Exercise 2

In the IELTS Reading test, it is useful to be able to identify the reporting verbs used in a passage when looking for facts and opinions.

Read the information. Then write the reporting verbs in the statements in the gaps.

Reading passages often report the opinions of other people. Look out for reporting verbs such as *say*, *think* and *believe*. It is important to understand that what a person says, thinks or writes is not always a fact, even if the person is an expert, and believes what they say to be true.

1. Professor Mark Thompson believes that people from wealthy backgrounds volunteer more than people from poorer ones._____
2. 'Instead of making people busier and more tired, taking part in voluntary activities may actually help decrease people's stress levels,' comments Clare Coleman, a researcher at Princeford University. _____
3. 'Employers don't appreciate people who do volunteer work alongside their normal jobs,' suggests Joel Gateman. _____
4. Rachel Jones, who volunteered with refugees for three months, thinks that her experience was challenging but rewarding._____
5. Paula Orman, the organiser of the survey, claims that more people should consider voluntary work. _____

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