

ECOUTE #9

Volunteer work in Cambodia.

I was becoming a bit sick of life in Australia and I wanted to see something different and a new challenge. So I decided to go to Cambodia and volunteer in the area I was in, within the North, in Siem Reap, in a small village, forty-five minutes from Siem Reap. The reason I went was to meet the people, to learn something of the language and the traditions and the place of the people over there, also get a look at their way of living and also how we can help, if there is any need for help. I was a teacher working in the local school. The school is not for profit and provides free education to all the children in the immediate villages around the school. It was an amazing experience. The children over there are so enthusiastic and so polite and really willing to learn. I was teaching English but also a bit of science and math and a few other useful things along the way. But most of it English as it's only valid over there in terms of future career prospects for the kids. In that part of Cambodia, tourism is probably the number one industry, so any second language and especially English is going to help the kids enormously. But for myself personally, it was a really big eye opener and it allowed me to see how other people live and the differences between their culture and mine, which were many. And to be honest, I'd say I really fell in love with the Cambodian people and their way of living.

*to be sick of something : en avoir marre de quelque chose

-> "I'm sick of it" : "j'en ai marre"

*to volunteer : se porter volontaire, être volontaire

*enthusiastic : enthousiaste

-> the enthusiasm : l'enthousiasme

*to be willing to + BV : vouloir, avoir l'envie de, être motivé pour

*along the way : le long du chemin (ici : en même temps, quitte à faire)

*a career prospect : une perspective de carrière

**"it was really a big eye opener" : "cela m'a vraiment fait ouvrir les yeux"

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