

Hanna Buller

English for Nurses

Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg, 2018

Impressum

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Oldenburg, Oktober 2018



Hanna Buller



Bild

Professional career

On completion of her 5-year Diploma in English and practical Psychology in Ukraine (1998-2003). Hanna Buller moved to Germany and commenced her training as a nurse in Bremerhaven (2006-2010). After having finished her training she worked as a nurse on the neurological and internal ward. Three years later she started her teacher training in subjects Biology and English at Carl von Ossietzky University in Oldenburg. Hanna Buller finished her studies with the Master of Arts in Biology and English and the Master of Arts German as Foreign Language. Alongside her studies she worked as a nurse and later as a district nurse with an emphasis on culturally sensitive care as well as a teacher in pupils learning support in an integrated comprehensive school in Oldenburg. Currently she teaches Biology and English in a secondary school in Bremen.

Projects

Support and mentoring in the framework of Youth science competition (Jugend Forschung) in the areas of Biology, Physics and working world

Teaching and support pupils of different age in order to further develop their competences in subjects and specialised language competence (Förderung)

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INTRODUCTION

The number of language speakers worldwide in 2000 was estimated to be 1.5 billion which made up a quarter of the world's population (Crystal, 2002, p. 10). This number includes first-language speakers (c.400 million), second-language speakers (c.400 million) and foreign-language speakers (c.700 million) thus making English the most widely spoken language worldwide (ibid.). The last figure is constantly growing as English is now the language most widely taught as a foreign language now often replacing other languages (Crystal, 2012, p. 5). These numbers show that the English language has become *lingua franca*, or common language that accompanies us in various areas of life. As a result of availability of a common means of communication, this development ensures the growth in international contacts, working opportunities, establishing partnerships with foreign countries, self-development due to access to literature and knowledge, and the personal contribution to the scientific community.

The role of English as an international language of science cannot be disputed. The English language is used for presenting the society with new achievements and developments in different areas of science and research and therefore can enhance an exchange in the relevant spheres on a worldwide scale. One of these areas which is gaining more and more potential due to its overall importance is the area of health care. Since global mobility and the Internet have changed the attitude to learning and professional development, they also affected the sector of health care to a great extent. The interchange of new developments, innovative ideas and useful practices have become possible, due in large part to the use of a common language.

English does not solely contribute to the communication of experts via the Internet but is also a means of practical exchange of those who belong to a community in a certain sphere of knowledge. Thus, practical application of knowledge has become possible throughout different countries. This means that also people working in health care professions such as nurses and other care workers now can grow professionally due to the opportunities given by the English language. Further opportunity to increase the professional satisfaction can be achieved through the possibility of moving freely and self-determination of working place across Europe.

Since 2005, there has been the new EU Professional Qualifications Directive on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (Directive 2005/36/EC). The new policy guarantees recognition of the respective professional qualifications in the European Union, the European Economic Area and Switzerland. The equal value of certain qualifications like doctors, dentists, nurses and midwives grants the professionals free access to the labor market in the countries above. In case a person settles down, there is a possibility to get automatic recognition if certain qualifications are fulfilled. This became possible due to the establishment of the same educational standards in the participating countries.

The development and promotion of evidence-based practice in nursing and midwifery is progressing due to the implementation of European strategic directions for strengthening these areas of health care.

The WHO European region is working on implementation of the evidence-based practice in order to improve the quality of care and enable the sharing of knowledge on innovations, strategies or interventions related to EBP among countries. This can be achieved by offering international exchange of knowledge on the big scale as well as by means of personal growth and development, e.g. reading relevant research and studies.

Therefore, the English language can open wider perspectives and a high level of competence can form a solid foundation for the future career. It can connect professionals globally and help them to communicate new ideas, innovations, theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/finding-employment/are-your-countrys-qualifications-recognised-uk>

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