B2 Exam Skills Trainer

READING

2 Read the text. Choose the correct answers, A, B, c or D.

Volunteer blog

When I signed up to volunteer at a local hospital last year, I didn't have any real expectations. I decided to do it mainly because my friends were planning to do volunteer work, and our class attended a volunteer job fair that October, which made it easier to choose something interesting. I knew the experience would look good on my college applications, and that was plus too.

On my first day, I was given a tour of the hospital. Then I was given a tablet computer with maps and some basic information. I was then told to stand next to an information sign and to answer any questions that came my way. I'm sure I sent a few visitors in the wrong direction that first day, but I did my best. It wasn't a big deal, and my second time there was much the same.

But on the third day, everything changed. I was in the middle of my shift when I noticed a wheelchair speeding in my direction. A young boy of about six with one of the biggest smiles I have ever seen was sitting in it. The boy stopped in front of me and said, 'Who are you? You're in my hospital and I don't even know you!'

I have to say that I've never been known for self-confidence. But this boy with his irresistible smile completely disarmed me. I introduced myself and explained that I was new. 'Like you know anything!' the boy said. 'I've been coming here for the past two years, so I know every inch of this hospital'.

David's parents caught up with him and introduced themselves. They explained that he was there for his weekly check-up, and they sat down for a bit while they waited. David began to tell me about his medical history, his favourite football player and other details of his life. Our conversation transformed my view of young children, illness and hospitals.

In fact, after David had gone to his appointment, one of the administrators came up to me and said, 'That was amazing. You were a different person when you were talking to him!' She went on to explain that they needed volunteers to work in the children's department. 'And I think you'd be great at it,' she added.

This led to my becoming a regular in the children's department, and also to my decision to study medicine at university and become a paediatrician. It was a career path that hadn't crossed my mind before. Volunteering might not do the same for everyone, but in my case it was a life-changer.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 When the author decided to do volunteer work, she
A didn't know anyone else who was interested in it.
B persuaded her friends to do it too.
C was influenced by her friends.
D thought it would be an amazing experience.

2 The volunteer job fair
A helped her decide which volunteer job to do.
B was an event that she went to on her own.
C was, she believed, an experience that would look good on her college applications.
D was organised by her class that October.

3 During the first couple of days at the hospital, she
A had to give people tours of the building.
B didn't find the work too challenging.
C didn't know where some hospital facilities were located.
D was informed she was giving wrong directions.

4 On her third day, she met a young boy
A who demanded to know who she was.
B when she was leaving work.
C who was walking towards her in the hospital.
D who seemed very sad.

5 The author spoke to the boy because
A she felt he'd been rude to her.
B she was curious to know why he was in hospital.
C he asked her something about the hospital.
D she found him very charming.

6 Why did David tell the author his medical history?
A Because his parents told him to.
B Because he told her lots of things about himself.
C Because he thought she was a doctor.
D Because she asked him about it.

7 What led to her volunteering in the children's ward?
A feeling sorry for David
B someone observing her conversation with David
C her ambition to become a medical professional
D a suggestion from the boy's parents

8 Before working at the hospital, the author
A had regularly visited the children's department.
B had always wanted to be a doctor.
C hadn't thought about studying medicine.
D had sometimes thought about becoming a paediatrician.

LIVEWORKSHEETS