



# *PODCAST*

# *TRANSCRIPT*

## Episode 19:

“Natural English: My normal way of talking”

Duration: 11:51

### How to use this transcript:

1. Print this transcript:

We try to reduce our paper consumption, but we really recommend that you print out this document.

2. Write on it and take notes:

Circle, highlight and note anything that you want. We have even provided space for you to do so!

3. Listen first **without** the transcript:

Don't worry about understanding every single word. Just focus on training your ears to the sound of English.

4. Listen again **with** the transcript:

Listen a second time with the transcript, pausing whenever you want to

00:00	<p>Well hello there, dear listeners. Welcome to episode number 19 of the Déclic Anglais podcast. This is the podcast where intermediate learners of English come to improve their listening skills, gain confidence and move to higher levels of English. My name's Tom, I'm your English teacher from Déclic Anglais.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
00:29	<p>I hope you're all doing well this week. I would like to remind you, that there are transcripts (<i>des transcriptions</i>) available for every episode of this podcast. You can usually find a link to the podcast in the notes for each episode, or simply go to <a href="http://www.declicanglais.com/podcast">www.declicanglais.com/podcast</a>.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
00:54	<p>Now, something recently crossed my mind about this podcast. As many of you know already, our objective here is to act as a steppingstone (<i>un tremplin</i>) a steppingstone for intermediate learners. Maybe you're not so confident listening to English-speakers on TV or on the radio, so <i>The Déclic Anglais Podcast</i> gives you an opportunity to listen to a complicated but simplified English, to help you build confidence. But the problem here, is that you are not hearing my genuine way of talking.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

01:34	<p><i>Quoi ? Mais Tom, tu ne parles pas comme ça tout le temps ? Tu nous as menti pendant 18 épisodes ?!</i></p> <p>Haha! Well, dear listeners, it's a little complicated. In our first episode of <i>The Déclic Anglais Podcast</i>, I spoke about my origins. If you listened to episode 1, then you know I come from Wales (<i>le Pays de Galles</i>), Wales, in the United Kingdom. In Wales, we have our own dialect, our own way of speaking English.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
02:05	
02:10	<p>That doesn't mean to say that our English is totally different, and that nobody can understand it, no, no. Welsh English is still English, but it can sometimes be difficult for outsiders to follow especially when they aren't used to it (<i>quand ils n'ont pas l'habitude</i>) when they're not used to it.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
02:29	
02:54	<p>So, I must confess, dear listeners. This is not my usual way of talking with my family and friends back home in Wales. Here on <i>The Déclic Anglais</i> podcast I make an effort to slow down, to articulate, to speak clearly because I want as many people as possible to be able to understand me. I suppose you could call it my "Teacher English". When I speak normally, it's usually quite obvious where I come from with my Welsh accent (<i>mon accent gallois</i>) my Welsh accent.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

03:08	For today's episode then, I thought I would give you an opportunity to hear a more natural way of speaking to really train your brain. Don't worry, I won't speak at 1 million km per hour! No, but I'll speak naturally for you. So, for this next part of the podcast, you will hear me talking about my background, what brought me to France and teaching English.
03:40	Ok? Remember, use the transcript to help you, if necessary. Here we go... <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i>
03:46	So, as you know my name's Tom. I come from a small town in South Wales called Pontypool. And it's a small town of about 30,000 people. And it's found in the south of Wales, in what we call the "South Wales Valleys", which is a very beautiful area if you've never been, very green, very hilly, mountainous, you know.  <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i>
04:08	And that's where I spent all of my childhood, that's where I grew up. My family still live there now, I'm an only child, don't have any brothers and sisters. But still quite a big family: lots of cousins and aunties and uncles, things like that.  <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i>

04:23	<p>My area of Wales, my valley, is... We're anglophone, we speak English as a first language. We don't speak Welsh that much in my area. Although at school, we do learn Welsh; when I was about 5 years old, we started learning Welsh.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
04:37	<p>But my first real encounter with foreign languages was when I went to secondary school, and this is where I started learning German when I was about 11 years old. About a year later I started learning French as well, had VERY very good teachers at school that really got me interested in languages. I was very good at languages, and I decided to continue.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
05:00  05:14	<p>And I was never afraid when we went on holiday to speak to people in the language (to speak French to French people, to try and speak German to German people) I was never scared to talk to people in those languages.</p> <p>I've always been someone that enjoys talking to other people: I love communicating, finding out about people, learning from them, hearing their stories – I've always loved that. And I think that's why I really love teaching, too.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

05:27	<p>A moment that really marked me when I was a schoolboy, when I was about 15, I went on a school trip to Paris, with the school. And for a week we travelled around Paris, we saw all of the sights, you know: the Eiffel tower, Arc de Triomphe, we went to the Louvre, we went to Euro Disney, we went to the Palace of Versailles... Really great experience.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
05:48 06:08	<p>And all the time I was there I was very happy talking to people that I came across and... The hotel that we were staying at had a football field just outside, and every evening some other teenagers from the village next-door would come to the football pitch and we'd play football together every evening. The problem was that most of my friends didn't speak French and these kids from France – they didn't speak English. So <i>umm...</i></p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
06:04	<p>It was up to me really to try to facilitate the communication between the two sides and... I really enjoyed it, I really enjoyed communicating messages back and forth, that was pretty cool.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>06:29</p> <p>07:00</p>	<p>And it really inspired me then to continue languages later on at what we call <b>Sixth Form</b> (<i>so that's <b>lycée</b> in French</i>). I continued my study of French and German at Sixth Form (<i>lycée</i>) and even into university, so when I went to university at Swansea (which is a beautiful town right on the coast in the west of Wales and there I studied French and German), and I was very lucky actually, to <i>umm...</i> I was very lucky to do an Erasmus year: this is where when you do a language degree, you have to go abroad for one year, you have to go study or work in France, Germany, Spain, you know – depending on the language you're learning...</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>07:08</p>	<p>So for me, I was very lucky to go to Germany and I decided to be a foreign language assistant. So what I was doing was working in a German secondary school and I was helping the kids learn English. I was providing conversation classes and things like that. And that was my first experience, really of teaching people English, as well.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>07:27</p>	<p>Had a great time: my German really came on in that time. And it was also during that time that I first visited Alsace, I visited the Christmas markets in Strasbourg – it was a really good time.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

07:40	<p>Then I came back to Wales, I finished my degree and actually did a Masters degree in translation. And so for a year I studied to become a translator, <i>umm...</i> specialising in German to English.</p> <p>And I was really fortunate, <i>umm...</i> right after my Masters degree to find an internship (<i>un stage</i>), I found an internship in a small translation company near Munich in the south of Germany.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
08:05	<p>And I lived there for a year working as a translator. But during that time I found that translation wasn't really for me – at least not full-time – because I'm really someone that loves speaking to people, I like communicating, things like that. And sitting in front of a computer day in day out... Yeah, it wasn't really for me. So I decided to give teaching another go.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
08:25	<p>It was actually during this time that I met Charlotte, my fiancée. Charlotte, she also works here with me here at Déclic Anglais and she comes from France, she's Alsatian. And I followed her back to Alsace, and it was in Strasbourg then that I did my teacher training, it's where I got my teaching certificate – my teaching diploma, if you like – to teach English as a foreign language. And Alsace: that's where I've been ever since!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>



08:55	<p>So, it's nearly six years since I moved to France, now. In that time I worked at the Council of Europe, I worked at the university in Strasbourg, and also taught in the Strasbourg area in different companies like <i>Crédit Mutuel</i>, things like that. All in all, had a pretty fun time.</p>
09:11	<p>But my study of languages is far from over, <i>umm...</i> I'm still learning languages even now, it's kind of like a hobby of mine. So at the moment I'm really trying to get back into Welsh, <i>le gallois</i>, really trying to improve my Welsh. <i>Umm...</i></p> <p>I also learn a little bit of Spanish on the side. Not seriously, but when I go travelling, I like to be able to speak a little with the locals.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
09:32	<p>Although I really should work harder, I think, on my written French because... I'm pretty good with speaking, I'm pretty good with hearing, listening, understanding what people say to me, but... Oh my days, when it comes to writing in French I'm hopeless, you know, I... I'm constantly using <i>WordReference</i> or <i>Linguee</i> to help my spelling, and... which accent goes where? Which is the right conjugation? So...</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>09:57</p> <p>10:15</p>	<p>That's one thing I have in common with everybody that comes to me, that comes to Déclic Anglais for help with their English, is that <i>umm...</i> Well, I know what it's like to be a learner... I know what it's like to be a learner... I know exactly the problems that you have, I know exactly what it's like to feel overwhelmed with vocabulary and to feel lost with grammar – things like that... So, yeah... So I think that's an advantage that I have over some other teachers who maybe only speak one language, you know?</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>10:31</p>	<p>Ok, so on that note, dear listeners I think I will now switch back to my normal “teacher English” to finish the podcast.</p> <p>How was that? Did you manage to understand most, if not all of what I said? If not, don't worry: you're probably not used to hearing native-speakers speak in a natural way and you aren't used to hearing someone with my accent, either.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

10:57	<p>It is 100% a question of habit: regular practice, training your ears to hear real English. Anyone can do it, trust me.</p> <p>It took me a while to adapt to the Alsatian accent here in Ungersheim. Now, I'm so used to it that I no-longer hear the Alsatian accent.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
11:16	<p>What do you think? Would you like me to speak more often in my natural way? Should I speak to you like this in future episodes?</p> <p>Let me know what you think. Send me an email to:  <a href="mailto:contact@declicanglais.com">contact@declicanglais.com</a>.</p> <p>Well, that's it for today's podcast, ladies and gentlemen. I hope you enjoyed listening to this podcast, and I look forward to seeing you next time. Bye for now!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

## How did it go?

Take a moment to revisit the notes that you took.

List here 3 words or expressions (minimum) that you would like to remember from this podcast. We recommend that you consult a free, online dictionary like [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com) to ensure that you have the correct definition and context.

### **WORDS/EXPRESSIONS THAT I WANT TO REMEMBER:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.