

Elaine interviewing Pierre Pinat who is teaching English at INSEAC in Guingamp, preparing students for a forthcoming tour of the former prison there and La Roche Jagu

Elaine: So Pierre, er we catch up once again, and this time in prison. So tell me, how did you become involved with INSEAC?

Pierre: Well, first of all, Elaine, I'm happy to share a moment with you and the 'auditors' again. For the third time, actually, isn't it? First time I remember it was travels and routes and personal quest around the world. Second time was about fairy tales and legends of all sorts of er Breton small creatures hiding in a forest of Huelgoat. But anyway, how I became involved with INSEAC is that, well, it's since last September, really. And I think that when things have to happen, they just happen, don't they? Um? I, I, I do not believe in coincidence. Well, last year in May, I had just finished a degree in the University of Rennes, called the DEC, Diplôme d'Etudes Celtic, diploma in Celtic studies. It's a course about Brittany and Celtic countries - history, geography, politics, arts, musics. And I did that for two years, every Thursday I was going to Rennes, back and forth and taking notes, writing essays. And it was a lot of of work actually, um, but I was really motivated. And I loved every single moment. And it was so interesting. Um, I guess, because I love learning and and studying, but um I do it because I want to share my knowledge, you know, so when I got was graduated, then I thought, okay, Pierre, you've been a student for so many years. Couldn't you be now that teacher, teaching for teaching to students? So I mean, passing knowledge is something I've been doing for the last 25 years really. So, as a trainer when I worked in the humanitarian field, and more recently as a as a tour guide. So um, so yes, that's basically a couple of CVs to various universities, to the UBO. Universié de Bretagne Occidentale and to the INSEAC right here and and I got called for a for an interview. So I talked to Linda, I met Chris, er in June. My colleague, and they both gave me as much information as possible, so that I could start preparing the modules for September. And er well, here, here we are now.

Elaine: And so this, what actually is your position, it is as a teacher?

Pierre: Well, in in French, it's called officially enseignant vacatairer uh? I don't know how would you say part time teacher or it it's a fixed term contract, uh,

renewable. Uh, students are preparing a master's degree in culture and communication. Uh, it's basically English applied to international challenges of artistic and cultural education. The English module is 36 hours all together. So again, I work together with my colleague, Chris, and we have 18 hours per semester. Er, we do a lot, actually, in a short period of time. It's it's intense, ah, from ah say, presenting yourself, talking about an artist or a work of art, ah making a pamphlet, er getting tools on how to make a CV and a cover letter in English, and doing a real tour guide, as a final exam in April.

Elaine: So tell us about this actual project then, what is going on this tour guide project because um I believe they work in small groups?

Pierre: Yes, there will be actually two groups of students. Ah, if I remember it's 14 students in La Roche-Jagu and 12 in la prison. Here. Er, it will take place on Monday, the the the eighth of April. In the afternoon, say 3pm onwards. Er, students will have prepared a specific theme specific place in the castle or in the gardens, er or here in in la prison, and they will guide their small group of visitors for about 15 minutes, just like being a real tour guide.

Elaine: So will it be the same students doing the tour here as in La Roche-Jagu?

Pierre: No, they are two separates. Ah ah, I will be er with my group in La Roche-Jagu and Chris will be with her students here in er in Guingamp.

Elaine: Okay, so you're not actually doing the prison one?

Pierre: No, I won't be

Elaine: You're up in the castle.

Pierre: Exactly.

Elaine: Superior What a contrast a prison to a castle.

Pierre: Indeed.

Elaine: No, it's beautiful up there. How have you found it actually going into teaching?



Pierre: Um. Well, it's very exciting. I mean, it's, it's new to me, I, I'm I'm always happier to take on challenges. Just like my my job as a tour guide, I put the best I can for the for the students and this er pro project really, I love the way that er this module is is very practical. Ah, we really want this English course to be useful. Um, I mean, if you want er in culture and communication nowadays, er if you want to work, sorry in communication and culture nowadays, you do need English, don't you? You can't avoid it. I worked in the training unit of several humanitarian missions in West Africa and Haiti. And I learned er so much there, I mean, not only professionally, but also in terms of cross-cultural interactions. So I'm happy to share this knowledge and experience and and hopefully, it's more than teaching a subject really and, and I have to say that with Chris, it's a great er combination. I um, I have lived in Ireland for a couple of years and er I feel now to immerse myself again into the the British culture eh. I've changed totally my daily routine. I used to listen to the Breton radio now I switched to the BBC around the clock.

Elaine: The BBC, oh yes.

Pierre: Indeed radio four, so I don't know anything any more about what happens in France. But I know all about what happens in the UK. Er.Tories, labours,

Elaine: Do you really want to know? Yes.

Pierre: Democrats?

Elaine: Disasters!

Pierre: The Archers, er weather forecast.

Elaine: Yes yes.

Pierre: Name it, I know it all.

Elaine: The NHS falling apart,

Pirere: My god!

Elaine: Trains not running!



Pierre: Yeah.

Elaine: It's a disaster zone.

Pierre: So um

Elaine: No good. No, well done you. So have you enjoyed doing this?

Pierre: Yes. Yes. Again er. Again, it's er ah it's a great challenge and I'm happy to, yeah, to contribute and to do something different and and er I'm happy to be part of this er INSEAC project and and work together with.

Elaine: You say. They are mature students aren't they, the students on the INSEAC course.

Pierre: Yes, most of them in in their 20s

Elaine: Yes. And how often have a job outside of work?

Pierre: Well, some of them. Yes. Some of them no, depends on on their situation.

Elaine: But they will surely have once their English has improved, thanks to you.

Pierre: Exactly. I mean, it really it's, it's a a it's a great master. I really think it's a great degree and, and and hopefully they'll have a great career career ahead.

Elaine: And they'll remember you're inspire inspired teaching.

Pierre: Well, um let's see.

Elaine: Thank you very much, Pierre.

Pierre: Thanks.