

*“The borders of my language mean the borders of my world.”*

Ludwig Wittgenstein

This quotation sums up very well why words, texts and languages play such an important role in my life. I am enthusiastic about languages because they extend my horizon. They give me the possibility to interact with people from other cultures. Moreover, one can learn so incredibly many things about expressions and people's ways of thinking.

I was born in 1980 in a small East German village. As soon as I had been taught the alphabet, I started writing short poems and stories. They were always full of spelling mistakes, but they gave me a wonderful way to express my childhood ideas. Already back then, I was fascinated by words. When I was eleven, I attended my first English lesson, which I can still remember. Every student was asked to pick a little piece of paper on which we found an English name. We were asked to address each other using these names. I was Liz. How cool was that...!



Under the laws of the East German government, travelling and free speech were very restricted. I was ten years old when the wall came down and very strongly influenced by the spirit of the times, which was driven by the new possibilities to see the world and be able to say what you think. I am sure that this has strengthened my interest in learning languages even more. At the age of sixteen, I spent one year in Great Britain. When I was a teenager, we often had exchange students living with my family. My majors at high school were English and French. During my studies, I started to learn Spanish and I often went to France and Spain to participate in work and travel schemes, language courses and internships. Marseille in Southern France has been my home since 2016.

I studied Transports and Economics because I could specialize in the tourism industry: a subject I was keen on as it combines languages and cultural aspects with economic knowledge. I graduated with a diploma in traffic psychology, which comprised an extensive empirical survey. I worked on it very passionately and found it fascinating to see how the language of numbers can be illustrative of human behavior. I was given a grade A for my work.

Throughout my time at university and work, I always enjoyed those moments the most when I worked with texts, photos and layouts. My employers and partners liked to give me these kinds of tasks to work on, because they knew we would achieve excellent results.



I have always loved words and languages and being in an international environment has always been especially rewarding to me. I am very grateful that I can work under these conditions as a freelancer translator. Maybe one day I'll also write my own little stories again, without spelling mistakes, but with charming encounters of people from different cultural backgrounds who meet to enjoy a café au lait at the old port of Marseille...

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