

TOP TRUMPS

LANGUAGE CAREERS

How to play the game:

Top Trumps - Language Careers consists of 28 career cards. Each card has 6 icons, with a corresponding points score. Shuffle and deal all the cards face down.

The first player reads a score from one of the categories on their uppermost card. All other players read their scores for the same category. The player with the highest score wins and places everyone's card from that round at the bottom of their pile. Then the winner chooses a category. If two or more cards share the top value, all players current cards are placed in the middle and the the same player must pick again from the next card.

The person with all the cards at the end wins.



TOP TRUMPS

LANGUAGE CAREERS

Card icons explained:

There are 6 categories: Study/Training, Physical Effort, Brainpower, Travel, Computer Skill, and Average Salary. Each category is given a score. Please note that these scores are not definitive judgments of each career and should be used as guidance only.



Study/Training

Higher education needed after compulsory education.



Physical Effort

How much physical labour is required.



Brainpower

How much mental effort is required.



Travel

Abroad, conferences, fieldwork.



Computer Skill

Working with computer databases/general IT.



Average Salary

Based on UK yearly averages.

SKI INSTRUCTOR



Study/Training: 10 weeks



Physical Effort: 90%



Brainpower: 40%



Travel: 60%



Computer Skill: 10%



Average Salary: £40k



A ski instructor is a trained professional who coaches individuals on how to ski or improve their skiing technique. This often involves assessing the skill level of clients, designing custom lesson plans, demonstrating technique, and ensuring safety on the slopes. They need to have strong communication skills, patience, and the ability to work with people of all ages and skills. Deep knowledge of skiing techniques, equipment, weather conditions, and safety measures is important. Understanding multiple languages boosts their career prospects as it means they can work abroad and serve clients from all over the world.



JOURNALIST



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 20%



Brainpower: 40%



Travel: 60%



Computer Skill: 70%



Average Salary: £27k



A journalist researches, writes, edits, and files news stories, features, and articles. Their pieces are used on television or radio, in magazines, journals, and newspapers, in print and online. They need deep knowledge of the English language and knowing another language is greatly beneficial for this role, as it enables them to communicate better with wider audiences. Language skills demonstrate strong written and verbal communication skills, which are crucial for this role. Persistence and determination are also important skills that linguists develop.



SALES EXECUTIVE



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 10%



Brainpower: 65%



Travel: 30%



Computer Skill: 80%



Average Salary: £37k



As part of the sales department of a business, a sales executive offers goods and services to customers for profit. Their main responsibilities are to approach prospective customers, win new clients, and maintain good business relationships to help achieve sales targets. They need skills such as persistence and determination, whilst being flexible and open to change. Learning languages gives them the confidence and the communication skills needed for sales, and being bilingual enables them to globalise their networks and sales.



PUBLIC RELATIONS



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 5%



Brainpower: 80%



Travel: 20%



Computer Skill: 70%



Average Salary: £24k



A public relations officer manages the public image and reputation of organisations and individuals. They respond to public events, make press releases/speeches, update promotional publications and implement PR strategies. They have a thorough knowledge of media production and communication and a knowledge of industry trends. Language skills would benefit this role, as they allow the PR officer to converse with international partners and understand cultural differences when working for international companies.



FLIGHT ATTENDANT



Study/Training: 10 weeks



Physical Effort: 60%



Brainpower: 40%



Travel: 99%



Computer Skill: 20%



Average Salary: £23k



A flight attendant takes care of the safety, security, and comfort of the passengers before, during, and after a flight. They provide information and guidance regarding general queries or safety concerns, and assistance for customers on board the aircraft. Their duties include conducting the safety check before take-off, checking tickets and greeting customers, preparing and serving food and drinks, and making announcements. Being multilingual enables them to communicate with passengers from other countries and provide the same level of service across the board.



INTERPRETER



Study/Training: 4 years



Physical Effort: 20%



Brainpower: 80%



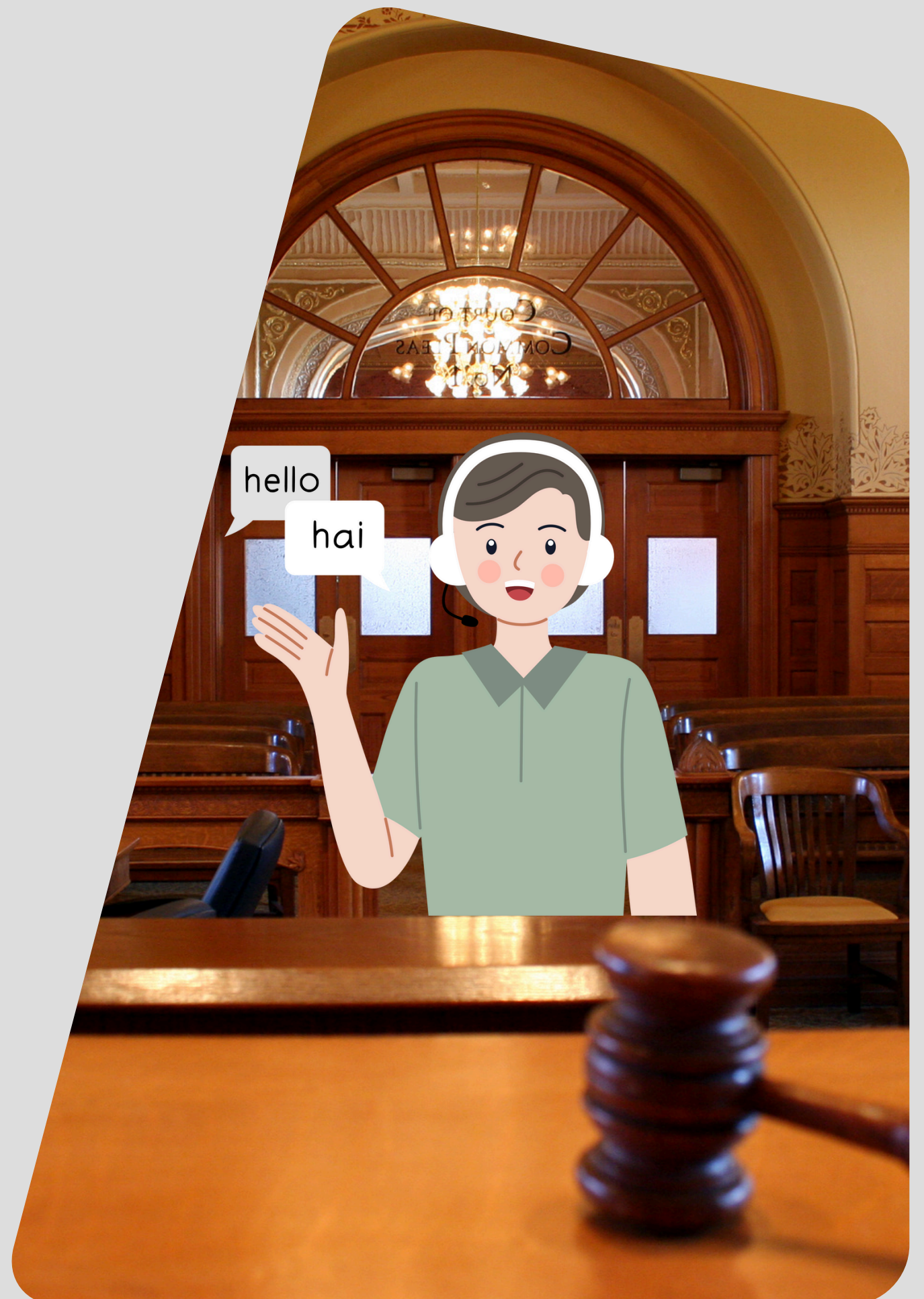
Travel: 60%



Computer Skill: 50%



Average Salary: £32k



An interpreter converts speech spoken in foreign languages at business meetings and conferences to their mother tongue or other specified languages. There are two main types of interpretation: simultaneous and consecutive. When interpretation is performed simultaneously, it takes place while the speaker is talking. Simultaneous interpretation is common at international conventions and in courts. Consecutive interpretation occurs after the speaker has finished talking. Interpersonal communication often uses this form of interpretation.



TEACHER



Study/Training: 4 years



Physical Effort: 50%



Brainpower: 80%



Travel: 10%



Computer Skill: 60%



Average Salary: £30k



Modern Foreign Language teachers teach students to speak, comprehend and write in a foreign language, as well as the culture that encompasses the language, through exploring literature, film, history and politics of the native country. An MFL teacher must be fluent in the target language, making it a perfect job for those who want to constantly use and refine their target language. Being a teacher requires a lot of patience and confidence, and also physical effort, as it involves a lot of standing and moving around. They must be able to motivate and inspire others.



AU PAIR



Study/Training: At least 200 hours



Physical Effort: 70%



Brainpower: 30%



Travel: 50%



Computer Skill: 20%



Average Salary: £3,840



An au pair stays with a local host family in a foreign country and learns their language and culture in exchange for help with childcare. Their responsibilities include looking after and entertaining the children and also some light housework. In return, the au pair is given accommodation, regular meals and pocket money for personal expenses. Prior knowledge of the language is extremely important for this role, as it allows the au pair to settle into their host family better. Being bilingual develops interpersonal skills and the ability to understand people's reactions and body language.



DIPLOMAT



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 20%



Brainpower: 65%



Travel: 80%



Computer Skill: 30%



Average Salary: £40k



A diplomat helps to promote and protect a nation's interests, businesses and citizens overseas. They conduct official negotiations and maintain political, economic and social relations with other organisations. A diplomat is tactful and skilful in managing delicate situations and must have good 'people skills'. Language skills are important because the nature of this work is overseas, and diplomats often have to draft written reports and interpret written material. Being multilingual can cut out the need for translators in negotiations and allows for better tact when communicating.



TRANSLATOR



Study/Training: 4 years



Physical Effort: 20%



Brainpower: 60%



Travel: 20%



Computer Skill: 55%



Average Salary: £28k



A translator translates pieces of text into another language at the request of their clients. For example, an organisation may be conducting business with another company in another country, requiring documents to be translated into each organisation's native language. Translators must accurately render the style, tone, meaning and intention of an original language, which can be challenging to accomplish. Each of these duties requires a high level of language and cultural knowledge, and an awareness and attention to detail. Translators often work to tight deadlines but they can predominately work remotely.



MARKETING EXECUTIVE



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 10%



Brainpower: 75%



Travel: 30%



Computer Skill: 80%



Average Salary: £28k



Marketing executives must be confident, outgoing, and possess excellent interpersonal skills. Success in digital marketing depends on keeping up to date with trends, and creativity and the ability to meet deadlines are essential. A marketing executive drives profit for the business and promotes their services to a wider audience. Coordinating marketing campaigns requires adequate technical skills to navigate the editing and analytical software, social media platforms, and other tools of communication. Language skills broaden networking opportunities, and help develop communication skills needed to build good customer relations.



HEALTH CARE/NURSE



Study/Training: 4 years



Physical Effort: 80%



Brainpower: 75%



Travel: 10%



Computer Skill: 30%



Average Salary: £35k



Healthcare professionals provide essential health services to care for injured or ill individuals and promote good public health. They care for patients using their skills and practice based on research and existing knowledge. A healthcare professional needs good leadership and organisational skills, and the ability to manage challenging or stressful situations. Good language skills enable them to communicate with patients from a range of backgrounds, which is essential to helping people in the most effective way. The figures on this card are based on nursing jobs rather than surgeons or doctors.



TOUR MANAGER



Study/Training: Up to 3 years



Physical Effort: 40%



Brainpower: 60%



Travel: 90%



Computer Skill: 25%



Average Salary: £23k



Tour managers make sure everything runs smoothly for their clients when travelling. This includes arranging travel plans, coordinating with venues, managing money, facilitating media interactions, and deciding the local services to use for each tour stop. They organise a holidaymaker's or business client's entire trip, so even basic knowledge of other languages is beneficial as this makes communication easier and quicker. Communication skills are acquired from learning languages, and these are crucial for liaising with companies. Being multilingual allows for wider networking, an important element of tour management.



TRAVEL AGENT



Study/Training: 2 years



Physical Effort: 10%



Brainpower: 55%



Travel: 30%



Computer Skill: 80%



Average Salary: £27k



A travel agent is the intermediary between holiday bookers and travel companies. They help customers find suitable holidays or plan independent travel, make bookings and take payments, and advise on travel essentials such as passports, insurance, visas, tours and vehicle hire. They must be proactive and organised. There are always opportunities to use language skills and being multilingual can be the catalyst to becoming an international success. Knowing another language is advantageous in this industry, for both being a tour guide and working for a tourist board.



TRAVEL BLOGGER



Study/Training: None



Physical Effort: 35%



Brainpower: 40%



Travel: 99%



Computer Skill: 75%



Average Salary: £25k



Travel blogging is perfect for those who love travelling. Blogging in a second language will expose your blog to an entirely new market, which increases website traffic, sales and followers. Blogging in another language is largely beneficial as the English-speaking travel blogging scene is highly saturated and competitive. To be successful and stand out of the crowd, the blog must be niche-orientated and the content unique. Travel bloggers need strong written, photography, and social media skills, along with a passion for travel and firsthand knowledge of destinations and cultures.



SOLICITOR



Study/Training: 6 years



Physical Effort: 10%



Brainpower: 65%



Travel: 30%



Computer Skill: 70%



Average Salary: £40k



Solicitors work closely with clients and advise them on necessary courses of legal action. Clients can include individuals, groups, public sector organisations or private companies. Legal advice can involve everyday issues, such as buying and selling homes and dealing with relationship breakdowns or it can involve helping businesses with commercial transactions. Being able to speak the same language as a client is advantageous, as having to use an interpreter slows the process down because it is not always easy for the attorney to meet with their client.



SCREENWRITER



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 10%



Brainpower: 55%



Travel: 60%



Computer Skill: 30%



Average Salary: £30k



Screenwriters have to network, as this helps to get their script noticed by an agent, studio executive or producer. Many cities across Europe have networking events for screenwriters to meet like-minded people, who could bring their script to life. They must put themselves out there, and being multilingual increases their opportunities to network as they can communicate with a broader variety of people and attend such networking events in other countries.



POLITICIAN



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 65%



Brainpower: 80%



Travel: 30%



Computer Skill: 40%



Average Salary: £91k



Politicians attend sessions in parliament to debate, vote on new laws, and raise concerns on behalf of their constituents. They interact with the media, attend meetings and conferences, and meet with institutions to discuss local, national and international affairs. This is physically and emotionally demanding work. They must understand society and culture and be up to date with current affairs. Politicians must know legal procedures and be able to use computer software. They must have excellent verbal communication, critical thinking and listening skills. These are all attributes acquired by learning a language.



IT TECHNICIAN



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 40%



Brainpower: 60%



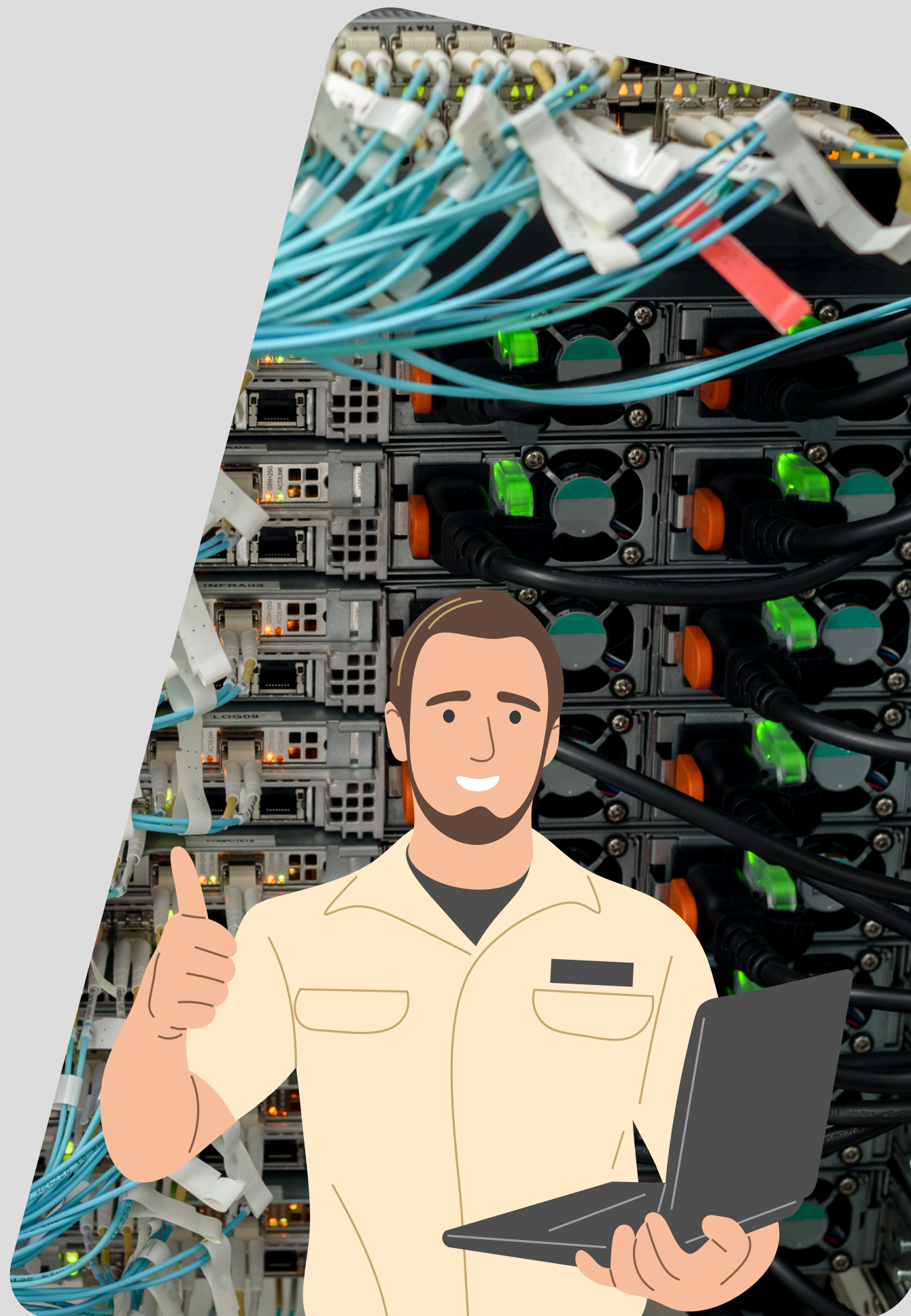
Travel: 50%



Computer Skill: 99%



Average Salary: £40k



IT technicians maintain the computer and network systems of an organisation. Their duties include troubleshooting and diagnosing computer hardware and software issues, setting up computer networks and assisting employees and customers with IT-related problems. Problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills are beneficial skills for this role. Being bilingual or multilingual strengthens brain power and cognitive abilities, which is useful in a role that presents difficult problems to solve. Being bilingual makes an individual much more employable at international organisations.



DETECTIVE



Study/Training: 5 years



Physical Effort: 55%



Brainpower: 70%



Travel: 40%



Computer Skill: 30%



Average Salary: £38k



Detectives are part of the police force and they deal with serious and complex investigations, analysing evidence presented to them and uncovering truths. Conducting interviews, examining records, and monitoring suspects are key responsibilities of a detective, and making arrests and undertaking search warrants are also large elements of this role. Language skills are useful when dealing with cases that involve individuals who speak different languages, being able to communicate with them puts an officer at a huge advantage. Knowing multiple languages also gives them better communication skills which is an important asset.



FASHION SHOW MANAGER



Study/Training: Up to 3 years



Physical Effort: 40%



Brainpower: 50%



Travel: 60%



Computer Skill: 25%



Average Salary: £24k



In the fashion industry, a fashion show manager plans, creates, and launches shows, campaigns and events for fashion labels. As the fashion industry exists across international markets, the ability to speak fluently in multiple languages is beneficial for this role. From working with models from across the world to setting up stages and lighting with employees from different countries, multilingual skills ensure that essential work occurs as intended without any language barriers.



PHOTOGRAPHER



Study/Training: None



Physical Effort: 70%



Brainpower: 30%



Travel: 75%



Computer Skill: 45%



Average Salary: £26k



Photographers take images for either artistic, commercial, or journalistic purposes. They often work with models or people of interest to take their photographs or record specific events. Photographers can often work internationally, so multilingual skills make it easier to navigate different cultures and communicate with people who speak different languages. This prevents a language barrier and ensures that those involved in the photo shoot can pose or provide context to the scene.



HR SPECIALIST



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 30%



Brainpower: 75%



Travel: 10%



Computer Skill: 65%



Average Salary: £34k



A human resource specialist works for an organisation to interview, hire, and onboard job candidates and inform them about policies, procedures, and workplace benefits. They act as a mediator between the organisation's 'higher-ups', and its workforce by listening to staff complaints and suggesting the right course of action. They need organisation and confidentiality skills. Multilingualism makes it easier to connect with employees who speak different languages and understand their issues on a deeper level.



POLICE OFFICER



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 80%



Brainpower: 60%



Travel: 40%



Computer Skill: 50%



Average Salary: £28k



Police officers respond to reports of incidents and follow up to help solve crimes. This typically includes making arrests, interviewing victims, interviewing suspects, writing crime reports, gathering evidence, giving evidence in court, offering advice and reassurance to the public, and responding to emergencies. They need to be skilled at thinking on their feet, remaining calm, have good communication skills and be assertive. Being multilingual is advantageous in this role as they can communicate with members of the public who speak different languages.



HOTEL MANAGER



Study/Training: Up to 3 years



Physical Effort: 30%



Brainpower: 60%



Travel: 20%



Computer Skill: 40%



Average Salary: £40k



Hotel managers are responsible for planning and organising the hotel's services. Their duties include setting budgets and sales targets, promoting the hotel, planning catering, ensuring the hotel meets licensing and health and safety laws, overseeing site maintenance, managing corporate bookings, recruiting and training staff, and dealing with customers' queries. They need to have great communication skills, be able to use their initiative and be patient and empathetic, all attributes enhanced by learning languages. Hotel managers often greet and check-in visitors from all over the world, so language skills come in very handy.



FIRST RESPONDER



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 80%



Brainpower: 40%



Travel: 20%



Computer Skill: 10%



Average Salary: £32k



First responders are among the first to arrive at an emergency or disaster to provide immediate assistance and care to those in need. Their quick response can make a significant difference in saving lives and reducing the severity of injuries until a more highly trained professional can arrive. They must be able to take initiative and think on their feet. Communication is key, so they are at an advantage if they can speak multiple languages. Multilingual people tend to have better-developed executive control systems, meaning they can better perform tasks that require high-level thought, multitasking, and sustained attention.



RETAIL BUYER



Study/Training: Up to 3 years



Physical Effort: 10%



Brainpower: 60%



Travel: 20%



Computer Skill: 70%



Average Salary: £34k



Retail buyers are responsible for purchasing materials, supplies or equipment for a business, identifying customer preferences and consumer trends. They need customer service skills, good attention to detail, persuasive and negotiating skills, and the ability to use a computer and software packages. Their job involves analysing and forecasting trends from consumer data, attending trade fairs, managing product quality, presenting collections to senior managers, tracking sales, reacting to competitor activities, adapt quickly to meet changing consumer trends. Language skills are crucial for working at international companies.



CONSTRUCTION MANAGER



Study/Training: 3 years



Physical Effort: 80%



Brainpower: 55%



Travel: 60%



Computer Skill: 30%



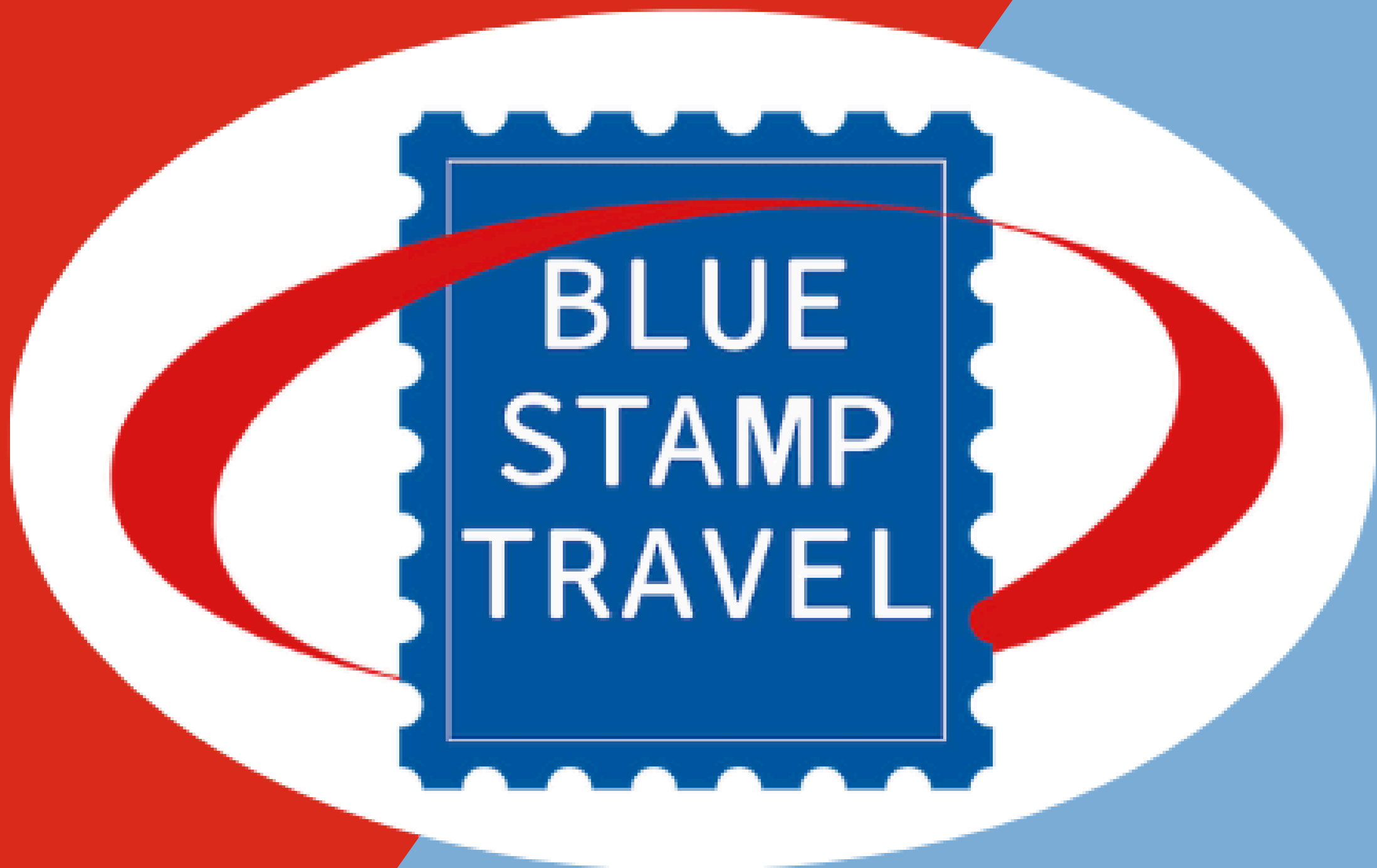
Average Salary: £55k



A construction manager manages a construction site, overseeing the building projects to make sure they are completed safely, within budget, and on time. Construction sites often have workers from other countries, so it is extremely helpful to be able to speak multiple languages. The communication skills gained from language learning are beneficial as construction managers have the responsibility of hiring and managing the staff for a project, making this a very people-focused role. Their time is split between working on-site and working from an office, but, typically, a company car is provided.



TOP TRUMPS



LANGUAGE CAREERS