

IT

Scott Morrison



Job title:

Managing Vice President of Communications Research

Company:

Gartner Inc.

Qualifications:

Degree in Electronic Systems; MBA

I regularly visit customers in France and use French to speak to clients in Quebec. Because I have been open to learning other languages and living abroad, I know I can work anywhere in the world.

Scott's advice:

- Many global professionals speak English but they will always welcome working in their own language. Learn their language and give yourself the edge.
- For a wider range of opportunities for your future, learn a language. It can give you confidence to live and work abroad.
- You should never stop learning, but the earlier you start, the easier it is to get the hang of languages.

This Technology Analyst knows that when building relationships with clients abroad it really helps to speak their language.

What are your experiences with languages?

I speak, read and write French and German fluently and can read Spanish.

From my first experiences inter-railing around Europe I discovered that it really helps to speak the local language! While I was at university studying engineering I did a practical placement in a company in Germany. I was immersed in the language, including slang that they didn't teach me in school. Working in an office in which 90% of the staff were German meant I had to ramp up quickly!

How do languages impact your current job?

My whole career has benefitted from being open to languages and to new cultural experiences. I use French a lot. In France, there's an expectation that you'll speak French, and sometimes I spend a whole day presenting in French to customers in Paris.

More information:

Scott's full job profile
bit.ly/sciltscottmorrison

Other careers with languages
bit.ly/sciltjobprofiles

Studying languages beyond school
www.scilt.org.uk/BeyondSchool.aspx

A career in IT
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/the-it-industry

My World of Work
www.myworldofwork.co.uk/

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