

Spotlight

studieren
weltweit
ERLEBE ES!

Voluntourism

Eine Zeit als Freiwilliger im Ausland bei einem Projekt mitzuarbeiten kann nicht nur eine tolle Erfahrung sein, sondern auch die fachlichen, die sozialen und die interkulturellen Kompetenzen erweitern.

MITTEL by Clare Maas

Voluntourism lets you combine a holiday with useful voluntary work and is becoming an increasingly popular form of travel. Adam, who has just left school, is thinking about trying out voluntourism for himself.

Lots of options

- Susi:** Have you made any holiday plans, Adam?
Adam: Yes, I have. I'm thinking of going on a volunteering holiday for the summer.
Susi: A volunteering holiday?
Adam: Yes. You travel to some far-off country for a few weeks and work there as a **volunteer**.
Susi: Doing what?
Adam: Oh, all sorts of things: helping in an **orphanage**, for example, or building a school, or something to do with **wildlife conservation**. I'm still looking at various options.
Susi: That sounds interesting! But isn't it quite expensive?
Adam: Not really! They usually pay for your **accommodation** and food, and you get to see a new country!

Second thoughts

- Susi:** Hi, Adam! Have you booked your volunteering holiday yet?
Adam: No. To be honest, I'm having **second thoughts**.
Susi: Why's that?
Adam: Well, if I go and help build a school in Angola,

say, I might be taking work away from the **locals**. I wouldn't want to do that.

- Susi:** Yes, that's true. And if you work in an orphanage for a few weeks, you might break a child's heart when you leave.
Adam: Exactly! I also read about a voluntourism organization **the other day** that was shown to be a **scam**. There are good organizations out there, but you have to do your homework and **weigh up** the **pros and cons**.

Back at home

- Susi:** Wow, Adam! You look **well**. Have you been on holiday?
Adam: Yes. I've just come back from my volunteering trip. Remember?
Susi: Oh, yes, of course. So, where did you **end up** going?
Adam: To Romania.
Susi: Romania? I thought you were going to, say, Peru or Cambodia or somewhere exotic like that.
Adam: No. I decided I'm **not cut out for** exotic places and I wanted to do something I am good at. So I looked nearer to home and found a volunteering project coaching football. It was great!

accommodation
↳ Unterkunft

locals
↳ Einwohner

weigh up
↳ abwägen

The words you need

Wie können Sie als Lehrer oder Lehrerin den Text in Ihrer Klasse bearbeiten?

LEICHT MITTEL SCHWER

1. Vocabulary: crossword S

Use the words in bold from the dialogue above to complete the crossword.

- CLUES**
- Across**
- 4 An adjective meaning “healthy”.
 - 5 Not having the qualities needed for a particular activity.
 - 6 To finally be in a place or a situation after a series of events.
 - 7 The protection of the natural environment.
 - 8 A home for children whose parents are dead.
 - 9 To work willingly without being paid, or a person who works without being paid.
 - 10 A short form of “let’s say” meaning “for example”.
 - 11 A clever but dishonest plan for making money.
- Down**
- 1 Another way of saying “recently” or “a short time ago”.
 - 2 A change of opinion; not being sure whether you have made the right decision.
 - 3 Another way of saying “advantages and disadvantages”.
 - 4 Animals, birds, insects, etc. that are wild and live in a natural environment.

2. Translation S

Translate the words and phrases from the crossword above into German and write them in your notebook. An example has been done for you.

well (=healthy) → gesund

3. Group discussion S

Are you interested in going on a volunteering holiday? Why / Why not? Where would you like to go? What would you like to do? Why?

4. Text comprehension: S

Are the following statements true, false or not in the text? How do you know? Write in your notebook. An example has been done for you.

Adam is a school pupil. False — he has just left school.

Volunteering whilst on holiday has always been very popular.

There are numerous activities you can do on a volunteering holiday.

You have to stay wherever you volunteer for at least six months.

Volunteering in certain countries takes jobs away from local inhabitants.

Volunteering agencies are always a good place to find a volunteering holiday.

You have to try a new activity when you go on a volunteering holiday.

Most volunteers want to work in exotic countries.

Notes for teachers

Language Level: B2-C1 on CEFR.

Language level: B1-B2 on CEFR.
New B2-level vocabulary: includes idiomatic expressions such as well; be cut out for; end up; say; the other day; second thoughts; pros and cons,

and content-related nouns such as wildlife conservation; volunteer; orphanage; scam.

Language & skills practice: vocabulary; reading comprehension.

Content aim: to introduce the concept of “voluntourism” (=volunteering holidays) and to encourage evaluative discussion about spending time abroad as a volunteer.

Procedure: best used in a double lesson, or give reading, crossword & translation as homework.

Reading	5 mins	Can also be done at home
Crossword & Translation	20 mins	Can also be done at home
		Check crossword & translation answers before proceeding.
Discussion	15-20 mins	Best done in small groups (4-5 pupils).
Text comprehension	10-15 mins	Check answers in plenum & use answers to highlight key facts about volunteering holidays.
Homework	Optional	Find out more about a volunteering holiday you would be interested in, and how to apply.



Clare Maas

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Answers

Wildtiere	wildlife	4 WILDLIFE
Vor- und Nachteile	pros and cons	3 PROS AND CONS
es sich anders überlegen	to have second thoughts	2 SECOND THOUGHTS
kürzlich	the other day	1 THE OTHER DAY
Betrug / Schwindel	scam	Down
zum Beispiel	say	11 SCAM
ehrenamtlich arbeiten /	Freiwillige(r)	10 SAY
Waisenhaus	volunteer	9 VOLUNTEER
Naturschutz	orphanage	8 ORPHANAGE
letztendlich tun	conservation	7 CONSERVATION
für etwas nicht gemacht	end up +ing	6 END UP
gesund	not cut out for	5 NOT CUT OUT FOR
	well	4 WELL
	Translation:	Across

Fotos: Clare Maas



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