**7. What have you done to make your school or your community a better place? (350 words)**

As an Indonesian living in Oman, I was introduced to the surge of Indonesian migrant workers in the country, many of which are uneducated and working as domestic servants of local people. Because Oman is a predominantly English-speaking country, I learned that many lacked communication not only with their employer, but also with their community.

Here, I immerse myself in the Indonesian community through our Indonesian Students Association (ISA). As ISA’s head of public relations, I wanted to initiate a program that could reduce the language barrier of the migrant workers, so I coordinated weekly English speaking lessons online and gathered Indonesian university students here in the country to volunteer.

And so began our weekly lessons. As I opened the Zoom meeting, a surge of bright faces appeared, but most with worse-than-average camera quality. We dedicated the first week to assessing their current speaking skills. As expected, their timid nature meant that the first lesson started slow, with many moments of silence between my instructions and their response. We then coordinated our weekly lessons ranging from expanding simple vocabulary to past tense grammar. After 4 weeks, I found that the initial Indonesian embedded English responses such as “I like to *nonton* films”, turned into 3 sentence responses. Their speech became more fluid with more complex sentence structure, but more importantly, they had become more confident with their English.

As their confidence with the language continues to grow, they also gain better appreciation with their employer, and become more immersed in the predominantly-English-speaking Omani community. Now, they often open up authentic Indonesian food stands in public events as a ‘side hustle’. With their enhanced speaking skills, they can communicate better with their customers, thus successfully attracting more people.

While my initial goal was to simply improve their language skills, I came to know that the weekly lessons have provided them with more opportunities by expanding their skillsets. I hope to continue improving the Indonesian migrant workers’ quality of life here in Oman by further developing their skills to enable them to become more active members of the community.