

## Mette Bylling-Pinto

### About Mette

From Denmark, works as a Head Teacher.

**Languages:** Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, English, German, French, Spanish and some Portuguese.

### What made you choose to study the languages you speak?

The first six were part of my schooling. The small size of Denmark as a linguistic area influenced me too. Spanish and Portuguese came from a need to communicate while I travelled in Latin America as well as from my own personal interest...

### How have you gone about learning these languages?

I have always listened to a lot of music with lyrics in many languages at home. I was also listening to these languages on TV since Danish TV is subtitled. Later, I taught myself Spanish and some Portuguese while travelling in Latin America. I started by speaking French with some sort of Spanish accent using my knowledge of Latin, but then improved with help from local people along the way. I am now a language teacher.

### What are your favourite language learning tips?

Good creative teachers, music, international friendships and travelling are all important. I also think it's good to "go to the language" on your own and make personal connections with as many people as possible. I'm talking here about staying and living with local people, not just hanging out with non-locals.