

UNIT 21 REVIEW TEST LISTENING SCRIPT

- Host:** Welcome to *Neighborhoods in the News*, our podcast that highlights communities that are making positive changes. Our guest this evening is Soraya Lin, the founder of an organization called Great Neighbors. Soraya, thank you for joining us.
- Soraya:** Thanks for having me. I'm thrilled to spread the word about the good work we're doing in my neighborhood, Cedar Hills.
- Host:** Can you tell us more about Great Neighbors?
- Soraya:** Of course. We're a non-profit organization. We ask for volunteers to join us for one year, to work on a couple of projects that will make a difference for everyone in the community.
- Host:** How many volunteers do you need? And, if people volunteer, what will they be expected to do?
- Soraya:** We're currently looking for five new volunteers. If you work with us, you'll talk to the residents of Cedar Hills at community meetings, picnics, and even in their homes to find out what people want to improve. You'll act as the middle person between our residents and the city government, looking for ways to raise money for these improvements.
- Host:** Should volunteers have any special experience before they work with Great Neighbors?
- Soraya:** Not at all. If you have a background in fundraising, that would be great, but we do provide some training.
- Host:** What has been accomplished in previous years?
- Soraya:** Last year, residents discussed their concerns about the kids in the community—their kids— spending too much time indoors, surfing the Internet and playing video games. The volunteers organized afterschool activities, such as baseball, nature walks, and yoga. If a child in Cedar Hills wants to join an activity, they just have to come to the park after school. All ages are welcome, and it's free. Oh, and when kids arrive, they have to put their smartphone in a locker.

- Host:** What kind of people are you looking for?
- Soraya:** We want volunteers who have a positive attitude, and of course people who live in Cedar Hills. If a volunteer lives here, they'll have more insight on how to best help the community. For example, a few years ago, one of our volunteers started a language exchange program at the library because he grew up with parents whose first language was not English.
- Host:** This is an unpaid position, and it seems like a lot of work. So what benefits can volunteers expect to receive?
- Soraya:** If people work with us, they'll interact with residents and city officials. If they're not a confident person when they start, they will be by the end of the year. This position helps people set real goals and work toward achieving them in a short time. It's also a good opportunity if someone is thinking of running for city council, or working for a non-profit organization.
- Host:** Well, good luck to you. And if our listeners want to be a Great Neighbor, what should they do?
- Soraya:** Go to our website, www.greatneighbors.com and fill out the application form. I look forward to hearing from people.