

October 2008

Tapescript – Marcelo

At the moment I'm on holiday because I lived here in Oxford for two years and four months and.... So I left in 2006 and I came back, you know, just to see how things are really.

I graduated before I came so I finished my uni and I came here to study English. I finished my course. It was two years' long. Then I **got** back to Brazil and I got offered a job there.

The weather, (it) starts from the weather, like, it's very different and um people are different as well and, like, just the landscape. Everything is quite, kind of, quite different. Sometimes people ask me, like, which one I prefer and I just say to them it's really difficult, like, there's no way to compare because the two beautiful ways of life, you know, there's a really nice to be there and work and, like, family's there and all the friends. It's my country but, um, **in here** you have lots of other things like security is better and you can afford, like better things here. Like, even not working, like as a professional, you know, even like just doing, like, small jobs, ..., are different. You can travel easier here to different countries as there is too big so you just travel, like, around Brazil. Um, the different culture really. Maybe um, maybe, the language barrier when you, when you arrive here because, um, in other countries people **used to** say, like, oh the English are very cold, you know, they won't greet you nicely and stuff but it's all about, like, not speaking their language properly because as soon as I picked up the language they were so lovely to me. Like, I've been to so many, like, really British houses and I travelled a lot in England to friends' houses and they were really really nice to me. As long as you, you know, learn English and you can speak to people you'll see, like, a big difference. They're very educated and they're very nice to you. They're very polite and kind so...

Yeah, so, I'm working for this multinational there and um so we have lots of auditors and visitors from abroad that's why I'm doing translation. I'm also, also, I'm a food engineer



there so I work in a, as a line manager for frankfurters and, you know, sausages in general.

Um, we work in factories. Um, we're responsible for taking care of all the staff that work for us in our line and also, it's all about keeping up with the production plan and, urgh, you know, doing, like, improvements if necessary and, urgh, looking after the business, you know, in the line you are.

I've got my degree in food engineering and also I could speak English.

Um, we have three shifts. We basically don't stop there. My basic routine is firstly I arrive there, I have to go to the Human Resources who give you the plan for the week. After that, I have to walk along the line. It's a very long line, the line I work for. I have, like, six separated areas to look after so...um. I have to walk along and, you know, at least say hello to people, see if they're well, see if, see if everything is well: the equipment, and the product is keeping up with the standards. After that, you have to reply to your emails which takes quite a long time as well. I always try to spend maximum, maximum, an hour and a half otherwise I'll just spend, like, the whole night replying and checking emails. In my job I have 80 people which I have to look after so it's really difficult if I spend lots of time on my desktop. I had this experience, I used to do this, like, I used to spend, like, three, four hours on a computer and you just, like, have like a wall between you and people because you're trying to sort their problems instead of going and chatting and speaking. And also, like, is an, a piece of advice really you never, like, if you have a big problem, never, like, deal with it on an email. Just go and talk to people because it's so much easier, so much quicker.

I wanted to be an astronaut just because I really loved travel. Like, since I'm very young, I moved to lots of cities in Brazil. My dad was a researcher so we used to travel a lot, like, till I was nine. So I got used to travelling. I really wanted to go abroad.

In five years' time I hope I'll be in Europe, not as a line manager, you know, but, like, a research or marketing manager. Yeah, in five years' time maybe I'll be in England. Who knows?