

# Language skills in the world of work



 #BB\_SCILT



**DYW**

**NORTH EAST**  
The vital link connecting  
schools and businesses



**HOOVER FERGUSON**

## Practical Solutions, Perfectly Contained



**Hablado Otros Idiomas**

7<sup>th</sup> February 2018





**VENEZUELA**



**HOOVER FERGUSON**

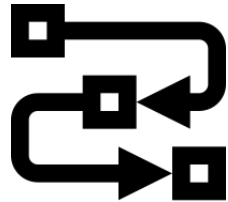
# Languages in the life journey

# What do you think of when someone says the phrase “LEARN A LANGUAGE”?

**CLASSROOM**



**PROCESS:**  
Start to finish learning

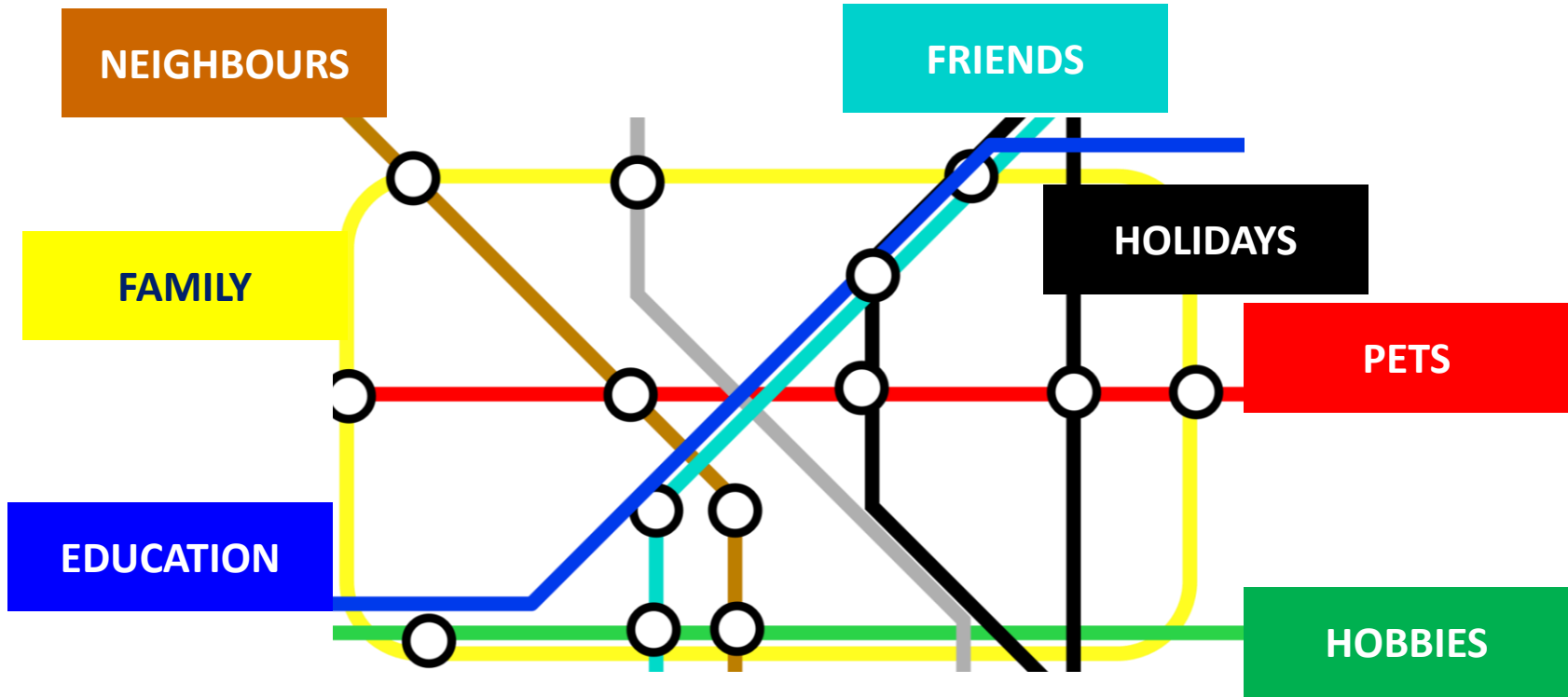


**USE IT v. DON'T USE IT**



# What about we flip this perception...

...and add a language to your life journey



# My life journey with languages...





What about other people's journey?

*“I am not good with languages”*



# Is learning a language only for some people?

## About my school preferences and aptitudes

- Represented my school in chemical and math Olympics
- Won school science festival a few times
- Competed in science festival at national level
- Studied Chemical & Process Engineering
- Worked in finance and investments

*Some people may say I was more orientated to science, not languages...*

**BUT**

*Languages are flexible for each person, it depends how YOU look at it!*

# Is learning a language only for some people?

I found my way of looking at languages

I see languages as a math formula:

$$1 + 1 + 1 = 3$$

# Is learning a language only for some people?



- ✔ You have already learnt at least one language, why can't you learn another one?
- ✔ Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something
- ✔ Do what you love
- ✔ Be aware and remain vigilant to spot the opportunities that cross your path...AND GO AND CATCH THEM!

# So, I decide to learn a new language – How do I benefit?

## Tangible benefits



- A way to meet new people



- It is a marketable skill
  - For getting a new job
  - Always invest in you

## My LinkedIn Profile



The screenshot shows a LinkedIn profile for Maria Laura Martinez. The profile includes a profile picture, name, title (Global Strategic Partner Manager at Hoover Ferguson), and location (Kintore, Aberdeenshire, United Kingdom). The profile strength is 'Intermediate'. The 'Your Dashboard' shows 109 profile views and 129 search appearances. The 'Experience' section lists roles at Hoover Ferguson and University of Aberdeen. The 'Education' section lists degrees from University of Aberdeen and Newcastle University. The 'Accomplishments' section, circled in red, shows '3 LANGUAGES' with 'English' listed as 'Native or bilingual proficiency'.

# So, I decide to learn a new language – How do I benefit?

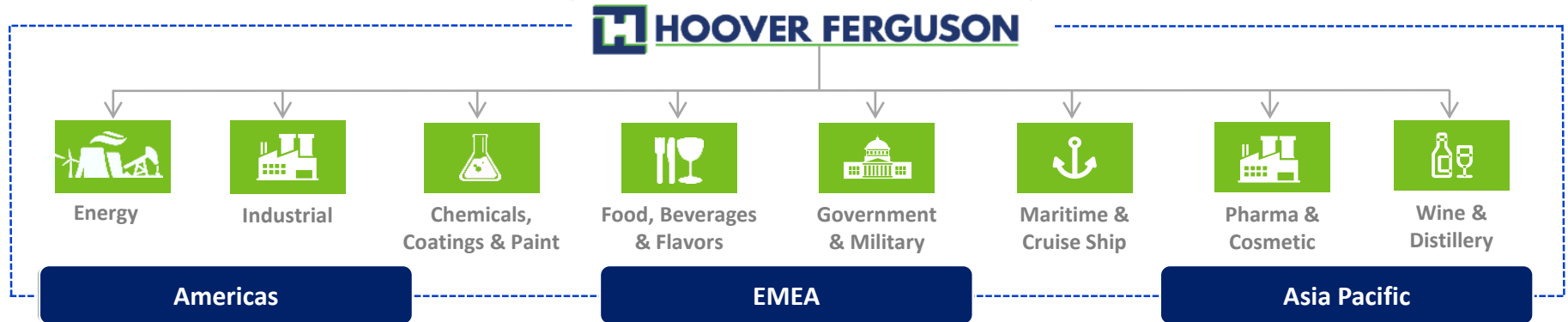
## Intangible benefits

- ✓ Improves analytical skills, attention to detail
- ✓ Improves communication and listening skills
- ✓ Improves confidence
- ✓ Expands your view of the world
- ✓ Breaks down barriers between people and cultures
- ✓ Makes you learn more about where you come from



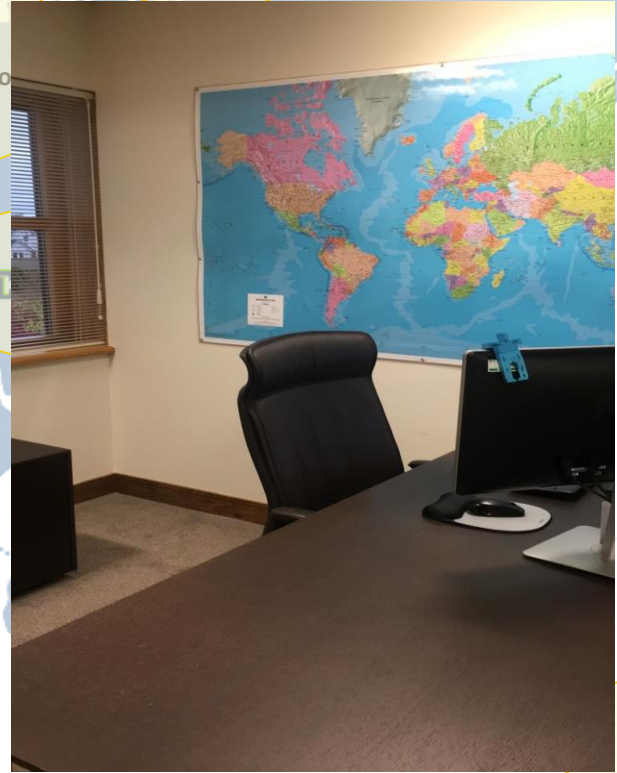
# Languages at the workplace

## My current job with Hoover Ferguson



# Global Operations

Over 110,000 Rental Assets



 Countries my current job manages partnerships operations



Would I learn another language again?

*100% yes*

# My advice when learning a language

- Have fun – E.g. listen to music in that language and download the lyrics
- Never EVER be embarrassed to make mistakes
  - Embrace it with a smile and/or sign language instead!
- Use your notebook from back to front for writing down new words
- Practice makes perfection
- If in doubt, ask!
- Be curious, be proactive
- It is ok to have a bad day or two, but NEVER give up!
- Don't let accents put down your confidence
- ...and be careful with online resources!

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# THANK YOU



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