

Director of Travel Industry Sales



Name: **Christina Deroche**
Profession: **Director of travel industry sales, Hotel & Tourism**
Number of years in this line of work: **20**
Native Language: **English**
Other Language(s): **French, Spanish**

1) What languages do you know? How did you learn them? (At home, At school, etc.)
I learned Spanish and French at school

2) What is your profession?
Director of Sales at a Hotel

3) Describe a "typical" day as a Director of Sales. How do you use your languages?
I do not use my languages much in my current job but have used them extensively in my previous jobs at airlines, a foreign tour company and the LA Olympic Committee - all very foreign language environments.

4) What do you enjoy about it?
It is crucial in today's world that we be able to communicate effectively in more than one language. Having a good understanding in our world community.

5) What language do you think in? English.

6) What do you think helped you the most in mastering the foreign/second language?
Never be afraid to make mistakes! You need to speak in the other language(s) and learn from the experience.

7) What opportunities have knowing another language provided in your career? Otherwise?
I worked for Air France in Philadelphia and I was the sole liaison between the crew and the ground staff every day! I also worked for Iberia Airlines of Spain and I led tour groups throughout the country. Without knowing Spanish it would have been impossible.

8) If you had the time to learn another language now, what language would you choose?
Chinese or Arabic. These are the most vital languages for our current world situation.

9) How do you think your life would have turned out if you had never learned a second language?
I would not be as broad minded or as tolerant as I am. I have traveled to many different countries and knowing languages has allowed me to better understand the places I have visited.

10) In your opinion, are there more career opportunities for people who speak multiple languages?
There are many more opportunities. The more languages you speak - the more the world is open to you.