

Volunteering

Discussion Topic Pack

A warm-up, vocabulary, and graded discussion questions for talking about **Volunteering**.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____ Score _____

Warm-up: What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word "volunteer"?

1 · Vocabulary

Word	Meaning	Example
volunteer	A person who offers help without being paid	<i>She decided to volunteer at the local animal shelter on weekends.</i>
charity	An organization that helps people in need	<i>The charity organized a fundraiser to support homeless families.</i>
community	A group of people living in the same area or sharing interests	<i>Our community holds a clean-up day every spring.</i>
donate	To give money or goods to help a cause	<i>Many people donate clothes to the shelter during winter.</i>
help	To give assistance or support	<i>Volunteers help the elderly with grocery shopping.</i>
support	To give encouragement or aid	<i>She offers emotional support to new volunteers.</i>
cause	A principle or aim that people support	<i>Protecting the environment is a cause many young people care about.</i>
commitment	A promise or dedication to do something	<i>Regular volunteering shows a strong commitment to the community.</i>

2 · Discussion Questions

Take turns asking and answering — try to give a full answer, not just yes or no.

- 1 Have you ever volunteered for any activity?
- 2 What kind of volunteer work have you done in the past?
- 3 How often do you think people should volunteer?
- 4 Why do you think people choose to volunteer?
- 5 What skills can you learn from volunteering?
- 6 How does volunteering benefit the community?
- 7 Do you think schools should require students to volunteer? Why or why not?
- 8 What are the possible drawbacks of relying on volunteers for essential services?
- 9 How could technology improve the way volunteers are organized and managed?
- 10 In your opinion, what role should governments play in encouraging volunteerism across the country?

3 · Extension

Try this: Role-play: One student is a manager at a community centre looking for volunteers for a new after-school program. The other student is a potential volunteer. The manager explains the program and its benefits, while the volunteer asks questions and decides whether to join.