Volunteer Opportunity Description

Opportunity Title

- Public Speaking Competition Judge
- Schools’ Mace Debating Competition Judge
- Performing Shakespeare Competition Judge

Where?

Online and in person

Commitment Requirement

- Each competition takes place each year between November and the end of March.
- Heats typically take place in schools around 4pm - 7pm.
- 30 minutes online training session.
- Three-four hours per heat (plus travelling time).
- You can judge as many different competitions as you wish.

Expenses

Payable as per policy - This includes travel costs to each in person heat.

Where You’ll Be Based

The competition takes place in 13 regions across England and Wales. You will receive an application form that will ask you how far you are happy to travel for a competition heat.

DBS Requirement

N/A

Opportunity Description

To be an ESU Judge you will need great oral communication skills, an ability to summarise objectively and the capacity to put young people at ease. Through positive constructive feedback, you will help to develop young people’s confidence, knowledge, and skills in speaking and listening.

You will be joined by an ESU member of staff (competition lead) at each competition heat who will help support all volunteers and assist with the organisation of the heat. The competition lead may also join you on the panel if we require an extra judge.

Responsibilities

- Judge (in-person and where relevant on Zoom).
- Provide positive, constructive, and high-quality oral feedback to participants.
- Record competition results using the ESU guidelines and marking criteria.
- Work collaboratively and professionally with other judges.
- Actively promote other ESU programmes and membership to the guests and teachers you meet.
- Promote the English-Speaking Union’s aims and objectives and follow safeguarding and equity policies.

We Need You To:

- Have good oral communication and listening skills.
- Be happy speaking to an audience.
- Have a friendly personality.
- Have access to a computer. This is both so you can access the Zoom events and so we can share details of current opportunities with you and so that your branch coordinator can reach you.

Our Commitment to You

Throughout your time volunteering with us you will receive support from the ESU, including full training for your specific role. Keeping you updated is important to us so we’ll send you regular bulletins on how to sign up to judge. Furthermore, there will be social opportunities to meet with other volunteers, including an annual recognition event, as well as Branch activities (as applicable).