



Knowledge Training Centre, KTC

Info (KTC)

Name: Knowledge Training Centre, KTC

Location: Siem Reap Commune, which is about 10 kilometers from Siem Reap town center.

Utilities and facilities: running water, source of power, phone and internet are available.

Our need for volunteers: Teaching English

Goal of volunteer program: Support our local teachers and exchange knowledge and culture.

Special requirements: Spirit of team work, Speak and write English well, Like to learn and adapt the new culture, High in morality, Be open-minded, and must love the children.

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Mentor for volunteers: Martin Hablitzel

Knowledge Training Centre (KTC) was opened in 2007 providing English and Computing lessons to hundreds of children. The students are from 4 to 16 years old and most of them are between 4 to 10 years old who come from one commune called "Siem Reap", consisting of 8 villages. All the students come to KTC to get the lessons from Monday to Friday. At the same time, KTC also has international volunteers come and support in assisting local teachers in teaching English to the children. We have worked cooperatively with Cambodian Volunteers Foundation (CVF) in 2015, KTC have been working a lot with short-term volunteers from this sending organization to support Cambodian associated teachers teaching English to the children. And last year which was our first year, KTC started to host 3 long term German volunteers from VJF for teaching English.

How helpful the volunteers work for KTC

From working experiences with CVF volunteers whether their backgrounds are teaching or not, we have found that volunteers bring a lot of benefit to the school. As we designed the role of volunteers is to assist our Cambodian teachers teaching English, it makes comfortable for volunteers whose background are not teachers. Cambodian teachers are the ones who design the lesson plans for each lesson, then discuss it with volunteers for teaching tasks sharing following teachers' guidelines. We are also happy to get volunteers to share their ideas with our Cambodian teachers and usually we get good ideas about variety of techniques or activities applied in teaching from them. As foreign volunteers speak English in natural way which is better than Cambodian, teachers always involve them in conversational English with the students that is always a part of the lesson. The volunteers are the resource which can build English speaking atmosphere in or out the classroom and the children are able to hear English every day. In reality of daily teaching at KTC, there are mixed-ability students in the same class that we cannot avoid regarding the capacity of classes provided. Concerning to this difficulty, we also get volunteers to work with a small group of slow learners, so they can focus on the individual student, get the students interacted better in a small group. By doing this, the slow children have a chance to work better together with other students and it is effective as well for teachers to lead the whole class.

With the volunteers whose background are teachers, they also have the same roles in assisting Cambodian teachers. However, we always ask teaching experienced volunteers to gather the information while they are working with teachers and after a while we ask them to have a workshop with teachers presenting what could

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be improved in daily teaching. After that teachers and volunteers start to implement the performance of teaching together to see how successful is the new techniques applied or not. Later on there is always a discussion regarding the new ideas between teachers and volunteers. That's why the teachers can learn from the volunteers relevant to teaching method and the language use.

Therefore, volunteers are the useful and helpful resources which significantly improve not only the students' learning, but also help to strengthen the teaching quality of KTC teachers. From the support of volunteers, KTC has found that the students at KTC have improved their English even better, especially in the field of communication. The students have already had the opportunity to practice speaking English every day with the foreign volunteers which is a great thing for the children before they are going to meet the international people at work in the future.

Below are the activity pictures of KTC School with VJF's volunteers

