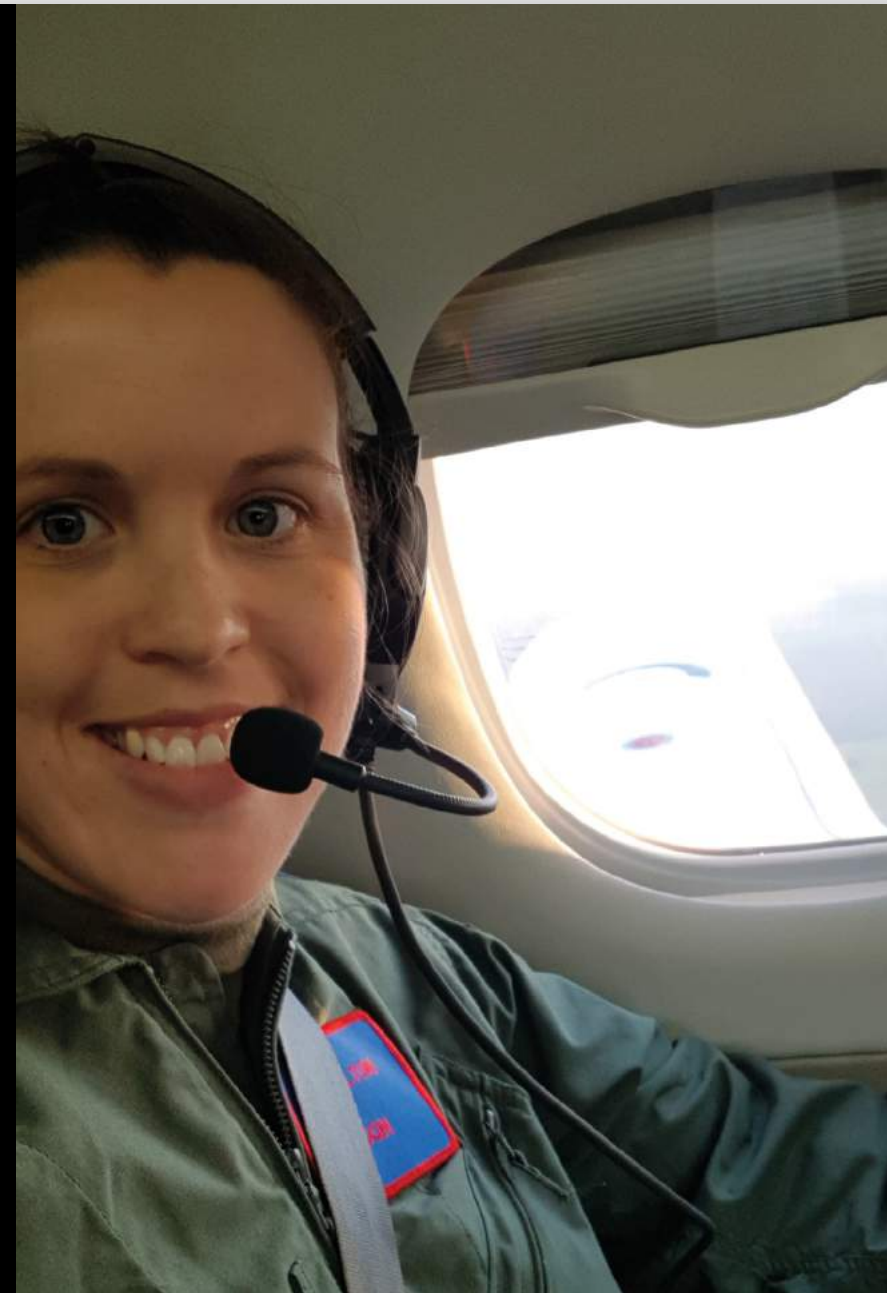
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LANGUAGE AND
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LUKE JACKSON



**FRENCH AND SPANISH WITH
TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING**

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GIVES YOU PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

EMPATHY AND DIVERSITY AWARENESS

HOW?

Learning languages develops your awareness and understanding of differences between cultures. It enables you to be flexible, open to, and understanding of others.

How Luke uses empathy and diversity awareness in his job

“My experience of travelling, gained through my degree and beyond, enables me to empathise with tourists discovering new locations. Being multilingual and culturally aware gives me skills to act as a ‘bridge’ between host communities and tourists, helping people understand difference and other ways of approaching an issue and seeing the world. This is crucial as cultural misunderstandings, misalignment of expectation, and language barriers account for most of the issues we face.”



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LANGUAGE AND
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MARLON HALL

FRENCH



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PROBLEM- SOLVING

HOW?

By using strategies to understand words and structures that you have never come across before, you develop your problem-solving skills.

How Marlon solves problems in his job

“I have to resolve all kinds of problems on a daily basis. These range from logistical problems to problems faced during interpreting sessions. For example, helping a Spanish woman overcome a panic attack during a medical consultation, or managing communication during a heated marriage counselling session between a Colombian woman and her monolingual English-speaking husband.”



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MAE HARRIS



FRENCH AND SPANISH

“I have worked as a Recruitment Resourcer, Spanish-speaking PA/Office Manager for an international mannequin manufacturer and a Course Coordinator for an IB revision course provider. My job now is a Primary School Teacher in South East London. Today, I taught (amongst other things) 29 six and seven-year olds how to divide amounts by 2, 3 and 4. I also took on the temporary roles of social worker, parent, counsellor and manager.”



**LEARNING A LANGUAGE
GIVES YOU PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

ADAPTABILITY

HOW?

When you communicate with people who speak other languages or spend time with them in another country/ culture, then you are developing your adaptability to new situations. This helps you become flexible and good at negotiation.

How Mae uses adaptability in her job

“In my job I have to constantly adapt: adapt my teaching to meet a huge range of children’s needs, adapt behaviour management strategies, and adapt to working with different colleagues and external agencies. No day, hour, minute is the same being a teacher. The subject knowledge gained from my degree has also hugely helped me to adapt to teaching grammar across primary school ages.”



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YASMIN KOVAL



FRENCH WITH BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

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ABILITY TO ABSORB AND UNDERSTAND COMPLEX INFORMATION

HOW?

Memorising and using new vocabulary, grammatical rules and structures, and grasping the main idea in a text helps you develop this skill.

How Yasmin absorbs and understands complex information in her job

“In my role, I have to work with complexity on a regular basis. Within a single event project, I have to deal with a multitude of streams, workflows and groups. For example, World Tour London, Salesforce’s yearly customer and prospect event attracts over 11,000 attendees, with four major keynote sessions, multi speakers, 100+ of hands-on technology demos, 80+ breakout sessions, plus a separate stream with dedicated content for our senior CxO executives.”



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POSTERS

WHAT COULD YOU DO WITH LANGUAGES? ✨


International Banker
 Web Developer `</>`
 International Correspondent
 Education Consultant
 Interpreter
 Social Media Manager
 Diplomat
 Weapons System Operator (Linguist)
 Detective Constable
 Trilingual Investigations Analyst
 Tour Manager
 Freelance Translator
 Flight Attendant
 English as a Foreign Language Teacher
Video Game Adaptor
 Broadcast Journalist
 IT Manager
 Travel Consultant
 Marketing Executive
 Crisis Negotiator
 European Commission Administrator
 International Sales Manager
 International Aid Worker
 Language Teacher
 Intercultural Mediator
 Investment Analyst
 Solicitor
 Fashion Buyer
 Software Consultant

Visit our website for UEA language opportunities: www.uea.ac.uk/lcs


 @Languages_UEA
  @Languages_UEA
  /UEALCS


LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES
 University of East Anglia


WHY DO LANGUAGES MATTER? ✨




75% of the world's population speaks no English at all




You can become a global citizen: travelling, working, collaborating, and communicating with other cultures




Language barriers are everywhere: linguists, translators, and intercultural experts are more necessary than ever



You can earn more and work in more places



Gain valuable perspective on your own language and culture



You can increase your brain capacity and memory

Visit our website for UEA language opportunities: www.uea.ac.uk/lcs

 @Languages_UEA
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  /UEALCS


LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES
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IS IT JUST ABOUT LANGUAGE? ✨

No, it isn't.

Studying languages also develops these skills:


















- Public speaking
- Problem-solving
- Cultural agility
- Adaptability
- Attention to detail
- Resilience
- Risk-taking
- Empathy and diversity awareness

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WHAT HAVE THEY DONE WITH LANGUAGES? ✨

 Christina Staff Trainer Charity Sector	 Marlon Interpreter	 Jade Weapons System Operator (Linguist)	 Yasmin Head of Events
 Aris Communications Manager	 Matthew Software Consultant	 Marina Global Marketing Director	 Luke Tourism Promoter
 Chloë In-house Translator	 Clifford Export Manager	 Laurence Journalist	 Nicola Retail Manager
 Ella Regulatory Compliance Officer	 Mae Teacher	 Georgina HR International Executive Recruiter	

Visit our website for UEA language opportunities: www.uea.ac.uk/lcs



ACTIVITY BOOKLET

WHY DO LANGUAGES MATTER?

ACTIVITY BOOKLET



ACTIVITY 1

WHAT ARE SKILLS?

Here are the top 5 transferable skills employers are looking for.

- 1 INITIATIVE
- 2 PLANNING
- 3 TEAMWORK
- 4 COMMUNICATION
- 5 PROBLEM-SOLVING

Skills are things you learn, that help you do other things.

You might pick them up through work, study or activities you do in your spare time. There are some skills which are specific to a type of activity, like knowing how to drive a forklift truck or repair a broken bone, and there are some skills which we call 'transferable skills', which can be used in any type of job.

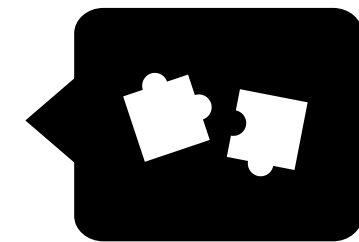
When you're applying for jobs, your skills will help convince employers that you're the right person for the job.

How do you use these skills when learning a language?

Discuss this question in your group.

ACTIVITY 2

MATCHING SKILLS AND JOBS



Take a look at the postcards shared by your teacher.

These postcards are written by students who studied languages at the University of East Anglia in Norwich. Each postcard represents a journey from being a student like you to succeeding in the global workplace.

Pick one or more of the postcards and identify the skills discussed.

Can you find out more about the job highlighted on the postcard?

Use the internet to research this.

“WHY DO LANGUAGES MATTER? EVERYONE SPEAKS ENGLISH!”



Lingua franca means a language that is adopted as a common language between speakers whose native languages are different



75% of the world's population speaks no English at all



Nelson Mandela said that if you talk to people in a language they understand, it goes to their head, if you talk to them in their language, it goes to their heart

In part this is true; almost two billion people world-wide are learning English as a second language today, and English is certainly the world's lingua franca (for now at least).

But this does not mean we should stop learning other languages. Learning a language can help develop your own skills for the workplace.

It can also enable you to travel the world, experience new cultures, and meet new people.

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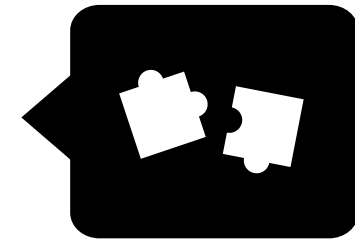
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ACTIVITY 3

MY SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Have a think about your own skills.

What makes you special? What do you do well? Can you do something no-one else can?

Create a word cloud of your skills for a poster.



- 1 **CULTURAL AGILITY:**
The ability to work respectfully, knowledgeably and effectively with a wide range of people from different cultures.
- 2 **EMPATHY:**
Being able to understand others, especially people who have a different background to you.
- 3 **ABILITY TO ABSORB AND UNDERSTAND COMPLEX INFORMATION**
- 4 **PROBLEM-SOLVING**
- 5 **PUBLIC SPEAKING**
- 6 **RESILIENCE**
- 7 **RISK-TAKING**
- 8 **ATTENTION TO DETAIL**
- 9 **ADAPTABILITY**
- 10 **BEING A GOOD LISTENER AND COMMUNICATOR**

In the box on the left are 10 skills studying languages develop especially well.

Can you give examples of how you can demonstrate or have demonstrated these skills?

Add these to your poster and your examples of these skills in use.

SO WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER WITH LANGUAGES?

Remember, learning a language helps you to:



Develop flexibility, adaptability, maturity, and awareness of other cultures



Increase your brain capacity and your memory



Expand your earning potential and multiply the places you can work



Become a global citizen through your ability to travel, work in, and communicate with other cultures



Be able to work collaboratively with teams of people from a range of backgrounds and countries



Be different, speaking a foreign language to whatever level makes you stand out from the crowd

VERY SIMPLY, LANGUAGES HELP YOU SUCCEED.

No matter what job you would like to do, or if you just want to travel the world, languages give you the skills to adapt to many different situations. It's exciting too. As the postcards of our language graduates show, you never know where a language will take you.

WHAT IS A GLOBAL CITIZEN?

A global citizen is someone who feels connected, part of a world community and works to contribute to this society. Global citizens see the world as a whole, value diversity and understand different perspectives.

Visit UCAS www.ucas.com to find out more about language degrees in the languages you study at school, but also in languages you have never studied and can start from beginners at university. For example, you can start a Japanese degree from beginners at the University of East Anglia.

Go to www.uea.ac.uk/cs/undergraduate-degrees to find out more about UEA's language degrees.

