



Universidad del  
**Rosario**

Escuela de  
Ciencias Humanas



**Rosario**  
ENGLISH  
AREA

# Get to know our monitors 2024!

MY ENGLISH PAL



# KAREN TATIANA VELANDIA

Major in Political Science and International Relations

## My motivation to be an English Pal

I decided to become an English Pal because of my experience learning English. Languages were one of the things that I showed interest in when I was younger. English called my attention and the process of learning it was very great and impactful in my life. I want to use my experience and skills to support others in their process to make it great and impactful as mine was.

## My hobbies

I love music. One of my favorites hobbies is listening to music, searching and discovering new music. I am always doing it. I also enjoy reading, especially novels about history or dystopias. In addition, I love to discover new places with my family and friends in my city, Like: restaurants, cafes, bookstores and more, with my family and friends. Last but no least, I really enjoy to travel and to discover the world, one of my favorite things to do is going to museums in cities around the world and learn about their history.

## Description

I was born and raised in Bogotá, on July 23 rd 2002. I have lived all my life here and experiencing little stays for two or three months in countries like United States and England. I did learn a lot about living abroad and to brought the experience with me to Colombia. English has always been an essential part of my life since I was younger. Things like music, shows and books help me with the process of learn it and make it easy to write it and speaking later. Now, I feel very confident in helping others learning this language.

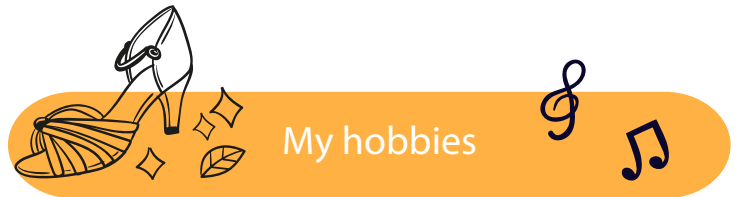


# ANA ROBAYO

Major in Speech Therapy

## My motivation to be an English Pal

I understand the challenges of learning a second language, and that's why I am eager to share my experiences and mistakes to demonstrate the most effective ways of communication. My motivation to be an English Pal is to strengthen language skills and offer guidance to any student in search of support, especially from someone who, like them, did not grow up in a bilingual environment.



## My hobbies

I have explored various hobbies over the past 10 years, resulting in quite an extensive list. Nevertheless, some of my favorites stand out, such as participating in Colombian folklore dance (currently a member of the Salsa group at the University), reading fantasy book, eating spicy food, and even trying artistic makeup sessions at midnight just for fun. Additionally, I share my life with two cats, and one of the highlights of my day is

returning home to spend quality time petting them.

## Description

I was born in Bogotá on September 21st, 2003. My childhood was filled with Disney movies and Pombo's fairy tales, and I grew up with my father and numerous stuffed animals as companions in my daily life. Like any child, I dreamed of becoming an astronaut, a magician, an artist, and a doctor, but each passing year brought a different aspiration. Later, specifically in my last year of school, I finally discovered my path at this University, a place I can now call my second home. It encourages me to pursue my passion for various hobbies while also focusing on my professional life. Currently, I am a fifth-semester Speech Therapy student and a proud English Pal.

# ISABELLA CASALLAS

Major in Medicine



## My motivation to be an English Pal

My motivation to be an English Pal is to be able to help a fellow student continue their education. If it comes down to the acquisition of knowledge, it is just not fair that a student cannot move on with their selected major or career because there is no one available to help them reach the university's English requirements. All it takes is a bit of solidarity to help someone expand the opportunities life has to offer by mastering an additional language such as English.



## My hobbies

My hobbies include reading, playing sports, listening to music, playing the guitar and ukulele; and hanging out with my dog.

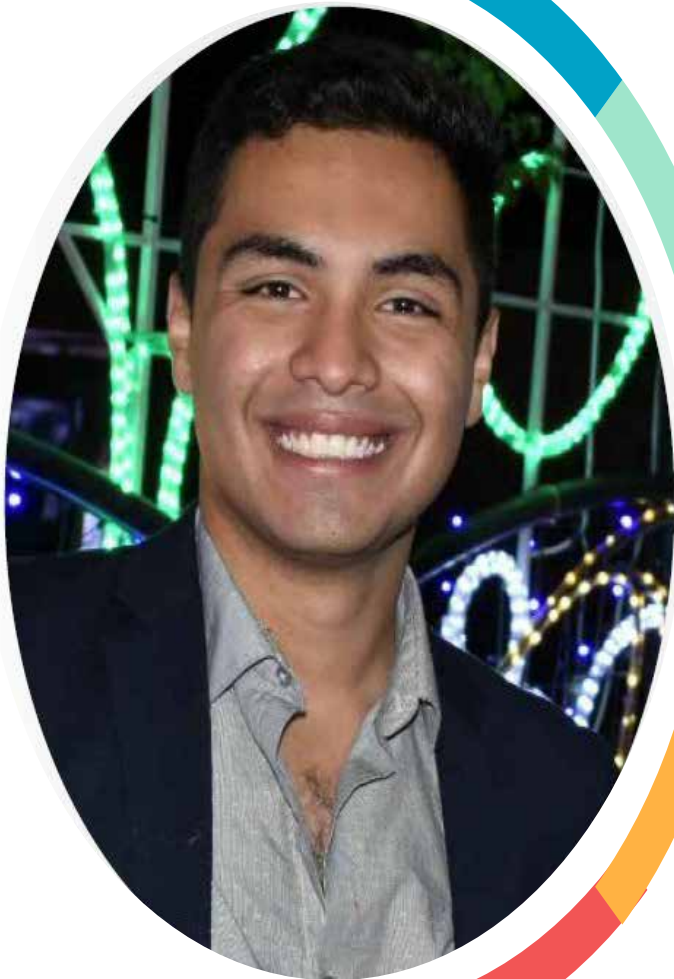


## Description

I was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia as an only child. I've had the opportunity to live life as an exchange student in both the UK and Canada; and I've also learned a lot by traveling as well as being part of English-speaking communities in my own city. One of life's pleasures I enjoy the most is reading a good book while drinking a good cup of coffee in whatever hidden cafe I stumble on.

# LUIS ÁNGEL

Major in Medicine



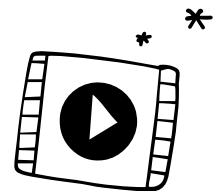
## My motivation to be an English Pal

Being an English Pal is a great opportunity to help others improve their communication skills. I have always been happy to help others, it motivates me when people start talking to me and then leave with a smile in their faces. In addition, English as a second language has become fundamental in enrolling new jobs and tasks all around the world; I want this to be my contribution, to inspire others to become passionate about learning and teaching.



## My hobbies

My main hobby is to study the human body, followed by origami and sports. Recently, I have earned a very high interest in gym activities such as kickboxing. I love music, to hear it and to play it; I play the drums. I also like movies and series (movies are better J). Finally, I really like sunny days and hanging out with my friends; specially if it is to drive karts.



## Description

I was born on April 24th 2000, in Bogotá. Most of my life I've traveled to different destinations around the world. As my parents were in the military, most trips were because of them. I lived nearly a year in the US and also a year and a half in Peru (I LOVE peruvian food). I studied most of my high school at Gimnasio Vermont in Bogotá, where I created bonds with many incredible people I still have the honor of calling friends. Nowadays, I study Medicine at our beloved university, and I couldn't be happier. I like to meet new people and make new friends wherever I go, the chance of being an English Pal will not be the exception.

# PAOLA RODRÍGUEZ

Major in Liberal Arts



## My motivation to be an English Pal

Sometimes learning a new skill can be very scary and hard. But knowing that the skill you are developing helps you with something in your future also gives you strength to continue the journey. From my standpoint, I want to be someone that people can rely on with their problems and joys of the learning process. I wish to see them grow and understand more day by day. I want to be an English pal because I think that having support in every aspect of life makes the process simpler, and I want to be supportive with each and everyone that needs to continue with their journey of learning English.



## My hobbies

I'm not a hobby person, I'm more like a starter and a dropper. When I see someone enjoying something they love, like dancing, singing, sewing, exercising I get super inspired to start that same activity but then two or three weeks after I realize that it's not my thing or it isn't as fun as it seemed to be when I first saw it. Therefore, I drop it immediately. But if I had to choose something I enjoy doing during my time off, it would be spending time with the people I love most. I love discovering new places to eat and also new spots to take naps.



## Description

I would describe myself as a happy and hardworking person (more like overexploited). I was born in Bogotá, August 18th, 2001, which makes me a Leo. I love learning but hate studying and currently I am on a journey to discover myself and the ways in which the world could change to be better. I wish to be somehow vehicle to the change. I also love corny things such as flowers and cute dates with my friends. I studied Liberal Arts because I felt the need to learn everything that there is about social sciences and humanities and I don't regret my choice. I love my major and I want everyone to get to know it better.

# SARA FARFAN

Major in History

## My motivation to be an English Pal

Since I've been learning English from a young age I have enjoyed speaking it. Therefore, I taught some words to my mother so she would be able to talk back to me and the same scenario occurred with my cousins and sister. After that, I realized that helping others to speak a new language or talk with them made me feel good. Studying history showed me the importance of being able to teach with the right methodology, so I find The English Pal program as a good opportunity to continue developing my social and teaching skills.



## My hobbies

I don't know if I'm good enough but I always enjoyed dancing, especially when I'm alone with full volume music. Also, before it was an assignment, I used to read a lot during my breaks at school, with time I got tired of it, but new worlds opened after I felt confident with my English and right now, I enjoy watching anime, YouTube videos about pranks and Korean dramas as to listening to kpop. Random fact: It's better to watch everything with English subtitles because the translations most of the cases are more accurate.



## Description

I was born in Bogotá, but my family is from Arbelaez, Cundinamarca. Hence, I spent a lot of time during my childhood and teenage years in the countryside with animals and nature. Right now, I am grateful for those experiences because they helped me to be what I call "Todo terreno" and it built up my curiosity. I wanted to be a cardiologist but after my freshman years in school I realized my path was with books and social studies... And now here I am studying history and in the blink of an eye it is my third year. By the way I was born on October 28th 2002.



# ANA ROJAS

Major in International Business Administration

## My motivation to be an English Pal

In my school, I discovered my love for the English language. The rigorous curriculum and immersive environment allowed me to excel in my studies and develop a strong command of English. Seeing all the assessments and coursework in English not only improved my language skills but also fueled my passion for teaching and mentoring others. This experience has been a cornerstone of my educational journey and continues to inspire my dedication to help others learn and grow. My inspiration to teach English stems from my love for the language and my enjoyment of helping others. Whether it was assisting classmates in school or providing mentorship outside of class, I have always found it fulfilling to see others improve their English skills. I believe that language learning opens a world of opportunities, and I am excited to share this journey with others.

## My hobbies

Gym: Staying active and healthy is important to me, and I enjoy working out regularly at the gym. Exercising not only keeps me fit but also helps me manage stress and maintain a positive outlook. Whether it's lifting weights, running on the treadmill, or participating in group fitness classes, I find the gym to be a great place to challenge myself and stay motivated.

## Description

My name is Ana Rojas, and I was born on April 6, 2004, in Bogotá, Colombia. I have always had a passion for the English language, which I discovered while studying at an IB bilingual school called Gimnasio del Norte. There, I excelled in my English assessments and found great joy in helping my classmates with their studies. This experience inspired me to become an English pal, and I continue to mentor others in my free time.





# ANDRÉS JUAN RICO

Major in Jurisprudence



## My motivation to be an English Pal

English language has been an amazing tool that has opened new opportunities for me in different fields. It's an instrument that can benefit your life and open doors that many don't even imagine. It has helped me get new friends, get to know new people and even find new job opportunities. My motivation to be a Pal has always been to help my fellow students in learning a new language that will allow them to better themselves and their professional lives. Teaching and helping others has always been one of my passions, through My English Pal program I've had the opportunity to pass some of my knowledge to that are just starting in this wonderful journey.



## My hobbies

Since I was a kid, I have experienced a lot of hobbies, almost anything you could imagine, but in the last few years I've discovered what really makes me happy and what keeps my mind entertained. I started to practice soccer again about 3 years ago, and since then, I have been happier than ever. It keeps my mind off daily troubles, the daily stress, and when I'm playing, I'm focused only on the game. Another hobby I've come to learn is jogging. Jogging has also been a great way to stay in shape and it keeps me motivated to better myself and break new personal records.



## Description

I was born in Bogotá on January 9th, 2002. I consider myself a people person, I love to get to know new people, learn about them and their interests. I try to see people and the world for the good they can offer, always trying to see the glass half full. I enjoy spending time with my friends, my family and nature. I'm always trying to improve myself, learning new things, learning new sports, learning new topics, and not letting myself be satisfied with the minimum. I try to help others as much as I can, and I'm always willing to do it.

# JULIANA PERDOMO GASCA

Major in Design



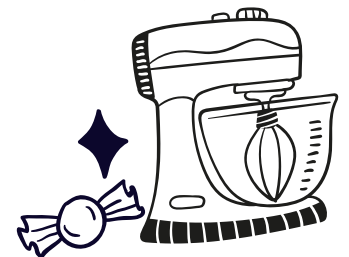
## My motivation to be an English Pal

I chose to become an English Pal because I know, firsthand, how important it is to learn and practice English in academic settings as well as just everyday life. I genuinely love learning and helping others, Especially, when it comes to a skill that will help us in the future, no matter what career were pursuing.



## My hobbies

I have loved baking and making desserts for as long as I can remember. My favorite part is decorating them and making them look pretty, but I often end up with too many cupcakes or cookies I end up giving away to my friends. I also enjoy watching movies and shows while I crochet and I am always on the lookout for new hobbies and things to learn; my next target is learning to play the guitar.



## Description

I was born in Bogotá in 2004 and grew up constantly travelling to Girardot, since that's where my family is from. I learnt Spanish and English simultaneously while growing up thanks to my older sister who was constantly showing me new shows and music that were primarily in English. In 10th grade I got the opportunity to be a volunteer and taught English as well as traveled to Canada as an exchange student in the winter. I love making silly and colorful posters for my design account and I'm very excited to help others in their English journey!

# MARÍA JOSÉ BARRETO

Double major in International Relations and  
Finances and International Trade



## My motivation to be an English Pal

I know, first-hand, how difficult it could be to learn a language, especially English, which nowadays it's key in academic spheres, business, and personal life. Besides, we have the pressure to have an excellent level if we want to receive our degree or continue studying. Therefore, my motivation to be an English Pal is to be able to help others and be a partner for them; having someone who they can talk to or trust to make mistakes. Trying to contribute with the things and methods I know and encouraging others not to give up when the learning road seems too difficult.



## My hobbies

I could say that reading is the passion in my life, enjoying different stories and living a thousand lives as George R.R. Martin once said: "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one". My favorite genres are fantasy, romance, contemporary, and thriller. Of course, if I can have the opportunity to travel or discover new places, I will take it and try new experiences. Finally, I love spending my time watching horror movies.

## Description

I was born and raised in Bogotá on May 4, 2001. I have been living most of my life here, but when holidays come, I used to visit my grandparents who live in Garagoa, Boyacá, losing myself in the countryside. I already finished my first career in International Relations and received my college degree in May. Currently, I am in my fourth semester in Finance and International Relations. I would like to say English was always a part of my life and I love it but to be honest, I used to hate it. Learning it was one of the hardest experiences I ever encounter. Even though English has made me cry a lot of times, I am grateful to finally be able to speak, listen, write, and read it, because nowadays I can do the things. I love the most in a language I thought would never be apart of my life.

# KAREN GOENAGA SANDOVAL

Double major in Political Science and Urban Management  
and Development



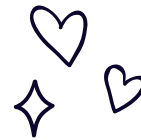
## My motivation to be an English Pal

I believe that being an English pal is a great opportunity since I love the language and recognize that for some people learning English can be a frustrating process. I want other students to see that it can actually be a really fun and enriching experience. Nowadays, learning a second language can be helpful in many ways, whether it is for traveling, getting a job, going on a student exchange, or meeting new people.

## My hobbies



I enjoy listening to music, especially country and jazz. In my spare time, I love to play with my sisters and to watch family series. Being around nature and learning about it is something I like to do as well.



## Description

I was born in Bogotá on the first of July 2003. I have got two sisters, me being the middle child. Spending time with family and friends is the thing I enjoy the most and since I have never travelled abroad, I hope that one day I can go with them to visit another country. During my English learning process, I was fortunate to have teachers that made it fun. One of the main things that kept me motivated was not to think of it as an obligation, but rather as an opportunity to get to know other cultures and engage in conversations that would otherwise never happen.

# MARÍA JULIANA PÉREZ GONZÁLEZ

Major in Political Science



## My motivation to be an English Pal

I started learning English when I was 2 years old as my stepfather only spoke English, then I continued my process in a bilingual school. This means that I've had the chance of learning English easily. Unfortunately, not all people have had this opportunity or haven't been interested in learning this language that has become so important in our daily lives. Due to the privilege that I have of being an English speaker, I want to help those who didn't have it and motivate the ones who don't enjoy language learning. For me, sharing things I know, is a pleasure and a way of reaching equality, which is needed in our university, city, country and world.



## My hobbies

I love to know new things, that's the reason why, in my spare time, I love going to museums, art galleries, libraries, vinyl stores, new restaurants and concerts of emerging bands. Also, I enjoy to go dancing with my friends, watching novels with my mum, reading, listening to music and watching classic movies. Finally, one of my favorite hobbies is spending time with my dogs and my cat.



## Description

I was born on September the 21st of 2004. My grandparents were from Boyacá, so I grew up visiting that department. I'm an only child, however, my stepfather has 4 children in the US and I consider them my big siblings. I have spent little stays with them there, which has allowed me to practice my English. Currently, I'm in 4th semester of Political Science and I really enjoy my degree, additionally, I'm learning French and I want to learn embroidery.

# GABRIELA CHEYNE MANZI

Double major in Political Science and Jurisprudence



## My motivation to be an English Pal

I like to help other people, and I can do so by being an English Pal. Knowing English is very important nowadays and since I've been practicing this language for my whole life, I believe this is a chance I have to help others learn and practice it too.



## My hobbies

I really enjoy exercising, playing volleyball, reading, and watching movies. Also, I love to hang out with my friends and family, to travel, and to meet new people. I like to listen to music and to go out dancing with friends. Finally, I love to eat, I must confess sweets are my weakness.



## Description

I was born in Bogotá on October 28, 2002. I learned English at school and I've practiced this language for my whole life. After graduating from High School, at Colegio Santa Francisca Romana, I worked in a Call Center and a few months later, I lived in the United States for two months. Nowadays, I'm studying a double major, I'm in fifth semester of Political Science and in second semester of Jurisprudence.

# MARÍA CAMILA GAMA

Double major in Political Science and Jurisprudence

## My motivation to be an English Pal

English is a powerful tool for a globalized, interconnected world. Learning another language enriches us, while also providing a valuable tool. I believe it is a right for everyone to learn at least another language, and I am here to help anyone achieve their goals regarding their English proficiency.



## My hobbies



I like to read a lot, discover new music, take photographs, try out new foods and places to eat. I enjoy spending time with the people I care about and love. Also, I like to travel and learn new things.



## Description

I am currently studying International Business Management. I am from Bogotá and I have always lived here.

# NICOLE HERNÁNDEZ

Major in Design



## My motivation to be an English Pal

I chose to be part of the English Pal Program to help others in their English abilities and skills, by doing different activities and using some strategies to make the student's process more enjoyable and productive. Evidently, English is fundamental in academic and professional development, so I would like to assistance the difficulties that students could have. Also, I can practice and enhance my own language skills during the sessions and the teaching process. I am excited for teaching and learning from everyone.



## My hobbies

I am a very passionate person, so I have a lot of hobbies. I love reading, especially fantasy and thriller books, and I like writing poetry and fictional short stories. Also, I love music, at weekends I dance for hours, and I am learning to play the piano and the guitar. At weekends as well, I practice skating and swimming, because it's like a therapy activity for me. Currently, I'm learning crochet on my own, it is entertaining and interesting, also it is difficult because I am left-handed, so I get in trouble sometimes.



## Description

I was born on July 13th in 2006; I have lived my entire life in Bogotá with my parents and my little brother. But I constantly visit my grandparents, and sometimes I sleep there. I learned English at a bilingual school since I was a child, so it was very easy to acquire the language. Currently, I am studying design at Rosario University; I love my career, it is dynamic, and you are doing a lot of things all the time, such as painting, drawing, photographing or editing, so it is like my place because I love to do a lot of stuff at every moment.



# NATALY COTES URIBE

Major in Journalism



## My motivation to be an English Pal

My motivation to be an English Pal Language learning can be a hard and stressful process, but it can also be a fun way to know more about yourself and the world around you, especially when you have people around you that encourage you. When I saw the activities that the English Area did, I got inspired to help other students enjoy and learn English. I also think it's a great opportunity to learn about teaching others and a way to practice my own English.



## My hobbies

My hobbies include reading, baking, tabletop games, drawing, and photography. I'm a huge fan of everything comics and D&D. I also used to practice taekwondo and I really want to pick it up again! This year I want to get more into sports and hiking.



## Description

I was born in Baranquilla on November 14th, 2002. My family moved to Santa Marta when I was 8 years old. It's where I grew up and where my friends and family live, so when people ask me where I'm from, I just say I'm from Santa Marta! There, I studied in the Colegio Bilingüe de Santa Marta (CBSM). They had a library full of books in English, and I spend a long time trying to read my way through them all. It's where my love for English started. I moved to Bogotá with my older brother about two years ago to study and it's been an amazing experience.

# LINA MARCELA MEJÍA

Major in Journalism



## My motivation to be an English Pal

My main motivation for being an English pal is to help others learn English. I want the language to be a useful and enjoyable tool for them, not just a challenging subject. I've always enjoyed sharing knowledge, and I think being an English pal is a great way to do it. Even more, because while doing it, I can improve my own skills.



## My hobbies

I've always been into art, fashion and design. I love painting, ceramics and visiting museums. I also enjoy writing, doing exercise and horse back riding. I'm always up for traveling and discovering new cultures, places and expanding my worldview.



## Description

I was born on June 8, 2002 in Pereira, where I lived for almost my entire life. After I graduated, I lived for a while in South Africa and I'm currently living between Bogotá and Medellín. In high school, I was student advocate I've always liked to lead and be close to people. I've also considered myself to be a very active person, so after school, I was always involved in extracurricular activities. I'm currently in my 6th semester of economics and I plan to graduate and further explore the field of international political economics.