

Volunteering – Progress Test A

Name: _____

September 2009

LISTENING COMPREHENSION (24 POINTS)

Watch the video and **choose** the best answer for the questions:

- a. What is the problem that volunteer Ravi is helping to solve?
 - I. Tsunamis
 - II. War
 - III. Deforestation
- b. What organization is Ravi helping?
 - I. UNESCO
 - II. Salvation Army
 - III. The United Nations
- c. Where is Ravi volunteering?
 - I. Nepal
 - II. India
 - III. Brazil
- d. How is Ravi helping these people?
 - I. He helps them plant trees.
 - II. He gives them food.
 - III. He helps them prepare for future tsunamis and storms.

WRITING SECTION (36 POINTS)

Exercise 1 (12 points)

Complete the paragraph with ONE word in each space:

Voluntary / stay / year / going / trees / is

Next _____, Diane is going to take a year off. She is going to do _____ work in Africa, helping in a National Park. She is going to _____ for 3 months, and she going to do many things: plant _____, help feed the animals (elephants!), and also teach about the dangers of deforestation. She is happy because she is _____ to help a lot. 😊

Exercise 2 (24 points)

Look at the pictures and write a sentence about what these people are going to do:



READING COMPREHENSION (40 POINTS)

Exercise 1 (_____ / 15 points)

Read about **Queen Seketi** and answer TRUE or FALSE:

- Queen is volunteering in Zambia.
- She is American.
- She is helping prevent cancer.
- She participated in a march to raise awareness about AIDS.
- She is a doctor.

Exercise 2 (_____ / 25 points)

Read about students in Kosovo and answer the questions:

- When is the event?
- Who helps organize the event?
- How long is the event?
- Where is the event?
- What are students doing in the event? How are they helping?

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Volunteering begins at home

by Queen E. Seketi

07 August 2009



Kalulushi, Zambia: My name is Queen Seketi and I am a UNV volunteer in my country, Zambia. My duty station is Kalulushi, where I am assigned as a District HIV/AIDS Coordination Advisor.

I believe that the UNV programme under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Zambia is one of the best things that I have ever participated in. It's not because of the volunteer living allowance we are given, but because being exposed to different settings helps one work better.

It's not easy to define volunteerism in our Zambian context because people have always helped one another and done things together. Despite not being paid, people still think volunteerism is good and go on to volunteer under different projects.

I have been blessed to have an assignment in the district where I grew up. The beautiful thing about working in such a set-up is that you already have some idea on how things work in terms of geographical setting and people's way of life. As volunteers, we conduct joint supervisory visits, and work with anyone regardless of their social status. I love to be associated with good ideas which can make use of my skills and talents.

Starting in April 2004, I was among the first national UNV volunteers to serve as a District HIV/AIDS Coordination Advisor. We literally pioneered the post.

How have communities benefited as a result of this assignment? There is increased awareness on issues of HIV/AIDS. Mobile video shows have aired our clips, and we've provided technical assistance to ZANIS, the Zambian News and Information Service. Also, there's been increased community involvement in bottom-up approaches to HIV/AIDS programming.

Personally, the assignment has helped me gain new skills, like taking photos and videos. I've honed my facilitation skills, and have learnt to multitask. I am certain the knowledge I have acquired will help me work better in other settings.

Zambian national UNV volunteer Queen Seketi (facing camera) takes part in a march to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. (UNV)



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Students promote eco-friendly practices in Kosovo

16 June 2009



Pristina, Kosovo: UNV organized a one-day event with local students to promote recycling and other environmentally-friendly practices in Kosovo.

To mark World Environment Day, on 4 June UNV worked in partnership with the American University in Kosovo (AUK) Center for Energy and Natural Resources (CENR), together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Center is among the first organizations to initiate comprehensive recycling initiatives in Kosovo. Recycling is not yet very common in Kosovo, and people generally have no choice but to throw recyclables such as paper, plastic bottles and cans into rubbish bins.

The students of AUK recently introduced a comprehensive recycling programme on campus. They have also supported high school students in the development of greener neighbourhoods in those students' home towns.

World Environment Day was a good opportunity for the UNV Country Office to partner with AUK to invite high school students in the university neighbourhood, and for UNV volunteers to provide them with some practical tips on how and where they can take voluntary actions to improve their surroundings or help achieve Millennium Development Goal 7 (ensure environmental sustainability).

The activity started at the university auditorium with around 30 participants. UNV opened the event with a short speech on the importance of voluntary contributions to protect the environment, and encouraged them to think about what they can do and to take actions.

Two students from the university gave short lectures on their recycling exercises and activities of the environmental club. A staff member from UNDP Kosovo presented UNDP projects and initiatives on environment highlighting the environmental challenges Kosovo is facing.

During the lectures, small tips for individuals to live an environmental friendly life (extracted from UNEP website and translated by national UNV volunteers) were also provided. Participants were requested to bring back and discuss the information shared with friends and families.

A recycling bin at the American University in Kosovo installed by student volunteers at the Center for Energy and Natural Resources. (UNV)