



Job Description & Person

ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

discovering voices

Specification

Job Title	ESU Competition Lead
Supporting	ESU Education Team
Commitment Requirement	Working hours are ad hoc and based on business need. Mostly evening work between 16:00-20:00
Salary	Zoom heat fee £70, In-person heat £120 plus reasonable travel expenses
Location	Regular travel within your area will be required
DBS Requirement	Basic DBS required (undertaken by ESU)

Role Description

The English-Speaking Union delivers high-quality oracy education programmes and projects across England and Wales. We believe every child should be able to make their voice heard and that oracy - speaking and listening - skills play a key part in this.

Our debating, public speaking, and cultural exchange programmes aim to embed sustainable cultures of oracy in schools, and empower young people to engage with the world, to speak more confidently, and to listen to and understand different points of view.

ESU Competition Leads host our ESU competitions including the Schools' Mace, the ESU-Churchill Public Speaking Competition and the Performing Shakespeare Competition. The ESU Competition Lead will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of heats throughout the competitions with duties including Zoom hosting, MCing, judging and providing constructive feedback to students and teachers participating. You will also support and provide guidance for our volunteer judges, ensuring they have a positive experience volunteering with the ESU.

Responsibilities

For all competitions you will:

- Support and promote the charitable objectives of the ESU, acting as an ambassador for the organisation and promoting education programmes and opportunities to support our work
- Assist the ESU Competitions Team in ensuring competition heats run smoothly, act as point of contact for schools and volunteers on the day of heats
- Sit on judging panels at ESU competition heats (which may include acting as chair judge) offering fair, positive, constructive and unbiased feedback based in our judging criteria
- Zoom host ESU competition heats, setting up and hosting Zoom meetings, creating break-out rooms and acting as tech support throughout heats
- Provide accurate heat results in a timely manner to the ESU Competitions Team
- MC Zoom and in-person heats, engaging both students and audience whilst following ESU scripts
- Support volunteer judges and ensure they have a positive and rewarding experience
- Provide oversight of safeguarding requirements, in line with ESU policies
- Signpost teachers and volunteers to resources and additional support, such as through the ESU website
- Undertake training sessions for continual professional development
- Follow and promote the ESU's safeguarding and equity policies

Person Specification

Essential criteria:

- Be over 18 years of age and have the right to work in the UK

- Be based in England or Wales for our in-person heats between January and July, and based in the UK for any Zoom heats September-December.
- Fully proficient in the English language with excellent spoken language skills
- Technically competent, with experience in using Zoom professionally, ideally as a meeting host
- Experience in debating and/or public speaking and/or performing
- The ability to engage with and motivate young people of different abilities and backgrounds
- A passion for education, social mobility and/or developing young people's oracy skills
- Excellent organisational skills and ability to meet deadlines
- A confident public speaker with experience hosting events or judging
- Commitment to work for the ESU for the duration of an academic year
- Able to participate in mandatory training days
- Have access to a vehicle or be willing to travel via public transport
- Commitment to safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults

Desirable criteria:

- Experience in the performing arts
- Experience of teaching or professionally coaching groups of young people of any age
- Experience in teaching oracy, public speaking and/or debating
- Experience of participating in ESU programmes and/or competitions
- Experience of judging ESU programmes and/or competitions
- Knowledge of the UK education system

Application Process:

1. Following application reviews, suitable candidates will be invited to attend an online interview.
2. Following this, you will then be invited to attend either an in-person or online training day. This will be a skill enriching, interactive session on the ESU, Competitions, judging and day of management.
3. The ESU takes safeguarding very seriously. Following a successful and complete interview process, all applicants will be expected to complete a basic DBS Check and ESU safeguarding training.
4. Once you receive your DBS certificate, you will be fully onboarded as an ESU Competition Lead.
5. You will be sent our competition diary so that you can sign up and start judging, MCing and leading competition heats!

Note

This Job Description is not a contract but is provided for an employee's guidance on the way in which the duties of the post are to be carried out. The content of the Job Description may change from time to time and the employee will be consulted over any substantial changes. As a term of employment, you may be required to perform work not specifically mentioned above commensurate with the scope of your role within the ESU.

The ESU is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Therefore, we expect all employees to share this commitment. All appointments are subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks, including a satisfactory Enhanced DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) Disclosure.