

ALEXANDRA HEMINGWAY

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Highly competent, professional French-Swedish-English translator, with experience in gaming, circus and sports science sectors, seeking a role in a busy in-house team with outward-facing, project-based work.

Working languages: English (native), Swedish & French
Plus German (Advanced level), Spanish & Italian (basic)

EDUCATION

MA Translation, University of Surrey, UK 2009-2010
Developed strong technical translation skills while building on team work and presentation abilities. Major translation project on 'The Price of Fish' with reflective criticism, using Ocean2 software and the FishyDish model, showing analytical and written communication skills with self-motivation

BA (Hons) French and Germanic Studies, University of Sheffield, UK - 2:1 2002-2006
Included year abroad spent at Ruhr Universität Bochum and the British Institute, Paris
Subsidiary Swedish and Spanish to Certificate 3 level (broadly equivalent to A-level)

Ace High School, Halifax 1995-2002
A-level French (A), German (A), General Studies (A), Theatre Studies (C)
8 GCSEs grades A and B, including English, Maths and Science

TRANSLATION EXPERIENCE

Freelance translation 2006-2010
Paid

Superduper, Portsmouth, UK 2008-2010

- Translated player user manuals and support staff technical information for Superduper, a computer game development company, from English to French and Swedish
- Successfully completed first major project (approx 15,000 words) within a very tight deadline and was awarded further contracts
- Knowledge of technical and 'fantasy' vocabulary with the ability to invent culturally suitable new words and character names

Voluntary

'Cirkus Idag' magazine, published in Sweden 2006-2010

- Source and translate articles by a range of authors in varying media, mainly from English into Swedish with some French-Swedish and occasional Italian-Swedish
- Edit to achieve print-friendly format and match word-count requirements
- Check and edit work submitted by other contributors to ensure accuracy and adherence to house style
- Obtain syndication permission and negotiate fees or donation of content, aiming to reduce costs for this membership-only magazine with a distribution of around 150

Surrey Running Network, Guildford, UK 2008-2010

- Translate sports science articles, training plans and other running-related writing from Swedish, French, German, Spanish and Italian into English to share with other group members
- Interpreting for visiting runners from overseas at races and other events
- Planned and delivered basic conversational Swedish lessons, which enabled members to interact with hosts and arrange food and travel for exchange to Stockholm marathon.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Waitress, Coffee Heaven, Guildford (part-time) Sept 2009-date

- Fast and accurate delivery of orders to customers' exacting requirements achieved under pressure in this busy office-block café, serving over 100 per hour at peak times
- Train new staff patiently and professionally, by explaining, demonstrating and then supervising new tasks and equipment
- Rewarded for efficiency and hard work with promotion to supervisor and staff trainer within six weeks of starting work

Customer Assistant, Waitrose, Southsea (part-time) Jan 2007-Sept 2009

- Promoted to customer services desk, due to excellent interpersonal skills and calm, friendly demeanour
- Developed comprehensive product knowledge through stock checking, which then contributed to speedy resolution of customer enquiries
- Maintained clean and safe working environment, working to company's high quality standards and showing my attention to detail
- Complimented many times by both customers and colleagues for delivering excellent customer care and achieving targets

PRACTICAL SKILLS AND FACILITIES

- Fast broadband connection and up-to-date software to work from home, with capacity to convert between mac and PC formats
- High level skills in Microsoft Office programmes and able to use and integrate spreadsheets and graphs for professional presentation of data within translations
- Competent user of MegaTranslate v4.0, Supertitler Pro and Ocean2

INTERESTS

Travel and culture – spent six months overseas developing my knowledge and linguistic skills mainly in Sweden, with shorter trips to Italy and Spain. I stay up to date by reading news press as well as fiction and enjoy TV and films in my target languages. I also holidays visit new countries and areas as much as possible, most recently Peru

Circus – trapeze artist since the age of 14, involved in local and touring shows. This demonstrates my commitment to regular training, ability to perform under pressure and adaptability

Running – regular runner, competing up to marathon distance. In total, I have raised over £2,000 for charity, but now mostly run for enjoyment and the sense of personal achievement. I also lead a small local beginners' running group, motivating and empowering others to get outdoors and improve their health and keep appropriate business records

REFERENCES

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