

IELTS Listening Lesson 27

Setting:

University Staff Member Interviewing a Volunteer Applicant – Talks about duties, expectations, and time commitments.

Questions 1–6: Complete the sentences below.

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

1. The volunteer applicant found out about the opportunity at the _____.

2. Volunteers in the Saturday School Program mainly help with subjects

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伝え方: スカイプチャット or 予約時のコメント欄に記入

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How to inform: Write it in the Skype chat or the comments section when making a reservation.

5. New volunteers typically work in _____.

6. Volunteers will receive a certificate and a _____ at the end of the term.

Questions 7–10: Choose the correct letter, A, B, or C.

7. Why does the applicant want to volunteer?

- A. To earn academic credit
- B. To gain experience for a future career
- C. To meet people in the community

8. What is required as part of the application process?

- A. A personal essay
- B. Two academic references and a DBS check
- C. Proof of enrollment in the university

9. What kind of supervision will the volunteer receive?

- A. Occasional check-ins from a staff member
- B. Direct supervision by a qualified teacher
- C. Independent work with weekly reporting

10. How does the staff member describe additional volunteer opportunities?

- A. Mandatory and scheduled monthly

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Script

University Staff Member: Thanks for coming in today. I understand you're interested in volunteering with the university's outreach program?

Volunteer Applicant: Yes, that's right. I heard about the opportunity at the student fair last week, and I think it could be a great way to get involved and develop some new skills.

University Staff Member: Absolutely. Volunteering with us is a great chance to contribute to the local community and also build your own experience. To start, can I ask what specifically interested you about this role?

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Volunteer Applicant: Okay, that sounds pretty straightforward. I'm majoring in biology, but I've taken quite a few math courses too, so I might be able to help in both areas.

University Staff Member: That would be helpful. We try to match volunteers to subjects they're comfortable with. We do ask, however, that you attend a short training session beforehand so you're familiar with our curriculum and approach.

Volunteer Applicant: Sure, I'd expect some kind of orientation. How long is the training?

University Staff Member: It's just a one-day session—about four hours. It covers classroom management basics, working with diverse learners, and safeguarding procedures.

Volunteer Applicant: Great. And when do the sessions actually run?

University Staff Member: The Saturday program operates every week during term time, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We understand students have busy schedules, so we ask for a minimum commitment of two Saturdays a month.

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Volunteer Applicant: Sounds reasonable. What about the application process? Is there anything else I need to provide?

University Staff Member: There's a short application form, which includes some questions about your background and availability. You'll also need to provide two references—academic or professional—and complete a DBS check, since you'll be working with minors.

Volunteer Applicant: Right, of course. I have a part-time job tutoring, so I think my employer there could be one of my references.

University Staff Member: Perfect. And once everything is cleared, you'll be assigned to one of the local schools we partner with. Most are within walking distance of campus, though a few are a short bus ride away.

Volunteer Applicant: Okay, I don't mind the travel. Do volunteers work alone or in pairs?

University Staff Member: Usually in pairs, especially for new volunteers. You'll be working under the supervision of a qualified teacher as well, so there's always support available. Over time, some volunteers take on more responsibility, like leading activities or helping organize events.

Volunteer Applicant: I'd be interested in that eventually. I like the idea of developing leadership skills.

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Volunteer Applicant: That's great. It would definitely help when applying for postgraduate programs or jobs later on.

University Staff Member: Exactly. One more thing—it's important that volunteers understand the need for professionalism. Even though this isn't a paid position, punctuality, preparation, and communication are key. If you ever can't attend a session, we need at least 48 hours' notice unless it's an emergency.

Volunteer Applicant: That makes sense. I treat my part-time job the same way. I'll make sure to stay in contact.

University Staff Member: Excellent. Now, do you have any questions about the role or the program?

Volunteer Applicant: Just one—do volunteers ever help with other kinds of events outside the Saturday program?

University Staff Member: Yes, occasionally. We run literacy fairs and science outreach days a few times a year, and volunteers are welcome to assist. Those events are optional, but we'll let you know in advance when they come up.

Volunteer Applicant: That sounds fun. I'd be happy to get involved with those too.

University Staff Member: Wonderful. I think you'd be a great fit for the team. I'll send you the application form and reference form by email, and we'll invite you to the next training session once those are completed.

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Answer Key

- 1 student fair
- 2 math
- 3 four hours
- 4 two Saturdays
- 5 pairs
- 6 reference letter
- 7 B
- 8 B
- 9 B
- 10 C

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