

# What skills does a volunteer English teacher require?



*Photo: Hands for Help*

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# Personal background



# Volunteering in Nepal



Peace Corps volunteer Joyce Thorkelson at the elementary school attached to the College of Education in Kathmandu, 1962-1964. (Fisher, 2013, p. 83).

“Kezia teaching English in Nepal”, 2008  
(1 min.45sec)



YouTube - Uploaded on Jan 7, 2009

‘Working as a volunteer, teaching English to Tharu children in a village in Chitwan, Nepal. I am teaching them prepositions using a pen as a prop. For example I ask them "Where is the pen?" and they respond "the pen is under the bench" etc ...’

# Approaches to ELT volunteerism



# What skills do you think are most important?



*Photo: Global Volunteer Network*

- If you wish to participate in this research, please fill out the form and hand it back; and
- If you wish to receive the results, please leave your name and email address.

ຂອບໃຈ

Terima kasih

Korabwa

Ar kun

どうもありがとう

Merci

谢谢

Kia ora  
Thank you  
नमस्ते

Баярлалаа

Malo 'aupito

شكريه

Tenk yu tumas

Fa'afetai lava

고맙습니다

ໜອບຄູ່ ຄະ

Cam ón

# References

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# Websites for ELT volunteering in Nepal

- **Travel to Teach** (Bangkok)  
<http://www.travel-to-teach.org>
- **Global Crossroads** (US)  
<http://www.globalcrossroad.com>
- **Projects Abroad** (UK/US)  
<http://www.projects-abroad.org/volunteer-projects/teaching/volunteer-nepal>
- **Hands for Help Nepal** (Nepal)  
<http://handsforhelpnepal.org/teaching-english-monastery.html>
- **Volunteers Initiative Nepal** (Nepal)  
<http://www.volunteeringnepal.org/program-fees>
- **Volunteering Solutions**  
<http://www.volunteeringsolutions.com/nepal/volunteer/volunteer-teaching-english-nepal>
- **International Volunteering HQ** (NZ)  
<http://www.volunteerhq.org/volunteer-in-nepal>
- **World Teach** (Harvard US - Nepal programme in association with NELTA)  
[http://www.worldteach.org/site/c.buLRibNOIbJ2G/b.8827677/k.A7F5/Program\\_Profile.htm](http://www.worldteach.org/site/c.buLRibNOIbJ2G/b.8827677/k.A7F5/Program_Profile.htm)
- **Global Volunteer Network**  
<http://www.globalvolunteernetwork.org/nepal>

## What skills does a volunteer English teacher require?

Please write numbers beside each of the following skills or qualities to show how important each one is, from 0= not important at all, to 5= very important.

<b>A</b>	Classroom teaching knowledge and experience.	
<b>B</b>	High proficiency in English language.	
<b>C</b>	Understanding of issues around language education and use.	
<b>D</b>	Qualifications in teaching English language.	
<b>E</b>	Knowledge of English grammatical terms, IPA symbols, etc.	
<b>F</b>	Commitment to learning local language/s.	
<b>G</b>	Sensitivity and respect for local culture (behaviour, clothing, etc.)	
<b>H</b>	Commitment to developing students' bilingual/multilingual abilities.	
<b>I</b>	Commitment to local English language teaching.	
<b>J</b>	“English” (white) appearance.	
<b>K</b>	Ability to communicate British/American/NZ etc. culture.	
<b>L</b>	Positive enthusiasm and energy, fun.	
<b>M</b>	Patience, humility, calm.	
<b>N</b>	Love of classical English literature.	
<b>O</b>	Ability to work well to share knowledge with local colleagues.	
<b>P</b>	Willingness to teach other subjects e.g. sport, hygiene, IT.	
<b>Q</b>	Willingness to work in basic conditions.	
<b>R</b>	Other?	

*About you:*

1. Male/Female?
2. Have you had any volunteer English teachers working with you?  
Yes / No
3. Level of school/s you work in:
4. Private / government?
5. Any other comments?