

Unit 4



VOLUNTEER WORK

A. READING

Before you read

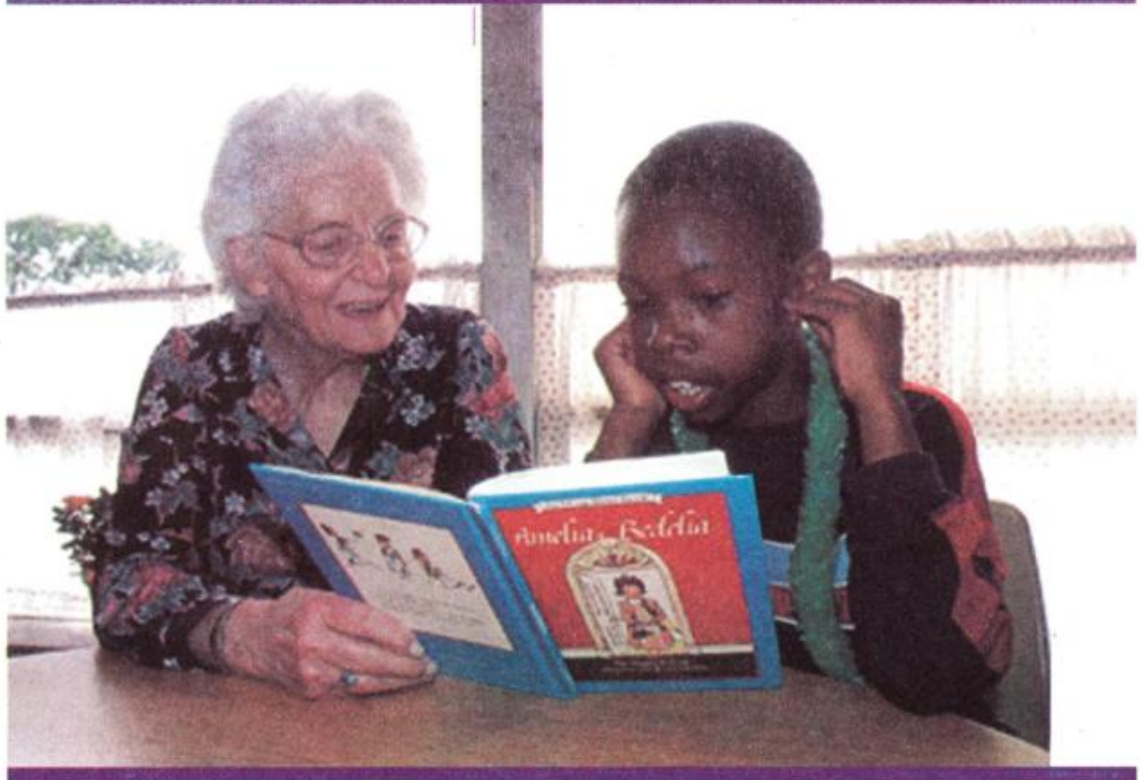
Read the following saying and explain what it means.

“If you give me a fish,
I will eat today.
If you teach me to fish,
I will eat my whole life long.”



Big Brothers Big Sisters

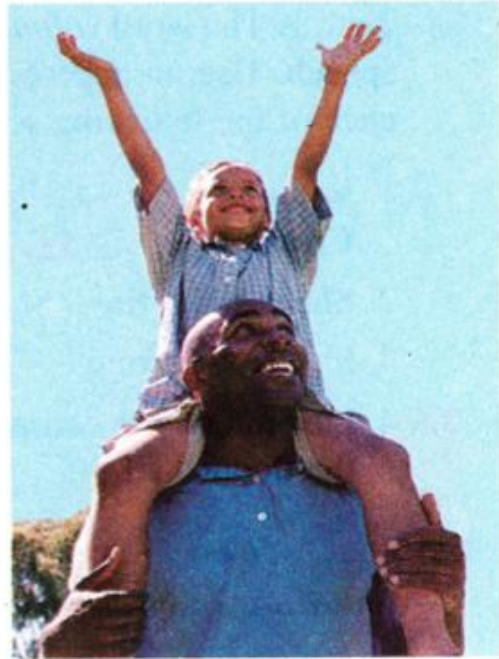
Little Moments. Big Magic.



While you read

Read the passage and then do the tasks that follow.

Each nation has many people who voluntarily take care of others. For example, many high school and college students in the United States often spend many hours as volunteers in hospitals, orphanages or homes for the aged. They read books to the people in these places. Sometimes the students just visit them, play games with them or listen to their problems.




Other young volunteers work in the homes of sick or old people. They clean up their houses, do their shopping or mow their lawns. For boys who no longer have fathers, there is a voluntary organization called Big Brothers. College students take these boys to baseball games and help them to get to know things that boys usually learn from their fathers.


Some high school students take part in helping disadvantaged or handicapped children. They give care and comfort to them and help them to overcome their difficulties. Young college and university students participate in helping the people who have suffered badly in wars or natural disasters. During summer vacations, they volunteer to work in remote or mountainous areas to provide education for children.

Each city has a number of clubs where boys and girls can go to play games. Some of these clubs organise short trips to the mountains, beaches or other places of interest. Most of these clubs use a lot of high school and college students as volunteers because they are young enough to understand the problems of younger boys and girls.

Volunteers believe that some of the happiest people in the world are those who help to bring happiness to others.

 **Task 1.** The word *volunteer* appears in the passage in different parts of speech. Use an appropriate form of the word *volunteer* to complete each of the following sentences.

1. When she retired, she did a lot of _____ service for the Red Cross.
2. She was not fired. She left the company _____.
3. She needs some _____ to clean up the kitchen.
4. Last month the company _____ to donate fifty trucks to help the flooded areas.

 **Task 2.** Choose the best answer from A, B, C or D for each of the following sentences.

1. Volunteers usually help those who are sick or old in their homes by _____.
 - A. mowing the lawns, doing shopping and cleaning up their houses
 - B. cooking, sewing or washing their clothes
 - C. telling them stories, and singing and dancing for them
 - D. taking them to baseball games
2. Big Brothers is _____.
 - A. the name of a club
 - B. a home for children
 - C. the name of a film
 - D. an organisation for boys who no longer have fathers
3. Most of the boys' and girls' clubs use many high school and college students as volunteers because they _____.
 - A. have a lot of free time
 - B. can understand the problems of younger boys and girls
 - C. know how to do the work
 - D. are good at playing games

4. Volunteers believe that _____.
- A. in order to make others happy, they have to be unhappy
 - B. the happiest people are those who make themselves happy
 - C. the happiest people are those who are young and healthy
 - D. bringing happiness to others makes them the happiest people
5. The best title for the passage is _____.
- A. Taking Care of Others
 - B. Voluntary Work in the United States
 - C. Volunteers: The Happiest People in the World
 - D. Helping Old and Sick People in the United States


 **Task 3.** Answer the questions.

1. What do high school and college students usually do as volunteers in hospitals, orphanages or homes for the aged?
2. How do volunteers help disadvantaged and handicapped children to overcome their difficulties?
3. Where do students volunteer to work during summer vacations?


After you read

Work in groups. Discuss the question: Why do people do volunteer work?

B. SPEAKING

 **Task 1.** *Work in pairs.* Decide which of the following activities are volunteer work.

- Taking part in an excursion
- Helping people in remote or mountainous areas
- Giving care and comfort to the poor and the sick
- Participating in an English speaking club
- Providing education for disadvantaged children
- Joining the Green Saturday Movement

 **Task 2. Work in pairs.** Practise the dialogue and then make similar conversations, using the activities that follow.

A: What kind of volunteer work are you participating in?

B: We're helping people in mountainous areas.


A: What exactly are you doing?

B: We're teaching the children to read and write.

A: Do you enjoy the work?

B: Yes. I like helping people.

Your activities	What exactly you are doing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Helping people in mountainous areas ● Helping old or sick people ● Helping disadvantaged or handicapped children ● Taking care of war invalids and the families of martyrs ● Taking part in directing the traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teaching the children to read and write ● Giving them money ● Playing games with them ● Listening to their problems ● Cleaning up their houses ● Doing their shopping ● Cooking meals ● Taking them to places of interest ● Directing vehicles at the intersections ● Helping old people and young children to cross the road

 **Task 3. Work in groups.** Talk about a kind of volunteer work your friends and you usually do to help people.

Example:

We usually take part in helping people in mountainous areas. We teach the children to read and write. We enjoy the work very much because we like helping people.

C. LISTENING

Before you listen

• Tick (✓) the best answers to the questions that suit you.

1. How often do you support charities?

regularly from time to time never

2. What's the best way of raising money to support charities?

through donations through taxes through
fund-raising
activities

3. Which of these kinds of volunteer work do you prefer?

helping the elderly helping the poor helping the sick

• Listen and repeat.


Organisation for Educational Development Spring School

co-operate disadvantaged children fund-raising co-ordinate

While you listen

 **Task 1.** Listen and fill in the missing information.

1. Spring School is an _____ school in Ho Chi Minh City.
2. Around _____ live and study at the school.
3. About _____ from District 1 regularly attend classes.
4. Organisation for Educational Development co-operated with Spring School to set up English classes in _____.
5. The school requires _____ to help organise their fund-raising dinner held annually in _____.

 **Task 2.** Listen again and answer the questions.


1. What is the aim of Spring School?
2. What classes were set up in 1999?
3. Why do children participate in fund-raising performances?
4. Where do children dance, sing and play music?
5. Why are foreign volunteers needed?

After you listen

Work in groups. Summarize the story about Spring School, using the following suggestions.

- The aim of Spring School
- The number of children who live and study at the school or attend classes
- The activities the children at the school take part in
- The kinds of volunteers that Spring School requires

D. WRITING

 **Task 1.** Read the letter and underline the sentences that express the following points:

- the opening of the letter
- the way(s) the money is used
- the gratitude to the donor
- the donated amount
- the way the receipt is issued
- the closing of the letter

197 Hill Road, Los Angeles
20th December, 2005

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am very happy to have received a donation of \$500 from your company some days ago. The money will help us to repair the old school building and build a new block of flats for the handicapped students. We will certainly issue a receipt as soon as possible.


I would like to express our thanks for the donation from your company and hope to get more assistance and cooperation from your company in the future.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

David James

Secretary of School Building Fund

 **Task 2.** Imagine that you have just received a donation of one million dong from one of the local organizations to build your school library. Use the suggestions in Task 1 to write a letter to acknowledge the receipt of the donation and express your gratitude.

E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

- **Pronunciation:** / w / - / j /
- **Grammar:**
 1. Gerund and present participle
 2. Perfect gerund and perfect participle

Pronunciation

- *Listen and repeat.*

/ w /		/ j /	
we	wheel	yes	years
west	wet	yellow	use
wine	whale	young	York

- *Practise reading aloud these sentences.*

1. We went for a walk in the woods near the railway.
2. We wore warm clothes and walked quickly to keep warm.
3. At about twelve, we had veal sandwiches and sweet white wine, and we watched TV.
4. Excuse me. Did you use to live in York?
5. Did you use to be a tutor at the University?
6. I read about Hugh in the newspaper yesterday.

Grammar

Exercise 1. Complete each of the following sentences with an appropriate gerund of the verbs from the box.

spend	behave	wait	park
start	bend	meet	listen

Example:

He found that _____ was difficult in that city.

– *He found that **parking** was difficult in that city.*

1. I have no objection to _____ to your story again.
2. Touch your toes without _____ your knees!
3. You should be ashamed of yourself for _____ so badly.
4. I am looking forward to _____ you.
5. You can't prevent him from _____ his own money.
6. Would you mind _____ for a moment?
7. In spite of _____ late, we arrived in time.

Exercise 2. Complete each of the following sentences with an appropriate present participle of the verbs from the box.

lie	modernize	shop	pass	prepare
rise	try	read	burn	

Example:

I saw him _____ my house.

– *I saw him **passing** my house.*

1. She smelt something _____ and saw smoke _____.
2. If she catches you _____ her diary, she'll be furious.

3. They found a tree _____ across the road.
4. I'm going _____ this afternoon.
5. He doesn't spend much time _____ his lessons.
6. They wasted a whole afternoon _____ to repair the bike.
7. They spent a lot of money _____ the house.

Exercise 3. Put the verbs in brackets into the perfect gerund or perfect participle.

Examples:

He was accused of _____ (desert) his ship two months ago.

– *He was accused of **having deserted** his ship two months ago.*

_____ (fail) twice, he didn't want to try again.

– ***Having failed** twice, he didn't want to try again.*

1. I object to him _____ (make) private calls on the office phone.
2. _____ (be) his own boss for such a long time, he found it hard to accept orders from another.
3. They denied _____ (be) there.
4. _____ (tie) one end of the rope to his bed, he threw the other end out of the window.
5. _____ (read) the instruction, he snatched up the fire extinguisher.
6. The children admitted _____ (take) the money.