

Sean Benjamin Selby

CONTACT

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QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Arts (Joint Honours) in Japanese Language and Contemporary Society, and Music (Upper Second-class Honours)
Japanese Language Proficiency Test Level N1 Certificate

WORK EXPERIENCE

Japanese to English Translator

Mar 2014 — Present

Freelance

Working full-time out of a home office as a freelance translator for several translation agencies, I have undertaken numerous long-term projects for various clients. In the tourism field, I have helped companies in Japan prepare for an influx of English-speaking tourists in the run-up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in the following ways:

- Translating a large volume of content for Japan's largest hotel booking website, including system text and site menus
- Translating a large volume of content for Japan's largest restaurant booking website
- Translating a large volume of tourism-related material for Japan's largest publisher
- Providing national and regional governments with English language text that will support English-speaking tourists during their stay in Japan

I have also worked in a number of other fields and endeavours, including:

- Translating documents on semiconductors
- Providing English language news, fault and maintenance information for a Japanese university's computer network department
- Translating the lectures of a postgraduate course on open source software development
- Playing a role in the research and development of novel cancer treatments by providing pharmaceutical companies with Japanese doctors' insights
- Assisting in the development of machine translation systems by creating bilingual corpora and evaluating the resulting translations
- Marking the tests of potential new translators at one of the translation agencies I work for

Working at home means I have to be disciplined, and I use everything at my disposal in order to be efficient and accurate. I always respect deadlines and respond quickly to clients' queries and additional requests. I am confident that my translations are sensitive, knowledgeable and accurate.

Japanese to English Proofreader

Jun 2013 — March 2014

Pole to Win Europe

I participated in the translation of three AAA game titles from large Japanese game studios, which were incredibly popular in their native territory and sought to expand into new markets. My role as proofreader was to provide translation assistance to the English translation team, providing context from within each game to help make an accurate translation, and proofreading the English language version. The European language versions of each game relied on the English as their source text, so I was also on hand to answer queries from the French, Italian, German and Spanish teams, explaining the choices we made in our translation and additional context from the Japanese version. Having made myself highly familiar with the content of each game, I designed the testing process when it came to quality assurance testing, and made sure the English language version appeared correctly within the game, fitting into space restrictions and making sense in context. Working to strict deadlines using custom software and Excel

databases, I was also responsible for reporting accurately to the client any bugs we found, and dealing with any requests from them in a timely manner.

Previous Roles

Various

Front of house, Barcelo Brighton Old Ship Hotel (Oct 2008 to Jul 2009)

PA to the revenues and benefits managers, Brighton and Hove City Council (Jun 2008 to Aug 2008)

Stock replenishment, Sainsbury's (Sep 2002 to Aug 2005)

EDUCATION

Japanese Language and Contemporary Society and Music

Sep 2009 — Dec 2012

Oxford Brookes University

This four year degree, completed in December 2012, not only gave me a keen knowledge of the language, but also helped contextualise it within Japanese society and culture. Alongside extensive language lessons, were those covering the history, literature, cinema, society, culture and perceptions of Japan, as well as analytic approaches and translation. This theory was put into practice in the third year, during a year-long exchange in Japan.

Exchange year in Japan

Sep 2011 — Aug 2012

University of Kitakyushu

Whilst studying at Oxford Brookes, it was a necessary part of my degree to spend a year at a Japanese university. This was spent at the University of Kitakyushu, in Fukuoka prefecture, where I received Japanese language and culture instruction entirely in Japanese.

Music Informatics

Oct 2005 — Mar 2008

University of Sussex

This was a course that attempted to meld traditional music studies with cutting edge computer science, including artificial intelligence. Though the course did not live up to my expectations, I did have the tenacity to persevere to within the last few months, and the experience gained has been valuable in founding the discipline that I hold to study.

Music Studies

Sep 2002 — Jun 2005

Chichester College of Arts, Science and Technology

I obtained the following results from the courses studied:

BTEC First Diploma in Popular Music- Distinction

BTEC National Diploma in Popular Music- Distinction, Distinction, Merit

AS Level in Music Technology- B

When the college withdrew funding for the A Level I took up the Open University module, The Technology of Music as a replacement qualification, of my own volition.

GCSEs

Sep 1999 — Jun 2002

Steining Grammar School

Ten GCSEs gained, five awarded A, five awarded B; English and Maths included.

REFERENCES

References available upon request.