

A postcard from PwC...



Name: Joe Gilford

Job Title: Learning & Development
Manager

Where I work: Internal Firm Services,
London

I studied **GCSE & A Level English**
at School.

**How I use English in my work
now:**

I started working as a High School English Teacher, but found it wasn't for me, so I moved into Training and Development. This involves training adults who also work for the same company as me. I have found this fun and rewarding. I've worked in charity, retail, recruitment and now financial services. I've designed and delivered training (digital and face to face) with lots of different people in different countries.

Some of the main things that helped me from studying English are curiosity, creativity and communication. When you study English there isn't always a 'right' answer, but you can do a good answer if you make an argument and back it up with your evidence. Being curious about what other people have said about the topic, and creative about how you create your own argument, and communicating in a way other people can easily understand are skills that I learned from studying English and still use everyday in Training & Development.

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My highlight of my job so far

- Facilitating in France and Cyprus on a leadership development course. People from lots of different countries came to the training course to learn more about leading teams. It was an awesome experience!

**If I went back in time what piece of advice
would I give my 14 year old self?**

Choose the subjects that you are most interested in. Until 14 I really liked subjects like Maths and Science because I found them easier, and I had always found English more difficult. But I was really interested in English because it teaches you about lots of other topics like people, history, geography, philosophy, and politics. I had to work hard to get better at reading and writing, but with perseverance it paid off. Now I really enjoy reading and did well at English. So I'd say, study things that you are interested in because it will help you stay motivated even if it's not always easy!

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