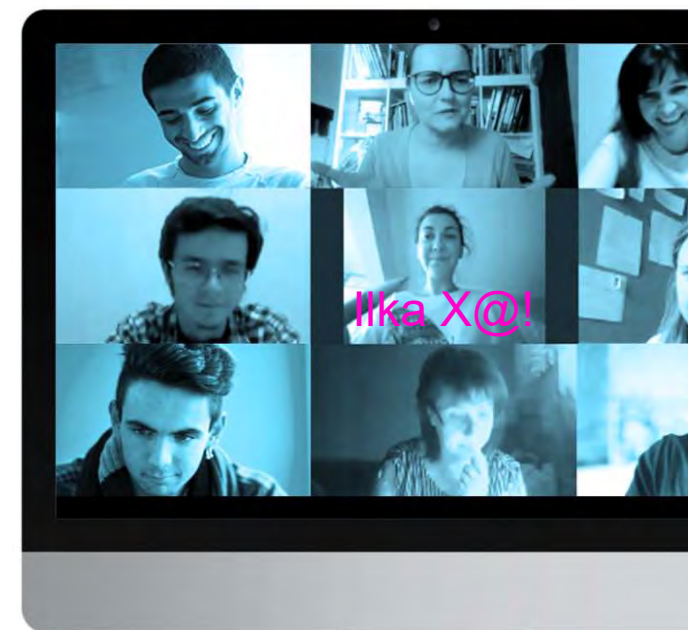


# Volunteering

Theme:  
Writing with a Purpose

## Before we start, please make sure...

- ✓ your name on Zoom is clear (use Latin letters)
- ✓ your camera is on and mic is off (unmute when needed)
- ✓ you are in a quiet area that helps you focus
- ✓ you have a notebook or a note app ready to take notes.



# Zoom features

Check your audio and video settings

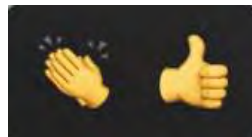
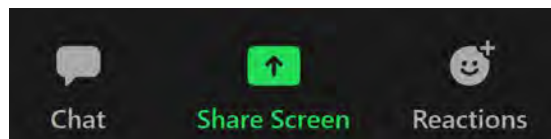


Use Latin letters for your name

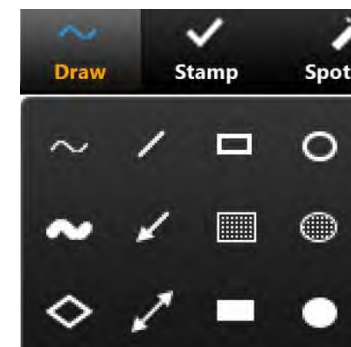


Ask questions in the Chat or use Reactions

Share Screen when the teacher asks



Use Annotate when a screen is shared



English Online | [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

Use Save to make screenshots

# Welcome to English Online

## How does it work?

**You need to complete all three parts to get the most out of English Online.**



# After-class speaking session

**Stay back after class for 5 or 10 minutes to talk to your classmates from around the world.**

**This extra speaking practice will help you...**

- improve your conversation skills
- practise using language learnt in class
- support and help your fellow students
- practise using English in a natural context
- become a part of a global learning community



# Pre-lesson activities

## Before the lesson, you:

- created collocations connected to volunteering
- completed a paragraph about volunteering in Ecuador and Costa Rica
- identified positive and negative phrases in a text.

### Prepare before class

Vocabulary



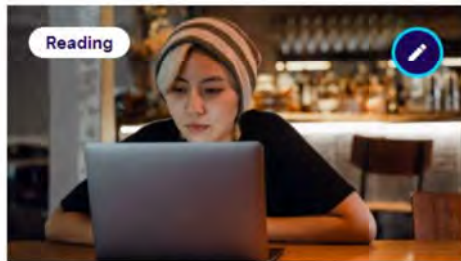
Collocations connected to volunteering

Grammar



A report for volunteers: language

Reading



A report for volunteers: for and against

---

## Lesson objective

**What do you expect to learn by the end of this class?**



# Lesson objectives

In this **live** part of the lesson, you will prepare to write a report for a magazine reviewing and recommending volunteering experiences.

You will also review using a range of positive and negative language to describe volunteering experiences that you learned **before** the lesson.

## Skill focus:

**Writing a report making recommendations about volunteering experiences**

## Language focus:

- Useful phrases for reports to describe positive and negative experiences.
- Collocations connected to volunteering.



# Lead-in

What's happening?



---

## Lead-in – part 2

**Discuss these questions with your partner.**

- Have you, or anyone you know, ever taken part in a volunteering experience?
- What kinds of volunteering experiences are there?
- What are the advantages for the volunteers?
- What kinds of problems might volunteers face?

---

## Skill focus

**Discuss which volunteering role you would like to do and why?**

1. Giant Panda Conservation in Chengdu (From £799, 14 days, China).
2. Costa Rica Sea Turtle Conservation (From £809, 1 week, Costa Rica).
3. South Africa Football Coaching (From £1,049, 5 weeks, South Africa).
4. Ecuador Amazon Teaching Experience (From £609, 4 weeks, Ecuador).

## Language focus

**Read these recommendations from a report about volunteering – are they positive or negative? Underline the positive/negative phrases.**

1. It was felt that this experience was the richest in giving volunteers a learning experience about the local culture.
2. The minimum is 5 weeks, making this a rather inflexible experience.
3. Promises that volunteers would be able to conduct research into panda health and h were not kept.
4. All agreed to commend the hands-on nature of the experience for being able to release baby turtles into the sea.

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# Task



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## Task preparation: brainstorming

**Read one of the following advertisements for volunteering roles.**

1. Brazil community development in Rio.
2. Community volunteers in Goa.
3. Sri Lanka elephant and volunteers.
4. Live with lion cubs in South Africa community.

**In pairs, discuss the role and prepare to describe (cost, location, duration, activities) it to the class.**

---

# Volunteer advert 1

## Brazil Community Development in Rio

(From £699, 3 weeks, Brazil)

Giving love and attention to children from the poorest slums in Rio.

Being in one of the most amazing and beautiful cities.

Enjoying Rio's nightlife.

Understanding life in urban Brazil by taking care of large groups of kids and helping out parents who need to go out to work.

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## Volunteer advert 2

### Community volunteers in Goa

(From £469, 14 days, India)

Making a big difference to other people's lives by taking part in teaching, childcare and health-care work.

Visiting the Hindu temples and churches of Goa.

Using your language skills, maths expertise and enthusiasm to brighten up the lives of children and adults living in poverty.



---

## Volunteer advert 3

### Sri Lanka Elephant and Community Volunteers

(From £799, 2 weeks, Sri Lanka) Getting up close to the elephants including giving them health checks.

Learning about Sri Lankan culture through cooking and getting to know the locals.

Supporting underprivileged children by teaching English.

Educating the tourists who come to visit and take a ride.

Helping out the elephant owners who can no longer look after the elephants on their own but need them to survive

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## Volunteer advert 4

### Live with lion cubs in South Africa

(From £1,080, 4 weeks, South Africa)

Working alongside rangers to feed and care for the cubs

Taking part in game drives on the reserve

Meeting other volunteers

Looking after the giraffes and cheetahs

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## Task:

**Which position would you recommend to somebody who has just finished university and is starting to look for work?**

1. Brazil community development in Rio
2. Community volunteers in Goa
3. Sri Lanka elephant and community volunteers
4. Live with lion cubs in South Africa

**What are the positive and negatives aspects of each role? Be creative! Discuss in your group and share your ideas.**



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## Homework: writing

**Write your recommendation report in no more than 350 words, suitable for a magazine for young people considering volunteering experiences. Use the notes and discussion from the live class to write your report.**



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# Success criteria

## I have:

- used headings for each paragraph
- described each experience individually in separate paragraphs
- described each experience with clear information after the title on price, duration and location – this makes it easy to compare the experiences
- used a range of positive and negative phrases
- included recommendations in the final paragraph.





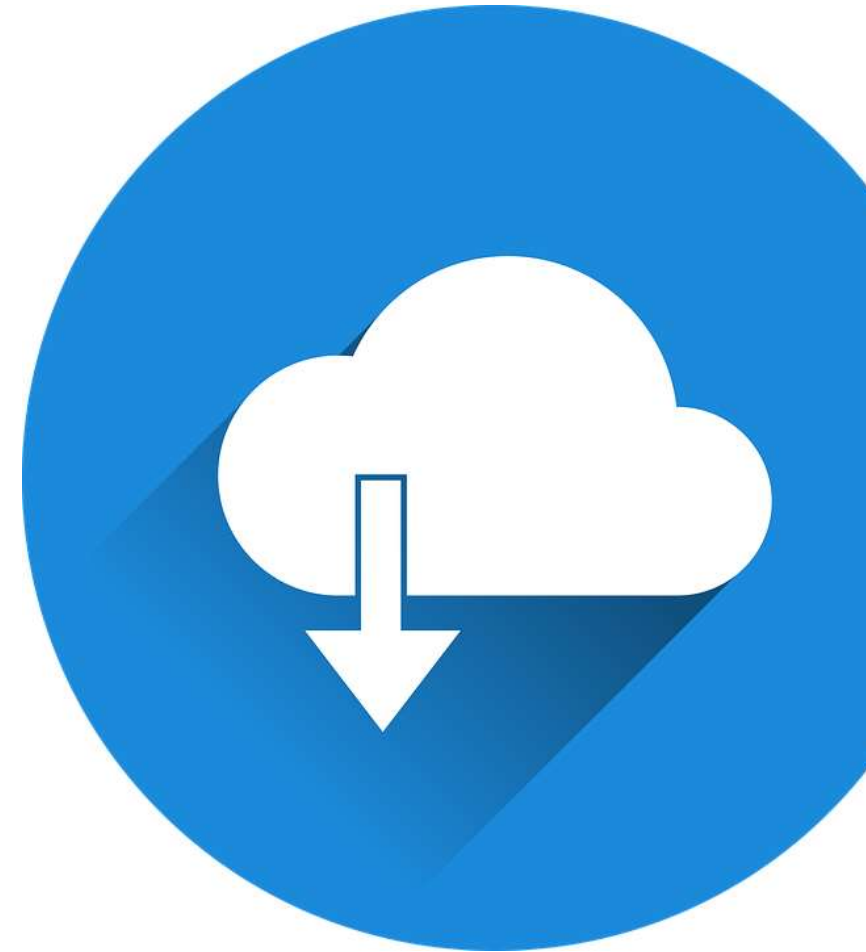
# Feedback

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# Lesson materials

## Make sure you have

- **downloaded the \*.pdf with this presentation**
- **saved the Zoom Chat**



# How can you get your writing marked?

1

**Draft your  
email/essay/report  
etc**

2

**Type it up (in  
Microsoft Word or  
Google Docs)**

3

**Book a private class**

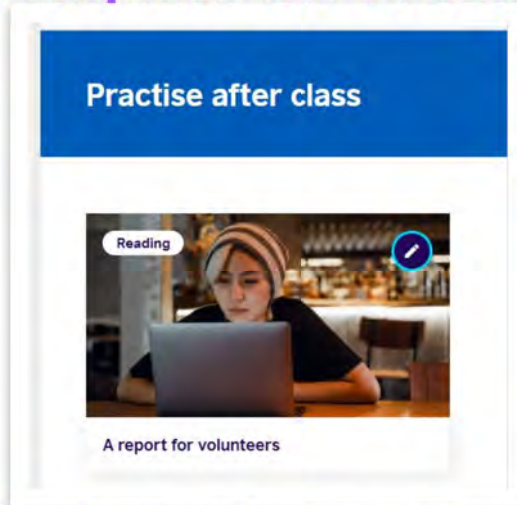
4

**Get feedback and  
correction from  
one of our expert  
teachers**



# How can you make more progress?

Complete the Practise after class activities online.



Review what we have practised today. Have a look at a volunteering website to look at the language used in the descriptions.



<https://www.projects-abroad.org/>

# After-class speaking session

**You can talk about any topic that interests you!**

**Use these questions as a guide, if needed.**

- Is volunteering popular in your country? Why?
- How can volunteering help society in general?
- Have you ever written a report or an article?
- How can you make a report / article more interesting for the reader?
- When have you volunteered your time for a good cause? Explain.

For help, contact:

[support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org](mailto:support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org)

## **Dos**

- ✓ Treat everyone with respect
- ✓ Keep your camera on and on mute
- ✓ Let others share ideas too
- ✓ Listen to everyone
- ✓ Click 'Leave' if you cannot attend

## **Don'ts**

- ✗ Don't take pictures or recordings
- ✗ Don't share personal details
- ✗ Don't let your children be onscreen

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# What do you think?

Do you like the new writing lessons?

What did you think of the activities?

What further information do you need?

For more information, write to

**[support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org](mailto:support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org)**



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# Teacher's Notes

This slide deck was made by Eke Woldring

## Notes

*Share your thoughts about the lesson with the next teacher*