



## Life in the Circus

Like so many of us today, I sometimes find that working can be stressful. **Whether** you're an employee, **executive**, or freelancer like myself, you often feel like a circus performer: you could be a **lion-tamer** managing your boss, a **high-wire** artist trying not to fall, or an acrobat juggling a hundred different hoops at the same time.

Personally, the **circus act** I feel closest to is the **plate-spinner**. You know, they have a whole load of plates spinning on wooden sticks, and they have to keep rushing from one to another and back again to stop the plates from falling and **smashing** on the ground.

Of course, it depends on the time of the year. But just one **glimpse** at my **timetable** and to-do list for this week is a **daunting** challenge. I've three main activities: coaching, interpreting and translating so, in reverse order, this week's plates have included translating the following documents: Air Austral's in-flight magazine, a European regional funding report, a short film in Mafate and the finishing touches to the Musée de Villèle website and application.

As far as interpreting goes, I need **to brush up on** my technical vocab for next week's lomma, the three day Indian Ocean music market before Sakifo kicks off.

And as for the coaching, every week **involves** a lot of driving. As I work between St Louis and Ste Suzanne, I usually do an **average** of 2000 km per month. The companies where I teach business English at the moment work in **fields** such as sugar cane, automobiles, IT, tourism, construction and regional cooperation.

Ok, this might sound like a lot, but it's not finished yet! I do **my own** admin, so there are all the **quotations** and **invoices** to send, money **to chase up** and, of course, taxes to pay! And not forgetting working on [anglais.re](http://anglais.re)'s podcasts and e-learning program with my fantastic friend and colleague Richard, and having the privilege of working with all my **fellow** English trainers, translators and interpreters. You know who you are!

Like them, I enjoy keeping myself busy. But I must admit it would be nice to work just a little bit less! **However**, **once** a plate has started spinning, you can't let it stop and crash to the ground! Which reminds me, I have to go now, as my circus act is calling me, and there are a few plates which need my attention! That's life in the circus folks!





## Vocabulary

whether = si (oui ou non)

executive = cadre

lion-tamer = dompteur de lion

high-wire artist = funambule

circus act = numéro de cirque

plate-spinning = assiette tournante

to smash = éclater en morceaux

glimpse = aperçu

timetable = planning

daunting = décourageant

to brush up on = réviser

to involve = impliquer

average = moyenne

fields = domaines

my own = ma propre

quotations = devis

invoices = factures

to chase up = relancer

fellow = confrère

however = par contre