

Listening and Speaking

1.

What is volunteering?

Giving your time. Helping out. Supporting a cause. Making a difference. These are all phrases used to describe volunteering. Volunteering is an unpaid activity that people choose to do 1) for the good of other people, the society or the environment.

Some people volunteer full time, or 2) on a regular basis. Others volunteer to 3) help out at one-off events.

Many people volunteer with an organization or at a school or sports club, but volunteering has many other forms. Helping a neighbor or a friend can be volunteering.

Why volunteer?

- Volunteering gives you the 4) opportunity to help others in your community and beyond.
- It will always 5) make a positive difference to someone's life.
- It will 6) have a positive impact on your life, providing new challenges.
- It can 7) improve your skills and 8) demonstrate your energy and enthusiasm.
- It will build your confidence and introduce you to new 9) networks of people and possibly some new friends.
- It might even help you 10) decide on the career path that you want to take after graduation.

Text A

Reading Comprehension

1.

Let the volunteer spirit shine

1) Volunteering is essential to securing Britain's future.

2) We should not rely on the government to do everything for us; rather, we ought to get together to make some contributions.

3) Some problems still exist in the volunteer work in Britain.

- Britain has less of a tradition of volunteering than some other countries.
- There is a sense that it is not the role of the private citizen to undertake volunteer tasks.
- The government introduced a series of measures that could have put people off volunteering their time and labor for anything.

1) Ministers should go on the offensive to publicise the changes to the law.

2) The government should also provide a guide to the requirements for volunteers.
The British government must act to remove the barriers which deter people from volunteering so that the culture of volunteering could be lasting in Britain.

Language in Use

4.

- 1) donated

- 2) preserving

- 3) barrier

- 4) undertake

- 5) conviction

- 6) publicise

- 7) laughable

- 8) securing

- 9) comprehensive

- 10) informed

5.

- 1) at liberty

- 2) at heart

- 3) at fault

- 4) at length

- 5) in the meantime

- 6) in the lead

- 7) in the interval

- 8) in the way

- 9) on the offensive

- 10) on the move

- 11) on the spot

- 12) on the rise

7.

- 1) save energy

- 2) save cost

- 3) developing her business

- 4) save face

- 5) develop their talents

- 6) developed a theory

- 7) develop a habit

- 8) save his eyesight

8.

1) 也许其最大的影响力源于哈特尔博士的信念：奥运会已治愈了 2005 年 7 月 7 日（即宣布英国承办 2012 年奥运会的次日）那场恐怖的自杀式爆炸对伦敦造成的心灵创伤。

2) 奥运选手的竞技水准令我们惊叹，但 7 万名志愿者的努力才是这次盛会中最杰出的部分，正是因为他们的付出，奥运会才会如此高效和精彩。

3) 大卫·卡梅伦提出的“大社会”观念虽未必引起公众共鸣，但本质上传递了一个极其重要的理念：我们不能也不应期待政府官员为我们包办一切。

4) 在全国各地，人们成立了各种团体：有的组织帮助儿童安全上学，有的辅导儿童提高读写技能，有的引导人们参与运动，还有的帮助减轻老人生活中的寂寞。

5) 许多试图在社区组织活动或提供服务的人都曾受到当地政府官员的阻拦，要么称法律禁止他们这么做，要么强加给他们无法承受的负担，要他们支付高额费用。

9.

At the heart of volunteerism is a lofty belief that together we can make the world better. The volunteers' motivation can be summed up in one word: dedication —dedicating their time, energy, skills and talents. They know that the true measure of success in life is not what we gain from the world but what we give back to it. They teach children to read, and act as mentors for young people. They help women start businesses and be better adapted to society. They assist to maintain peace and preserve the environment. They have the courage to believe that what they do will make a real difference.

Text B

Reading Comprehension

Language in Use

2.

- 1) inflate, inflation

- 2) resourceful, resources

- 3) recede, recession

- 4) coordination, coordinate

- 5) charity, charitable

- 6) devastation, devastating

- 7) intensify, intensive

- 8) evacuate, evacuation

3.

- 1) wear and tear

- 2) carrot and stick

- 3) off and on

- 4) safe and sound

- 5) above and beyond

- 6) thick and thin

- 7) ebb and flow

- 8) back and forth

4.

1) It was a cold and dry winter night when the forest fire burst out. The villagers nearby sprang into action immediately.

2) They threw on cotton-padded coats and overshoes, and headed toward the spot to take part in fire fighting.

3) It was a pity that the forest failed to ride out the disaster, and what remained of it was nothing but scorched soil.

4) Two villages nearby were affected by the spreading fire; therefore, some villagers had to head back for fire fighting.

5) No casualties occurred though some roofs had caved in.

6) The cause of the fire was still under investigation, but it was confirmed that the forest had not been specially tended to.

Writing

1

Abstract

This study examined the effects of short-term food deprivation on two cognitive abilities — concentration and perseverance. **(research focus)** Undergraduate students (N=51) were tested on both a concentration task and a perseverance task after one of three levels of food deprivation: none, 12 hours, or 24 hours. **(research methods)** We predicted that food deprivation would impair both concentration scores and perseverance time. In the study, we found that food deprivation had no significant effect on concentration scores, which is consistent with recent research on the effects of food deprivation (Green et al., 1995; Green et al., 1997). However, participants in the 12-hour deprivation group spent significantly less time on the perseverance task than those in both the control and 24-hour deprivation groups, **(research findings)** suggesting that short-term deprivation may affect some aspects of cognition but not others. **(conclusion)**

2

1) No. This abstract begins well with a concise statement of the objective of the paper, but then wanders off. There is no mention of the research methods, results, or main conclusion.

One example of presenting the research methods and results:

A statistical analysis was performed on answers to survey questions posed to students enrolled in a capstone design course at Georgia Tech. The analysis showed that students thought the most important aspects of their experience in engineering capstone design were quality of the instructor and quantity of student/instructor interaction time.

2) Yes. It is unnecessary to describe the organization of the paper (“We explain how ... Next, we describe a way to ... We describe the importance of ... We comment specifically on ...”). Though an abstract should follow the order of the main parts in a paper, it is not advisable to devote the abstract to the description of the organization.

3) Yes. The author pays attention to transition words, as is shown by the transition word “next”.