

Is she a team player?

LEARNING OUTCOME

learn how to choose a candidate for a voluntary project

Everyday life

1 Look at the photo and answer the questions.

Where are the people and what are they doing?
What may affect the suitability of a candidate?



Everyday vocabulary

2 Match the adjectives to describe qualities of a job candidate with their definitions.

Adjective	Definition: Someone who ...
1 organised	a can wait without getting annoyed
2 trustworthy	b deals with a changing situation well
3 patient	c takes actions before problems happen
4 determined	d is honest and can be trusted
5 flexible	e always does what has decided to do
6 proactive	f arranges plans carefully

3 Choose three jobs from the box. Decide which qualities in 2 you need to do each job.

accountant • architect • artist • chef • company director • computer programmer • customer services agent • journalist • nurse • police officer

Dialogue

4 07 Listen to the dialogue. Who do Rob and Maria decide to give the position to?

Rob and Maria are discussing the suitability of two candidates for a volunteer position at a youth centre.

Rob: Okay, (1) What do you think of Bryn?

Maria: I like him. He got really good exam results at school last year, (2)

Rob: OK, let's recap. The person we are looking for should be hard-working and able to relate to young children. Right?

Maria: Right. (3) and have a can-do attitude. So, is Bryn all of those? Well, we know he is hard-working because of his exam results. But I have a couple of concerns. (4) He's worked in a shop before, but he hasn't worked with children.

Rob: Yes. Although he says he likes working with other people, he seems quite shy out with friends.

Maria: What about Abby? She's been working with younger students at her school. She's really committed as she's been doing that twice a week for two years, (5)

Rob: Yes, I think Abby has the experience we're looking for.

Maria: I agree. Let's ask Abby. But I want to keep Bryn's number (6)

Rob: Agreed.

5 Read and complete the dialogue with the phrases (a–f). Then listen again and check.

- a He doesn't have a lot of experience.
- b so she doesn't mind working hard.
- c so he must be bright.
- d we're down to the final two.
- e in case another volunteer position comes up.
- f I think the candidate also has to be sociable

EVERYDAY ENGLISH TOOLKIT: DESCRIBING PERSONAL QUALITIES

Look at the expressions from the dialogue.
Who does each one describe, Bryn or Abby?

- ... seems quite shy
- ... really committed
- ... got really good exam results
- ... experience working with younger students

How could you explain the phrases in *italic*?

- ... has to be sociable
- ... have a can-do attitude

Over to you!

6 Work in pairs. You are designing a new outside area for students. You are looking for volunteers to help organise the project. Follow the steps below and role-play a conversation. Use the expressions in the Everyday English Toolkit.

Talk to your partner and agree on the qualities you are looking for in a volunteer. Refer to 2 and the phrases in the Toolkit. Choose one of the three candidates below for the position. Be prepared to justify your choice.



Karina: creative, flexible, can-do attitude



Maya: bright, hard-working, thorough



James: patient, sociable, determined