

Volunteerism Questionnaire

Name:

Directions: Using the 7-point scale below, please indicate how important or accurate each of the following reasons for volunteering in this three-phase study is, for you.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all important/accurate for you						Extremely important/accurate for you

REASON

RATING

1. Volunteering can help me get my foot in the door at a place where I would like to work. _____
2. My friend is a volunteer on a project, and I wish to be a volunteer on a project also. _____
3. I am concerned about environmental issues. _____
4. People I am close to want me to volunteer. _____
5. Volunteering makes me feel important. _____
6. People I know share an interest in environmental service. _____
7. No matter how bad I've been feeling, volunteering helps me to forget about it. _____
8. I am genuinely concerned about the particular environment I am helping. _____
9. By volunteering I feel less lonely. _____
10. I can make new contacts that might help my business or career. _____
11. Doing volunteer work relieves me of some of the guilt of contributing to environmental problems _____
12. I can learn more about the cause for which I am working through volunteering. _____
13. Volunteering increases my self-esteem. _____
14. Volunteering allows me to gain a new perspective on things. _____
15. Volunteering allows me to explore different career options. _____
16. I feel compassion toward animals/species in need and the environment. _____
17. Others with whom I am close place a high value on environmental service. _____

18. Volunteering lets me learn through direct “hands on” experience. _____
19. I feel it is important to help (preserve) nature _____
20. Volunteering helps me work through my own personal problems. _____
21. Volunteering will help me succeed in my chosen profession. _____
22. I can do something for a cause that is important to me. _____
23. Volunteering is an important activity to the people I know best. _____
24. Volunteering is a good escape from my own troubles. _____
25. I can learn how to deal with a variety of people. _____
26. Volunteering makes me feel needed. _____
27. Volunteering makes me feel better about myself. _____
28. Volunteering experience will look good on my résumé. _____
29. Volunteering is a way to make new friends. _____
30. I can explore my own strengths. _____
31. Volunteering in this program helps me to better understand my assigned dog. _____
32. I enjoy working with people who value training and spending time with a detection dog. _____
33. Volunteering in this program can improve my relationship with my assigned dog. _____
34. Volunteering in this program allows me to spend quality time with my dog. _____
35. I am proud of my dog’s contributions to protecting the environment. _____
36. Intentionally blank _____
37. I identify as someone who is passionate about conservation/environment. _____
38. I am confident that I will be a successful environmental detection dog handler. _____

VFI SCORING SHEET (For experimenter to code answers later)

VFI Career	Item Response	1	10	15	21	28			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)
VFI	Item Response	2	4	6	17	23			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)
VFI Values	Item Response	3	8	16	19	22			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)
VFI Understanding	Item Response	12	14	18	25	30			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)
VFI Enhance	Item Response	5	13	26	27	29			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)
VFI Protect	Item Response	7	9	11	20	24			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)
VFI Dog	Item Response	34	33	32	31	35			
		___	+	___	+	___	+	___	= _____ / 5 (SUM)

VFI SUBSCALE EXPLANATION

The Volunteer Functions Inventory (VFI) (Clary *et al.* 1998) measures people’s motivation to engage in volunteering in six areas, or functions, identified by the functional approach to volunteerism (Clary *et al.* 1998). A seventh area was added by Rutter et al (2021). The wording of all questions was modified slightly to make them relevant to an environmental volunteering context. These areas are;

- Career functions:** Relates to volunteers seeking opportunities to developing skills to assist career pursuits.
- Social functions:** Relates to volunteers seeking opportunities to participate with friends or to engage in work that is considered valuable to their social connections (e.g. friends, family, etc).
- Value functions:** Relates to volunteers expressing their personal values (e.g. environmental values) through their actions.
- Understanding functions:** Relates to volunteers learning new skills or practicing/ developing existing ones.
- Enhancement functions:** Relates to volunteers building self-esteem and experiencing psychological enhancement.
- Protection functions:** Relates to volunteers coping with feelings of stress or guilt though volunteering.
- Dog-engagement function:** Degree to which volunteers were motivated by the opportunity to engage in an activity with their dog.

Stukas, A. A., Worth, K. A., Clary, E. G., & Snyder, M. (2009). The matching of motivations to affordances in the volunteer environment: An index for assessing the impact of multiple matches on volunteer outcomes. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 38(1), 5-28.