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# ELI STUDENT VOICES

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## **“The Firefly” in Different Points of View**

*Parichart Laksanawimol* (1<sup>st</sup> Place)  
R/W 42

Since I left Thailand, I have been faced with many novel experiences such as new culture, strange people, English speaking environment, and also various kinds of food that I am not familiar with. In addition, I have gotten an incomparable experience from my housemate’s research. She is a Thai Ph.D. student researching fireflies in Thailand. Under good support of her scholarship, she can research fireflies with her collaborator in the U.S. for 8 months. She has gone out every night before sunset to see her fireflies at Newnan’s Lake. Because they are beautiful and mysterious insects, I had many questions about fireflies and most of them were quite difficult to answer. Thus, she took me to her study field to learn and answer the questions by myself. I just knew there are almost 2,000 different species of them over the world. With high diversity, the fireflies in different areas of the world also have different species, behavior, and habitats. I considered that there are a few different points of view of fireflies here and in Thailand. That probably can answer a question in your mind if you have one.

First of all, there are completely different species of fireflies here and in Thailand. I believe that not many people caught fireflies to look at their shape and color and tell the differences of them, if they are not a scientist. In Thailand, we have “synchronous fireflies” which congregate on a mangrove tree and flash at the same frequency like a Christmas tree. They make a beautiful night and have become to eco-tourism in Thailand. In contrast, in the U.S.A., there is a “predatory species” which the mated female can change flash pattern (as a love language that make a male and a female meet together and mate) to lure male of another species to be her food. She needs a substance inside another species to make what she can survive from. You will be surprised if you see the big female catch the tiny male like a bird catches insects.

Secondly, Thai and American fireflies have different flash patterns. In fact, the fireflies have specific flash pattern to communicate with the females in the same species (ask for mating), but Thai fireflies have more frequent flash. Thus, catching a firefly is not hard because you can track where it is. On the other hand, I cannot catch American ones easily because they have a long period of inter-flash. A firefly professor explained that most American fireflies are prey species. They try to escape from tracking of the predator species. I was so surprised to know that. It is not only the predator that has a powerful technique to catch a prey, the prey also has one. Everyone needs to survive under a frightful life.

Lastly, as my friend’s research scope, there are different effects of light pollution on firefly population here and in Thailand. I think not many people are concerned that the light will destroy fireflies. The stronger and brighter lights disturb the flashing behavior or sexual communication of fireflies, which then fail mating and are lost from that area. In Thailand, the fluorescent bulb is the common use in many houses, commercial buildings and also streetlights. It is the main source of light pollution affecting the Thai firefly population. On the other hand, the incandescent bulb is popular bulb here. So, the fireflies get an effect from it.

In conclusion, there are many different characters and behaviors between Thai and American fireflies that I have learnt from my friend. However, nowadays they face the same problem, decreasing in number and disappearing from many areas. I was impressed when I watched lines of flashes at night and touched the tiny beetle with small light in both Thailand and the U.S.A. If a kid has a chance like me, how does he/she feel? It will be good, if everyone helps to conserve “fireflies” and they can survive for long and long.

**Thank you** for the incomparable experience from my friend (Miss Anchana Thancharoen) and 3 firefly professors from University of Florida (Dr. Marc Branham, Dr. Jame Lloyd, and Dr. Steve Wing).

## **Saudi Arabian Society and Gender Role: Past and Present**

*Ibrahim Al Khars* (2<sup>nd</sup> Place)  
R/W 61

In Saudi Arabian society, the role of men and women is complicated and misunderstood most of the time. There are big differences between the Muslim and Western worlds in the views of the role of men and women regarding cultural and social responsibilities. The misunderstanding mainly presented as that the Saudi person especially women, are lacking education, knowledge, and rights. The Holy Qur’an has clearly stated the roles and responsibilities of each party for more than one thousand and four hundred years. From the early years in Islam, men have recognized and respected the role of women. When the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was founded in 1932, the Saudi society started to have its own integrity and style. There had been many different cultures and traditions in Saudi Arabia but there have been common features between all of them: the role of men and women.

Education is an important tool to improve culture, society, and economic development. In the past, the education system was not widely available. The teaching was taking place in masjeds (mosques) and being limited to basic literacy and

religion. Men had better chances for education compared to women who received their basic education mainly through an old woman teacher called Muta'wa. There were no colleges or universities. Now, education in Saudi Arabia exceeds many other countries. It is available free for both sexes and all residents in all levels. The gender gap in education is reduced with more women attending undergraduate and postgraduate studies. This leads to an increase in women enrollment in schools, women's participation in the labor force, and their contributions to household and national income.

For example, from 1970 to 1999, the number of graduating males from university annually increased from 795 to 21,229, while the number of graduate females increased from 13 to 21,721 for the same period—ending in that the total number of graduates female slightly exceeded the number of male graduates. The number of Saudi women graduating from university has grown at an average rate 2.5 times that of male graduates during the last decade (Cordesman, 2003).

Many years ago, men were working in agriculture and women taking care of children. As women's educational attainment has increased, more women have moved into the job market. But women's participation in the labor force is still low. The highest levels of female labor force participation are found in education. In addition to education, the increase of Saudi Arabia population with more children had being born put a lot of pressure on labor and health issues.

In the past, there were no developed hospitals or clinics. When man became sick, he was treated by an herbal male expert, who used traditional treatment. At that time, there were few women specialized as herbal therapists which led to an increase in the mortality rate among women. Year after year, the number of female specialized in health care has been increased with more demand for health care and more interaction between the two genders. Now the health care is free with the highest standard, provided by Saudi men and women who work in the same field, and extends to any visitor to the Kingdom. However, an accurate estimate of female participation in the Saudi labor market is difficult to obtain, mainly due to the lack of appropriate technical methods that can be applied to measure work performed by women. Despite the lack of data on this part we can expect an increasing role in the women workforce.

The development of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has brought with it increasing opportunities for social change which chapped by the role of men and women with more involvement of women in many different fields.

## References

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## In the Forest

Mosa Halal A. Alsehli (Honorable Mention)  
R/W 20

On a very gloomy day, I was walking into a dark and scary forest. During that I heard the chirping of birds. Suddenly, the rain started, the whole situation made me scared. So I wanted to leave that place. For a moment, I was thinking how I got there in the first time. I started to look for a way out. Unfortunately, I found two ways. However, I was confused about which way to follow. Then I decided to go right. At the same time, I saw a river shining behind the trees. I was overjoyed and ran towards it with great hope. There was a small boat and no one was around. So I got in the boat and rowed it towards the open water. While I was sailing, I saw a light far away. I had a feeling that the light was from a nearby city. Then I started to move faster. All of a sudden, I woke up and realized that it was a dream!!!

## Why We Go to University

Wagdi Mohammedali H Cattan  
R/W 30

Students think that they go to university to get a degree and find a future career after that. The truth is that we cannot argue against the accuracy of this statement. People, for the most part, think a university helps one to formulate one's future life. If we look at universities from this perspective, it would be a mere place containing buildings, infrastructure and superstructure. This perspective has probably helped to strip a university of its academic identity or make it a mere future hope.

A university, I think, is a place that should provide education and not mere knowledge. Accordingly, we might imagine that we go to university to learn how to change the community in which we live or, in other words, how to use academic knowledge to change the community, which objective should guide university teachers depends who, in the first place, should be educators. A stagnant community depends on academic facts or information to assist itself, but such acts contribute, consciously or unable to keep up with developments. No doubt, if we want to be civilized and not merely modernized, we should make a change of the social structure, which means renewing the individual who should renew the community.

We will not be able to make something new unless we renew ourselves. Thus, renewal requires, in addition to academic information and supporting facts, making a balance between morality and science and becoming optimistic through such a balance about making positive changes for the sake of the community in which we live in particular and humanity in general. Thus, we should invest our information morally for changing the community and making our individual capacities invaluable for the coming generations. With this policy and strategy one could face life with great love rather than worry.

As a matter of fact, love of life is necessary for adopting an optimistic attitude that could drive one to make social change.

## **The Weather in Florida and in Benin**

*Christian Ahihou*

*R/W 60*

Last January, during my first days in Florida, one of my surprises was that I didn't really have any surprise. In fact, as a general truth, when moving from somewhere to another place on our planet, we usually expect at least some impact of the weather on us. Some specialists call this impact the effects of the change of climates. But in my case, it didn't exactly work like that, because the change of the weather I was reasonably expecting didn't occur. Then I rapidly made the conclusion that the weather in Florida is the same as the weather in Benin, where I am from. However, if I were asked to talk again about these two kinds of weather today, surely I may not say the same thing anymore, because the time has already shown me that it was just a quick conclusion I made. Indeed, the weather in Florida and in Benin seems just to be alike, but in reality there are many differences between them.

First of all, the similarities between the weather in Florida and the weather in Benin stand on three features: both of them are warm, nice, and rainy. So, the weather in these two areas is alike. As it's warm in Florida, it's warm in Benin too. For example, during the last spring when I came in Florida, I was very disappointed by the cold supplies I brought with me. If I were still in Benin I didn't need at all to fear about any coldness. So, instead of the cold weather I was prepared to deal with, the weather I saw in Florida was similarly as warm as the weather in my country.

Moreover, the main impact of the warmth on these two weathers is what increases the similarities between them again. In Florida, as in Benin, when it's warm the weather is always all nice. The warm times in Florida, for example, are the best times people enjoy a lot to spend in open air. Likewise in Benin, the most time people spend outside is when the weather is warm.

Furthermore, the last similarity I notice between the two weathers is that both of them are also rainy. In fact, in the same way as the raining season alters the warm season in Benin, it does too in Florida. So, in both Florida and Benin, after the warmth always come the rains. All in all, the weathers in Florida and in Benin are truly similar. Both of them are warm, nice, and rainy.

However, my long stay in Florida reveals to me that in spite of their obvious similarities, the weather in Florida and in Benin holds some particularities though. Most importantly, the weather in Florida is too capricious. It's very unpredictable and may change very quickly from warm to hot or to cold and vice versa. On the other hand, in Benin the weather is more stable. So, whereas it's proper for Florida's weather to be frequently changing, it's very rare to the different seasons in Benin to interfere one in another.

Furthermore, there is a hurricane season in Florida. But in Benin on the contrary, there is no hurricane season.

Surely, the raining season may be sometimes windy. However, the wind is very exponentially less than what is called hurricane in Florida.

Last but not the least, there is one more difference between the weather in the two areas. Unlike the dry season in Benin, despite the hurricane series and the almost daily rainfalls, the summer in Florida is extremely hot. For example, in contrast to the fact that there are some breezes during the dry season in Benin, the Florida's legendary hot summer doesn't hold any breeze even in the night. In short, the differences between the weathers in Florida and in Benin are fundamentally based on three facts: the capriciousness of Florida's weather, the hurricane season, and the extreme hot summer encountered only in Florida and nowhere else on earth.

To sum up, the comparison and contrast of the weather in Florida and in Benin result on three similarities and three differences between them. But this analysis is not exhaustive at all. Some other deeper reflections on the topic may certainly show up some other features of these weathers.

## **How to Preserve a Culture?**

*Christian Ahihou*

*R/W 60*

When I traveled to the West, one of my first surprises was the multiple questions people were asking me about my native culture. For me, it should be me who would need to know about their culture because I was the traveler. But it wasn't like that. Very quickly I realized that as eager as I was to know about their culture, they too were to know about mine. Indeed, it's always what happens when different cultures cross ways with each other. Each culture seeks to know more about the other and then starts the long process of a new experience for both of them. But, as every human project, the result of this process may have a double side. While it can be a successful experience, it can also unfortunately end in the disappearance of one culture at the expense of the other though. Clearly, one culture can disappear if its people have not paid the necessary attention to the phenomenon. It's what leads to the conclusion that the survival of every culture is always the result of a struggle. So, to preserve their culture, every society has to battle for this cause. However, even though this conclusion seems to be obvious, we don't always realize all of its dimensions. In fact, the struggle to preserve culture is harder and more meticulous than what people think: it's always the responsibility of an entire people, and never for only one or a few selective individuals. And no culture may be preserved if all of its generations band their efforts together.

Of paramount importance, culture preserving is a matter for an entire society: no culture can be preserved by neither only one individual nor a few selective individuals. In fact, how can a culture survive if its people give it up? For example, how can a language survive if no one speaks it as a primary form of communication? What about the Latin language, we may legitimately exclaim at this point! Sure, Latin language is only written nowadays and not spoken. But actually, is it right to keep considering Latin a current

language? By analogy, must we keep considering ancient Greek a current language too? Of course not! Both Latin and ancient Greek are nowadays two dead languages. So, as a matter of culture, Latin doesn't still exist because no one speaks it at all. Consequently, the life of any culture stands on how it is practiced.

To survive, every culture has to be upheld by its people. Any culture that is abandoned by everybody has to die. In short, every culture needs some people to keep it alive. But, how does the number of people influence the persistence of a culture? In other words, is a few groups of individuals, either in association or not, or even a single individual sufficient? Given that what we name culture is a manner or some manners shared by a relatively large amount of people, there is no reason then to call the way a single person behaves a culture. A culture by definition must be a collective behavior. Likewise, a culture that arrives in such a situation stops automatically to be a culture and becomes only the behavior of one person or the behavior of a group of persons. For example, if a country used to be in the past a monarchy, and then changed to adopt a democratic regime, it is obvious that the people of this country would change their ancient monarchic culture into a democratic culture. However, even if some individuals in this country still keep behaving as if nothing happened, because of their insignificant number, the ancient culture would still die. Thus to survive, every culture needs the total agreement of everybody in the society to which it belongs.

But what happens to a culture that is not kept by all of the consecutive generations of a society? In this case, the culture is not rejected by the majority of the people and still kept by a reduced amount of individuals in the society. On the contrary, it is one of the cases in which, for some reason, one or many generations of the same society fail to follow the same culture as their ancestors. In Africa, for example, due to colonization, African people have lost a large part of their culture. In fact, even after the colonization, most of the nascent generations didn't want to return to their ancestors' culture to which they preferred the European culture. But when some people act like that, the only one effect of their act is to kill their own culture. So, as a result of those African generations, nowadays it is impossible for many African people to have a traditional life, not because they don't want to, but because they can't instead. Their own original culture has already died and doesn't still exist. Therefore, the interruption of a culture by some generations is a precursor sign of its death. It's always impossible for people to remake a culture when one or many of its generations fail to keep it. Similarly, to preserve a culture, every society has to maintain it through all of its generations. All in all, the time via the consecutive generations, contributes a lot to culture preserving, too. Indeed, any culture which suffers from being kept through all the ages of its people has only one issue: the dead.

In conclusion, the process of culture preserving has no guaranteed miracle. Instead, it's the matter of a hard strategic struggle. First, it should be kept by the entire society. Second, to survive, all culture has to be known by all the generations of its people without interruption.

## **“How I Choose My Friends”**

### **A Poem by an Unknown Author, Translated from Portuguese**

*Adriano Leite*

*R/W 300*

I choose my friends not for the color of their skin or any other archetype, but for the pupil of the eye.  
It has to have a questioning shine and a disturbing shade.  
I'm neither interested in those who are of good spirit nor those that have bad habits.  
I keep those that make me crazy and a saint.  
Of them I don't want an answer, I want my opposite.  
That they bring me doubts and anguishes, and tolerate the worst in me.  
For that, only being crazy.  
I want the saints, so to they don't doubt of the differences and ask forgiveness for the injustices.  
I choose my friends for the washed soul and for the exposed face.  
I don't want only the shoulder and the lap, I also want his largest happiness.  
Friends that don't laugh together, don't know how to suffer together.  
My friends are all like this: Half silly, half serious.  
I don't want predictable laughs, or merciful cries.  
I want serious friends,  
Of those that make of his reality a learning source,  
But, they still fight so the fantasy doesn't disappear.  
I don't want adult friends or boring ones.  
I want them to be half child and half oldies!  
Children, so that they don't forget the value of the wind in the face; and oldies, so that they are never in a hurry.  
I want friends to know who I am.  
Because, though they seem crazy and saints, fools and serious, children and oldies, I will never forget that "normality" is a stupid and sterile illusion.

## **Fiction or Nonfiction**

*Ahmed Almgrashi*

*L/S 31*

Reading is perhaps one the most important tasks people do. If you want, you can improve your mind by making reading a regular part of your life. Before you read any book, you should decide what you want to read, fiction or nonfiction? In my opinion, non-fictions are better than fictions for reading. My preference for nonfiction is based on several reasons.

First of all, if you read nonfiction, you learn about real events. For example, you can learn about education, law, politics, history, and science, etc. All of these really happened. The author does not make up all these books; he simply describes the events.

Second, if you read nonfiction, your knowledge will increase. Nonfiction plays an important role in rounding out the knowledge of every educated person. Although fiction helps us

to write and speak beautifully, if you want to develop your thinking, you should read nonfiction. It is especially true for students who go to school to learn knowledge.

Third, if you want to engage actively in the globalizing world, you must read nonfiction, for example, history books, geography books, even cookbooks. From them, you will know different cultures.

Finally, some students may ask, "What about classics? Surely, you can learn a lot from Homer, Shakespeare, Dickens and Victor Hugo. Surely, they have helped to push humanity forward." However, if we compare these classics to Newton, Darwin, and Einstein, even those giants pale because in the high-stakes contest of the science and technology, the top priority for us is to expand our understanding of the universe. If your aim is to upgrade your knowledge, I would recommend you choosing Einstein and Newton. I am not saying that fiction offers no information; but when reading fiction, I can never forget that none of it really happened; that it is all made up by the author.

Different from fiction, nonfiction is at least an attempt to tell the truth. If your aim is to expand the realm of your knowledge, and you want to make the best use of your time, try to read nonfiction you will certainly have developed an excellent learning habit. Nonfiction addresses problems in our society, satisfies our curiosity, answers unfinished question, and more importantly, it scaffolds our hopes to learn about something real.

## **Building Vocabulary by Technique**

*Ali Alameer*

*R/W 30*

To learn a foreign language is a big challenge for anybody in any case, whatever the defiance has from each of a sides, but specifically to learn and remember, the word and idioms to know and uses for advantage that is really a vocabulary memorization are enemy to passing foreign language than native language for learner, as a result the vocabulary has most important from foreign language, it's support for steps, assistant to basic and pick you up for a short distance to study a second language.

As a beginner how much vocabulary do you need? Although answers vary a lot, many studies and some experience seem to indicate that if you know between 2,000 and 3,000 words in a particular language you can function under most circumstances. Accordingly, any student who has mastered 2,500 most commonly used words in English should be able to handle some university level academic text.

However, there is no shortcut to those 2,500 words in language learning, the vocabulary could only be increased step by step. Therefore, how to memorize those words? Is there any technique that will help? The answer is "Yes." The first step is to read the words within context to guess the meaning. If you don't know the meaning, look it up in the dictionary, which, in some cases, enables you to create your own principles of how to apply the words into daily usage, and then, you can listen to pronunciation attentively, which is an equally important method

you should do to remember the sound. In addition, the dictionary also provides the correct spelling. At last, you need to go over the new words many times. Later, you will be able to use your vocabulary freely.

Sometimes, university level academic reading is not the best way to develop vocabulary. For example, when learning basic words, children books and comic books are great places to start. And then your reading could move up to popular novels, romance novels, whatever might interest you. These kinds of books are especially a reasonable challenge for the beginner to intermediate readers and will let you obtain loads of new words.

Another method is to use flash cards. One can use flash cards to memorize words whenever and wherever you like. For example, if you're standing in line waiting for a movie to start, or sitting in awaiting room, you can take out your cards and memorize your vocabulary. You can also use a pocket dictionary; the best thing about these dictionaries is that they contain the most commonly used words in the language and all kinds of tests you could use to practice your vocabulary.

As a conclusion, there are many techniques one could use to build up his vocabulary. Choose the most appropriate one and then you will be successful!

## **The Three Most Important Factors for Job Selection**

*Jin Young Kang*

*R/W 31*

Most people get a job for a living. Many people want to receive a high salary, while others consider about working environment, transportation, size of the company and so on, when they choose a job. It is a matter which demands our serious consideration. We have to be careful when we decide on our job.

First, one of the most important things is job satisfaction. I think satisfaction is more important than anything else. Everyone wants to lead a life worth living. In other words, we want to enjoy our lives through the job which we have chosen. People feel happier when they do what they want. Those jobs will improve their ability. They won't be happy if they what they don't want even though it gives them a lot of money and good working environment.

Second, we should think about salary. The major purpose of work is to maintain our living. So, it is very important to us. Many people find companies which give us higher salary and satisfy our desire for wealth. Thus, we can't work at low wages even if we are satisfied in other minor fields.

Finally, working environment is very important. This is necessary for increasing efficiency of work Good environment gives us a good feeling and energy. So, we can more easily focus on working. If people work in a poor environment, they can't really concentrate.

In conclusion, we have to be cautious when looking for a good job. If so, we can find a better one. In addition, we can establish a life of higher quality.

## Ramadan

*Awatef Eid A Almallak*

*R/W 30*

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar. Ramadan is a special month of the year for over one billion Muslims throughout the world. Muslims totally abstain from drink, food, smoking and marital sex. The last ten days of Ramadan are a time of special spiritual power as everyone tries to come closer to God through devotions and good deeds. The night on which the first verses of the Qur'an were revealed to the prophet, known as the Night of Power, is generally taken to be the 27<sup>th</sup> night of the month. Muslims try to read as much of the Qur'an as they can. Most people spend time in the mosque in Ramadan.

Since Ramadan is a special time. Muslims in many parts of the world prepare certain favorite food during this month. Laylat alqadar is the anniversary of important dates in Islam that occurred in the month of Ramadan.

The Islamic holiday of Eid Al-Fatr marks the end of the fasting period of Ramadan and the beginning of the following month.

## Life After Death

*Nasser Daifallah Alahmari*

*R/W 50*

All lives of creatures will be recreated again after death. Some believe such a thing, others don't. However, stories I know might guide those who disagree with the idea that there is life after death.

One story that happened in my village is very shocking. Once upon a time there was a pregnant woman. She tripped from a small rock; consequently, she fell into a deep coma. Everyone in my village thought that she had passed away. After that, she was in the grave for two days. Then a man walking by the cemetery heard a noise coming from the graveyard. Around sunset, the man decided to open that tomb, and he was surprised and shocked; he found the pregnant woman alive and her baby in her lap. The women looked really tired. Afterward the man took her to the village. In the village, everyone was surprised to see her again. At the time she recovered from that experience she started to tell her story of the death journey. She said, "I saw a window open and my mother was standing and smiling on the other side; she was waving her hand and calling me to join her, then all the sudden a young child was grabbing me back from that window saying MOM! I want to live, and then I delivered my son. I gave him the milk and I felt dead, and screamed so at least someone could help, until this blessed man came and took me out." Both of them, the mother and son, are living witnesses to this incident. She is in her 90's now.

The connection among dead and living people does exist. My closest friend's mother died back in 1995. At that time, he told me at the funeral day, "Nasser! This is a half of my life already done." I didn't understand it; consequently, I

asked him to clear that for me. He replied by saying, "I saw my mother two days before she died, and she said that I would join her after my second half." His mother was very sick, for that reason her couldn't ask her before her death. In 1999, I came back home to attend my elder sister's wedding. I took one invitation card for my friend. I arrived to his house. Then, I knocked on the door, and after awhile his elder brother opened the door. Unfortunately, the minute he saw me he started to cry. I didn't know exactly why he was crying, but I felt creepy. I was not expecting something that could shock me; however, he told me that his father had passed away two weeks ago. I felt sorry and so for that I hid the invitation card under my jacket. "On the third day my brother followed my father," the elder brother said. At that moment, the invitation card slipped away from my hands, and I sat down. I was remembering my friend's words back in 1995, now I understand finally what the dream was about. It took me so long to understand that his mother was the first half, and the father was the second half. After those two halves were done, then it was his turn to die.

Souls and spirits of those who died are still alive somewhere in this huge universe. They might be located in another dimension parallel to ours. However, the material bodies do not live forever. Fortunately, it converts to dust. Only our souls live an immortal life. When a person dies, his eyes go up because they watch the spirit going up to some unknown place. For instance, once I saw my grandfather in a dream. He was telling me to give back land to his cousin's children and he named the cousin with a specific name that no one knew. Afterward, I told me mother and grandmother about that dream, then my grandmother told me, "That name was only known by the three of us: your grandfather, his cousin, and me." Now, if there were no spirits of souls, how would I know about such information!

In religion, God created us from tiny sperms and ovum. To recreate us again wouldn't be much harder. For instance, seeds are the source of living plants. Humans have the same aspect. Each human has at the end of his/her spinal cord a very small piece of bone; this bone never converts to dust or is crushed under any circumstances. These seeds will be the source of our bodies again in judgment day when God recreates us. Believing in the life after death is a hopeful thought for our minds. Islam explains that souls and spirits are held in time after death. They have no meaning of time. The Qur'an mentions that God will ask us at the judgment day and say, "How many days you have been in hold?" The Qur'an says, "They would say: Almighty God we spent probably a day or two."

The spirit looks like a huge tree that has its branches and fruits hanging. However, our souls are hanging in those branches inside the fruits. When the fruit falls, our souls stick to the tree. Consequently, the tree will produce other fruits, and falling fruits will rot and convert to dust after a while. The Great Spirit represents God and our souls are his gift to us. Every one of us does believe that this life is not the end. However, some know that for a fact, but others continue to deny this knowledge. They will never know that fact until they see it for real as humans have been like that for ages.

## **The Other World--Afterlife**

*Hsueh-Chun Ho (Cindy)*

*R/W 50*

Everyone will experience birth, old age, sickness and death which we call "life." Especially, people always feel curious whether human being's life can still exist after they die. Even though nobody realizes the truth of immortality, I still believe that there is a vivid world in the afterlife. Moreover, in Chinese legend, we believe that not only after death does the soul exist in different ways' but it also transmigrates.

In the western world, the afterlife is seen as people going to heaven, a perfect world without pain, sickness and full of happiness. However, in Chinese culture, we think that after death, everyone will be sent to hell. You will be judged according to your behavior when you were alive and sent to different parts of hell, which is divided into 18 layers. There are different punishments in every layer. For example, if you waste food in every meal, you will have food poured into your mouth again and again, and will not be able to take a rest. However, if you were a nice person, you don't need to worry too much because the judge will have you drink a soup named mon-po soup which can make you forget all the things you have ever done, and you will get into the cycle of reincarnation.

In Tibet, in west China, they have their own special religion—Lamaism. The leader of Lamaism is the Dalai Lama who has never truly died since 1391, the first Dalai Lama's era. Because before a Dalai Lama dies, he shows his trusted follower where he will reincarnate after he dies. At the same time, the baby will be born somewhere, and the followers will start to look for the new inheritor according to some mysterious images and conventions. They test to see how familiar the child is with the possessions which belonged to the previous Dalai Lama. After a series of testing, the monks bring the child back to Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. People feel incredible about the traditional mystery of finding new Dalai Lama in Tibet. Nowadays, the current Dalai Lama, who received Nobel Peace Prize in 1989, is the 14<sup>th</sup> one and was also found when he was a two-year-old boy (now, he is a 71-year-old man).

In our tradition, we also believe our family members who just passed away will come back on the 7<sup>th</sup> day after they died—we call the date "head 7<sup>th</sup>." So, there are many real stories which happened on the day. One of my friends lost his favorite grandfather who doted on him and his brother very much. On the head 7<sup>th</sup> day, both of the two brothers could feel instinctively that it is true; someone walked inside their room and helped them cover with the blanket when they fell asleep.

On one famous TV talk show, they invited well-known people to share their personal experiences. My deep impression was a famous host who dreamed about his uncle. In his dream, his uncle said, "It's so crowded here, but my new neighbors are very nice to me." After several days he dreamed again, and this time his uncle said, "The neighbor who lives on the right wants to borrow some money from me and bring our neighbors to travel, so can you burn some money for me?" On the second day, the host went to his uncle's headstone and burned the paper money in front of his headstone. Suddenly, he found

many ancestor headstones to be added there and lined up closely. To his great surprise, the right side neighbor is a van driver.

To sum up, even though I haven't experienced any unnatural spiritual power, I still prefer that after death people can keep their behavior in the spiritual mode. The souls do the same things as they do when they alive, have emotion to feel love, anger, cold, convenience and discomfort...etc. Confucius said, "We need to respect both ghost and god no matter if we believe or not." I see the words as my motto, and remember deeply to respect them. Some people like to gossip about the souls in the afterlife or totally deny believing in their existence. In my opinion, both attitudes without respect can cause bad effects. On the other hand, sometimes, respect may get a surprise reward!!

## **Plastic Surgery Among Korean Women**

*Sang-Soo Yoo (Hami)*

*R/W 42*

Today, plastic surgery operations have been one of the trends among young women ranging from teenagers to women in their thirties, around the world. Even Korea is no exception. There are many kinds of the plastic surgeries such as face, skin, reducing fat, and so forth. Although the plastic surgery is now considered as an enhancement to beauty, actually, originally, plastic surgery was done to repair the skin of accident victims. In addition, the original patients were not influenced by harmful side effects of plastic surgery during their life. However, these days, the plastic surgery has been changed to focus on making women's figures beautiful. According to announcements of the mass media, the modern plastic surgery has two sides, which are advantages and disadvantages to health and lifestyle. Even though they have announced disadvantages more strongly than advantages, young women seem obsessed with having plastic surgery done. Why?

There are two reasons why plastic surgery has become a trend. First, it is the influence of western culture. Western women think that their standard of beauty is slenderness and a sculptured face. In addition, beautiful women who have these features can succeed more than those who do not. After the 1990s, Korean people's opinions have been changing. Second, it is the influence of the mass media. Woman announcers of newscasts and current events programs are more beautiful, pretty, cute, and younger than male announcers. Also, actresses in dramas or movies have perfect slender figures, clothes, and faces. Because of these two influences, many people grow up obsessed with beauty.

There is an important advantage of plastic surgery. It involves mental health. For example, if one woman who is not proud of her body has plastic surgery she may become more satisfied with her figure and she may then get many chances at success in life, such as wearing beautiful clothes, meeting wonderful men, getting a good job at the famous company, and so forth. As a result, the woman who has had plastic surgery will be free from her many frustrations in the past and be able to keep good mental health and have a good lifestyle.

The other side of the plastic operation is harmful effects. First, it is harmful to specific body parts. Those are the eyes which have become unbalanced with each other, the nose which has fallen because it had been raised so much, the breasts which have become unbalanced because the doctor had not checked their anatomical condition, etc. Second, sometimes, it can kill the woman. For example, after one woman who was twenty years old had gotten plastic surgery on her chin her face bled inside. And then, she died because the blood blocked her breathing. Finally, plastic surgery can involve toxicity. Those three disadvantages will negatively affect health and lifestyle.

Although the original goals for plastic surgery are not as common as the facelift, we can never blame women who want to become more beautiful. People and the mass media need to strive to change their obsession about women's beauty. The government also has to apply policies, active campaigns, and positive support. If we keep this attitude, we should be able to recognize real beauty.

## **Beans and Rice are the Basic Foods in Brazil**

*Eduardo Amaral Borges, Iana Aime Ribeiro,  
Adriana Rangel*  
R/W 100

The basic foods in our country are beans and rice. They are very important because these grains are very economical and nutritious. This dish is a basic food because of some advantages. Beans and rice grow easily in many places of Brazil. These grains are very strong against disease. The price of these grains is cheap. Rich and poor people can buy beans and rice any time. Beans and rice give us many of the principal necessities of our bodies, but not totally. It is necessary that we complement them with some vegetables and some meat too.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Rice is very easy to cook. There are many forms to cook rice, but for simple rice you need oil, onion, garlic, salt and boiling water. First, you put a little oil in the pan and when this oil is hot, you put in little pieces of onion and garlic. Mix it for some seconds. Second, you put the rice in the pan, mix, and add the boiling water. Third, put some salt and wait for the rice to cook. Use a low heat.

To cook beans you need oil, onion, garlic, salt and a pressure cooker. The process is the same as for rice. If you can add some pieces of meat together with the beans, it will have a special flavor.

Finally, you can eat this traditional Brazilian food with some salad and some beef.

**BOM APETITE!!!**

## **Kabbsa**

*Alwaleed Albazaie, Mohammed Alabbad,  
Mohanad Aljouaithen*  
R/W 100

We are writing about the famous and main food in our country: Kabbsa.

All people in Saudi Arabia eat Kabbsa because it tastes good and it is good for our health. Everybody in Saudi Arabia likes Kabbsa: boys, girls, children, old men and old women.

Kabbsa started many years ago in our country. Kabbsa is easy to cook so all people want to do that. These are the ingredients:

- 1- Chicken or Fish or Meat
- 2- Rice
- 3- Onions (chopped)
- 4- Tomatoes (chopped)
- 5- Green Pepper (chopped)
- 6- Garlic (cut)
- 7- Tomato sauce
- 8- Salt
- 9- Pepper
- 10- Oil
- 11- Water

Instructions:

Put some oil in the pot. Then, put in the onions, garlic, salt and pepper. Next, stir it. After that, put in the green pepper, some tomatoes and tomato sauce in the pot. Then, add the chicken and water. Cook for 30 minutes. Then, take only the chicken and put it in the oven. After that, add the rice to the ingredients.

## **Ajiaco**

*Juliana Silva, Lina Maria Camacho*  
R/W 100

Ajiaco is a famous Colombian soup and it is very important for health. It is very nutritious because this soup has protein, calcium and vitamins. Colombian people of different cultures, ages, and religions all eat Ajiaco. They frequently eat it in Colombian restaurants and Colombian homes. Colombian people make Ajiaco in this way:

First, put a pot on the stove, and fry the chicken. Second, put water, corn, onions, potatoes and cilantro into the pot. Next, wait for the mix to boil for 45 minutes. Then, put guascas (special leaves) into the soup. After ten minutes, turn off the stove. Finally, serve the hot soup with bread, olives, avocado, capers and cream.

Our conclusion is that the Ajiaco is a delicious and nutritious Colombian soup.



## **Ambition**

*Abdulrhman Fadel Aldahery (Raymon)*

*R/W 30*

Ambition is an important thing in one's life. Life object pushes one to pursue it. And then you will know where you are and what kind of person you want to be in the future. You can adjust your objects along the way. If you take the wrong way, you can correct this mistake. Ambition always supports you for making more progress. It makes you be creative and change wrong things in this world. Take us for example, I left my country and my family, and came to America to learn knowledge. Ambitions turn impossible to possible. You can feel about your change by yourself. In this sense, you feel the world needs you. For all these reasons, ambition is certainly in your life and everyone can find it if he is looking for it!

## **Cause and Effects of Good Health**

*Faris Al Amrah*

*R/W 30*

I have got to say all biospheres for sure try to find the best kind of food, but are the reasons to find the best kind of the food alike between human beings and the other biospheres? No, because we have the mind and we can think about our health. The health in these days is the important thing that because there are many illnesses and the professors in the biggest hospitals and universities could not find the medications until now, so some people are taking this issue seriously and take care for their health conditions. They can arrive to good health conditions by: choosing good food, play sport, and finally visiting the family doctor every six months for check.

First, the food is one of crucial things that human body needs. We need food with fewer calories. Because high calorie foods are dangerous to human faculties such as heart, liver, and kidney. Use olive oil instead of tradition counterparts while cooking, because olives are good for the heart, low in cholesterol. Another thing is that natural food like fruits and vegetables are better than meats. We should stay away from fast food as much as we can.

Second, sports are another factor that our body needs to be healthy. First, sports are good because they benefit blood circulation. And at the same time they help us to burn the calories we receive from either fast foods or natural foods. In addition, sports are very helpful to build muscles and shape.

Third, it is good to have family doctor is another aspect in our life because doctors can detect small problems before they are getting bigger. A doctor suggests us what we should do in the future. Also, we will be confident about our health. As in western world, most of the families have their own doctors in these days.

To summarize this topic, choosing the food carefully, doing exercise, sleeping well and having a doctor are very important for life now. All these things are helpful and protect the health from diseases. Also, we take good and natural foods instead of fast foods. Remember, good health means good life.

## **Three Most Important Factors for Choosing a Job**

*Sultan Mohammad G. Alshareef*

*R/W 31*

Finding a job in the best place is an ambition for everyone who has a strong desire to be successful. The person who is looking for a job has to answer some questions like: "What do I want?" "What are the main factors that influence my choice?" There are many factors that influence our decisions for choosing a job.

Personally, one of the most important factors is the salary. The salary is the main reason for some employees in various fields leaving their jobs. Some of them, especially employees in countries in the Middle East, have big families that sometimes include elderly people. Another reason why salary is important is people like to improve their lives. Therefore, the salary is the most important factor that affects the decisions of choosing a job over another.

In my opinion, the second most important factor in choosing a job or quitting one is the working environment. A good environment around you usually gives you energy to work and motivation to do better and better. In the place that you may work in, you should feel entirely comfortable when you find the fitting environment. On the other hand, you may dislike the work because of the bad environment and then you may quit that job. In either case, the environment plays an important role.

There is another factor that makes you select a job. I think the third important factor for selecting a job is your abilities. What talent do you have? Can you utilize your abilities in this place? What do you need to improve your abilities? How can you apply your abilities? After answering these questions, you will find the place that satisfies your needs. For that, the abilities are another main factor that influences our decisions.

There are many factors controlling our decisions when we select a job but quit another. Sometimes, we abandon some factors when we find another need is met. In the end, it depends on the seeker of the job what he or she wants.

## **How to Manage Stress and Maintain Positive Attitudes at Work**

*Raeda Al Khars*

*R/W 42*

Teamwork stress is a positive weapon and a powerful tool if we know how to deal with and how to control it. On the other hand, it may lead to complicated results like job burnout, negative relationships, poor productivity, depression, anxiety and more health problems. According to recent studies and research, good working relationships within a team lead to higher productivity, a happier team, and a healthier life style. In other words, good stress management and positive working attitudes result in more effective healthy teams and organizations that are more successful.

There are many causes and effects for successful work. One of them is the good health, especially the high spirit attitudes within the team. Trying to be a healthy employee can be achieved by managing stress at work and maintaining a healthy lifestyle; for example, eating healthy food, doing exercises, practicing relaxation techniques, getting good sleep, and trying to pinpoint the difficulty of life and looking for solutions. Many studies recommended dealing with our job overloads and stress by enjoying our jobs and relaxing during work. Moreover, we need to design and train our minds to use the positive thinking techniques and healthy mind frames and plans, which will lead to strong support for self-confidence and to good trust for the others with strong feelings to its oats.

Another cause of good health and successful organizations is trying to establish good relationships and positive attitudes toward others at work. Some scientists define the attitude as "a state of mind influenced by feeling, thoughts and action taken." This definition can remind us of a simple physical rule, which suggests, the attitude we send out is usually the same attitude we get back. Trying to improve our working relationships could be achieved by offering help to our superiors, co-workers and customers especially in dealing with difficult situations. In addition, trying to work with qualified, healthy, and powerful people helps us to work positively and leads to correct decision-making. Moreover, it helps to build a strong defense system against poor health and job burnout. For example, knowing our job responsibilities and the others responsibilities helps the team member to enjoy their work correctly and smoothly under pressure, which results in effective teamwork and reduces the job failure. Therefore, the effective worker should try usually to send positive attitudes to the others at work.

Some employees cannot control their anger at the job. Nevertheless, trying to control our anger at the job makes the teamwork more effective, relaxed, and valuable. Moreover, keeping up to date with the recent information and knowledge resources about the products will color the organization with a special touch. In addition, asking for help if we need it during work will reflect positively in the higher team productivity.

In conclusion, updating our information and improving positive attitudes with others gives us a chance to prove that the team members are good, positive and reliable workers. In addition, it is important to achieve smooth cooperation of any organization. Therefore, we need to remember that the teamwork production is much better than working alone. In addition, we need to improve our positive working relationships in order to achieve more effective output with happier and relaxed lives.

## Three Paragraphs

*Jafar Al Hejji*

*R/W 30*

## Good Teachers

Good teachers have special qualities. First of all, good teachers are patient. They never rush their students. Good teachers explain things without getting bored. They are

organized. They plan what happens in very class. Good teachers are also encouraging. They help students understand the subject. Finally, good teachers are fair. They treat all students in the same way. These are some of the most important qualities of good teachers.

## My Room

My room is a comfortable place to study. On the left, there is a big wooden desk. My computer sits on top of the desk, while the printer is sitting under the desk. I keep paper files in the drawers. On the right side of the room, there are two beautiful bookcases. My father makes bookcases and other wooden furniture. These bookcases are full of books, magazines and computer software. There is also a telephone and fax machine. All my office supplies. I like my room very much.

## Staying Healthy

It is easy to stay healthy if you follow some simple steps. First, think about food you eat. The best types of food are fruits and vegetables. It is important to eat a lot of them every day. Next, consider some exercises, like doctors recommend that one hour of moderate exercise each day can keep you in good shape. In addition, exercise is good for the body and the mind. Finally, relaxation is very important. Take time to appreciate the good things in life. You can follow these steps to help yourself stay healthy.

## Life's Way

*Aya Nankumo*

*ELI Alumna (2006)*

Why did we meet?

What's the meaning to meet you?

We could meet in this extensive world

I only know that I'm lucky

Became a friend

Became someone's special one

Sometimes life shows us suffering

Sometimes life gives us happiness

We learn life's way from love

Realize the meeting of people is life and a treasure

(...Thanks you guys)

## Everlasting

*Aya Nankumo*

*ELI Alumna (2006)*

What's love?

What's human being?

What's life?

We look for an answer

There are no answers

Nobody knows

That's why

Life goes on

It's a natural way

I knew somebody by love

I found a treasure in dailiness of my days

It's a piece of it

On the road

To the future

## **The Way to Longevity**

*Young Eun Ban (Bonnie)*

*R/W 50*

Have you ever thought about how old you would live to be? Most people try to take care of their health in order to live longer. Especially people who get information about longevity through the media or many experiences put a large amount of money in medicine or exercise machines. However, according to a survey, longevity is all not gotten by any medicine. It seems lifestyle is the most important factor for keeping longer the life. It is important for long life to get positive elements that can be found easily around us such as healthy food and active social life.

Healthy food is a very necessary element for people who want to live longer. Although many people know that fact, it is not easy for people who have already been accustomed to unhealthy food for a long time. It is obviously true that food can be fatal to the health. Imagine how oils and harmful things pile up in our body! But one person I know totally changed his eating habits for his health. When I went to church, I met an English teacher who worked in the church as a volunteer. He looked over seventy years old and very healthy. But I knew the fact that he already had an operation three times on his stomach and I was surprised about it. From childhood, he had eaten too much fast food like hamburgers and pizzas and even eaten three orders of French fries a day. However, after having the operations, he recognized the seriousness of unhealthy food and changed to organic food, deli and fresh fruits that are needed for his body. After that, he said his health changed a lot.

According to some studies, some food could prevent serious disease. For instance, flatbread, a kind of traditional diet of Sardinia, an Island off of Italy, may reduce the risk of heart disease and a daily glass of red wine also could help due to a component of wine that may prevent arterial clogging. In Korea we have Kimchi, a traditional, healthy food. Kimchi is fermented for a pretty long time and includes various ingredients that are good for the health. According to the survey, it can prevent severe SARS.

Longevity can be achieved by keeping active personally or socially. For example, many people meet friends, listen to their story and also talk together. Especially, in the case of seniors, it is more important to keep the circle. Kamada Nakazato, noticed in National Geographic, lives in Japan and is

102-year-old. She tried to keep the circle and her family also joins her together for a cup of tea several times a week.

Some people meet to share a common interest and hobby like church or exercise. Adventists observe the Sabbath on Saturday, meeting socially with other church members and spending a good time in holiness that helps get rid of stress. Today most Adventists follow an ordered lifestyle like a testimony for mixing health and religion. According to researchers, Adventists increase their opportunity for a long life by associating with people who strengthen their healthy behaviors. Besides church, in volunteering, even though they are senior, they could get work if they want. They could help others learn their language like my teacher in the church and talk with the other lonely seniors in homes. Through these meetings, they could enjoy their rest life and find another life.

Do you still think people who live longer have special secret or medicine? I think not. The control of food and lifestyle must be helped to live longer. It is important to eat food that is healthy and could prevent some disease. Furthermore, doing exercise and keeping a social circle are necessary to reduce depression in need to have positive elements as possible as for longevity.

## **The Internet**

*Eissa Al Saleh*

*R/W 20*

The internet is an international net where everybody in the world can get almost whatever he/she wants. It was established by the Ministry of Defense in the United States in 1987. At the beginning, it was restricted to the Pentagon. Then it spread to the whole world.

The internet has many advantages. People can get different kinds of information such as cultural, scientific or social information. The internet provides people with e-mail service where they can keep in touch with each other. In addition, people can buy something online such as at the website "www.studentuniverse.com," which is a website where students can buy their flight tickets, train tickets or make a reservation at hotels.

## **Three Most Important Factors for Choosing a Job**

*Ahmed Ibraheem Almgrashi*

*R/W 31*

Finding a job in the best place is an ambition for everyone who has a strong desire to be successful. The person who is looking for a job has to answer some questions like: "What do I want?" "What are the main factors that influence my choice?" There are many factors that influence our decisions for choosing a job.

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that sometimes include elderly people. Another reason why salary is important is people like to improve their lives. Therefore, the salary is the most important factor that affects the decisions of choosing a job over another.

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There are many factors controlling our decisions when we select a job but quit another. Sometimes, we abandon some factors when we find another need is met. In the end, it depends on the seeker of the job what he or she wants.

## **Culture and Communication (A Journal Entry for a Culture and Communication Class at UF)**

*Siriporn Kobnithikulwong (Apple)*  
*R/W 400*

This journal is about cultural influences on interpersonal communication. In our textbook, culture is defined as the language, values, beliefs, traditions, and customs people share and learn (Ronald, Lawrence, and Russell, 2004). Based on this definition, we perceive and define ourselves as a member of cultures that we are involved in. Thus, cultures reflect who we are and affect our behavior. Moreover, cultural differences provide effects on communication among members of two or more cultures.

We all have more than one culture: main culture and subcultures. For me, I come from Thailand, but I consider myself as Asian, not Thai, because my ancestors came from China and my family respects Chinese belief and tradition. So, I think Asian culture is more moderate and suitable to identify me than either Thai or Chinese. I am also involved in many subcultures; such as designer and Bangkok (my hometown) cultures. However, only my Asian culture is mentioned in this journal.

Because I perceive myself as a member of Asian culture, I have been significantly influenced by it. Two main instances of my cultural effects are presented. First, it makes me know who I am and differentiate me from others. In other words, my own culture takes a part to create my identity with my language, beliefs, behavior, and traditions. Especially living in the U.S., which contains people coming from a variety of cultures, other persons most recognize me based on my Asian

look, behavior, and language (both spoken and written languages). Second, most of my daily behaviors are affected by Asian norms. For example, in my culture, rice is very important for us. Basically, in a meal, each person has a dish of rice and we share other dishes together. Moreover, we use chopsticks or a spoon, instead of a fork that is used in American culture, to ladle rice up. Nowadays, although I am in the U.S., in which bread is more preferred than rice, I still have rice at almost every meal and I use a spoon and chopsticks with my meals also.

Moreover, leaving my hometown and living in the U.S., I have faced many problems related to cultural differences, especially communicative problems. During my first semester at UF, I always felt confused and awkward, when others asked me “how’re you doing?”, “what’s going on?”, or “what’s up?” I had no idea how I should respond, since I did not know that those were greeting phrases, not questions. Straight and consistent eye contacts during having conversation also frightened me, because in Asian culture making eye contact with an unfamiliar person can mean you are looking for trouble with that one or you do not respect him/her. Moreover, cultural differences affect my learning behavior in class as well. In most Asian countries, teachers usually use a teacher focused approach to regulate their classes, although this approach discourages students to participate and give their opinions. Thus, I do not know how I should participate or what I should suggest in class in the U.S.

However, so far, I am handling these situations better, since I have learnt more about other cultures and I try to adapt myself to be familiar with them. The other important thing which I do to improve my communication with others from different cultures, is to ask them for a meaning of what they said or what they expressed. This helps me a lot to comprehend others more accurately and feel more comfortable to associate with friends from different cultures.

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## **Territoriality (A Summary of a Chapter in a Textbook for an Interior Theory Class at UF)**

*Siriporn Kobnithikulwong (Apple)*  
*R/W 400*

Chapter 6 is about territoriality. It is quite difficult to simplify a formal definition of territoriality. However, Gifford offers his operating territoriality definition as “a pattern of behavior and attitudes held by an individual or group that is based on perceived, attempted, or actual control of a definable physical space, object, or idea that may involve habitual occupation, defense, personalization, and marking of it” (Gifford, 2002, p. 150).

Regarding this chapter, there are seven types of territories based on the Altman System and the Lyman and Scott System. These seven territories consist of primary territories, secondary territories, public territories, objects, ideas, interactional territories, and body territories (Gifford, 2002). In my opinion, the Altman System is easier to understand and illustrate than the Lyman and Scott System. Primary, secondary, and public territories are obviously perceived by most people. Objects and ideas are more complicated to consider as territories. For instance, my bedroom is my primary territory. I usually feel safe and comfortable when I am in this area. Because of a possessive feeling, I do everything I would like to do in my bedroom, even though it actually belongs to my parents. On the other hand, I consider the apartment I live in is my secondary territory. Although it is my private room, I cannot do everything as I want due to the apartment rules and I know I will move to another one soon. The area in the fence of the apartment is an example of the public territory because it serves residents in this community and control outsiders.

Territoriality generally relates to human behavior whether we perceive it or not. According to the topic of territoriality and human behavior, there are at least eight types of human behavior dealing with territoriality including: personalization, marking, aggression, dominance, winning, helping, inaction, and control (Gifford, 2002, 160). After I read this chapter, I tried to observe personalization and marking behavior of students in the art and architectural library. I found that students who occupy a four-seat table usually put their belongings on the tables or the chairs next to them. They considered the tables were their territories and tried to mark them. On the other hand, students possessing carrels put their items only inside their areas. From this observation, I think the physical setting probably affects territoriality. Partitions around a carrel act as the guideline for defining the territoriality. In addition, I noticed one girl occupying the four-seat table. She had sat there just a few minute, and then, there was a newcomer asking her to move her items on the table. She moved them to share space with the new one, but she left that table soon. I think she felt like her territory was invaded, and she may be uncomfortable to share her space with the other.

Due to the correlation between territory and human behavior, territoriality should be considered in the environmental design. Especially in the neighborhood design, architects and designers can design the setting that reduces aggression, increases control, and promotes a sense of order and security by reflecting the territoriality. Based on the sense of possession, most people always treat their belongings better than public things. Thus, the neighborhood design that can make residents in the area feel like they own this district is the best solution to increase safety and control in the area.

Territoriality is one important impact on human behavior and environmental design. Realizing territoriality can facilitate designers to provide the better solutions for different types of users in each space. The greater the realization of users' behaviors, the better the design to satisfy them.

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## Pharmacoeconomy: The Future of Pharmacy Health Care Practice

*Ibrahim Al Khars*

*R/W 61*

### Introduction

Concerns about the rising of health care costs and the availability of limited resources have created a health care environment with a strong emphasis on cost containment. This focus necessitates that health care goods and services, especially pharmaceutical products and services, be justified for cost and quality.

Although pharmaceutical products present about 20% (2004, USA) of the resources spent on health care, this percentage is rapidly increasing as new and unique drugs and products are approved. Thorough evaluation of pharmaceutical services and products must not only incorporate safety and efficacy, but also consider the economic impact of drugs on patients and hospitals.<sup>1,2</sup>

### Pharmacoeconomy in Pharmacy Practice Management

Pharmacoeconomics is a new part of pharmacy practice management, which is basically defined as “the description and analysis of the cost of drug therapy to healthcare systems and society, as well as the science of placing a value on drug therapy.”<sup>3</sup>

The pharmacoeconomist can assist clinicians and administrators in balancing cost with quality to determine which products and services represent the highest quality per dollar spent without compromising the quality of health care delivered. Furthermore, pharmacoeconomic data can provide support and assistance for effective decision making in many health care practice setting like formulary management, individual patient therapy, medication policy, and resource allocation.<sup>1</sup>

In any business, deficiencies in quality affect costs. When an action is inappropriate, resources are unnecessarily consumed and costs are incurred. An activity may need to be redone and corrective actions may need to be undertaken; in addition, customer satisfaction may be diminished. However, programs which are designed to improve quality will also consume resources. If a well-designed quality-improvement program is implemented, the total quality will improve, the costs of deficiencies will be reduced and the program will generate benefits.<sup>4,5</sup>

### The Purpose of Pharmacoeconomics

Pharmacoeconomics are designed to assist decision-makers in allocating scarce resources. When pharmacoeconomics are used to assess quality indicators, they

focus on economic impact (return on investment) or efficiency, or both. Pharmacoeconomics ascertain whether the outcome or objective is worth pursuing; that is, whether the benefits exceed the cost.<sup>5</sup>

Pharmacoeconomics, on the other hand, attempt to determine the least costly way to achieve a desired level of performance. The Six-Sigma program is the best example of achieving that target. In the Six-Sigma analysis of efficiency, only the costs are expressed in monetary terms; the consequence is expressed as the degree of success in attaining the objective or desired outcome. By using pharmacoeconomical analysis health care practitioners can achieve the apex of quality with minimum expenditure.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, pharmacoeconomy fills an important gap and answers important questions about quality. It facilitates collaborative activities between academia and manufacturers, health care setting, professional organizations, and others to promote advances in health care quality of life. Pharmacoeconomy will be the future of health care practitioners in any setting.

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## Beyond Death There Is Life

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*R/W 50*

Even though we have no distinct evidence to convince all people around the world to believe in the same way about the afterlife, in my deep feeling I, myself, believe that beyond death there is life. I get this feeling from faith and intuition mixed together with other external resources such as religious preaching and traditional legends. Every soul will be in a sphere of life until reaching the state of Nirvana.

I never believed in the soul until I had directly experienced attending a Buddhism meditation course for eight days by accident in the beginning of this year; my thought was changed. I had the most peace and calm of my mind on the third day, and that was the most fabulous day. On that day,

when I was meditating, I felt my mouth was opening gradually and my overlapping hands were lifting gently from my lap. I tried to close my mouth at first. But it turned out that my physical mouth still was closed. And my crossed hands still lay on my lap. I felt that there was another entity like a soul overlapping my physical body. I was really nervous and scared at that time, but I couldn't get out of the meditation by following the rule that we were taught. I could imagine how our soul left the body when we were in deep meditation. With my conscious mind, I realized that I was a soul who was using the body to live in this world. Moreover, there could have been other worlds at the same time for other kinds of soul. Selecting the world to be born in was up to the amount of sin and merit a soul had. Therefore, I believed that after death, the soul was still alive.

Soon after that I read a book with the title "It Is a Pity that the Death Never Read." This book is not only referring to many words of the Lord of Buddha, but it also supports my thoughts. One of them is that death is not the end of the soul. It is just the end of physical and mental labor. Death is the movement of the soul from this world to another by leaving a dead body which decays gradually. At the moment of death, it is the time for collecting all actions and weighing between good and bad things that souls have done and deciding the places to be born between upper and lower from the human level. All souls still are in the Wheel of Rebirth and pay for the results of their bad behaviors until they are completely clean.

The result of our actions in the past can affect us at different times: in the present, in the next world, and worlds after the next world. Even our appearances are also the result of our past actions which might accumulate from last worlds or this world. You may have been so stunned by the beauty of someone that you could not take your eyes off of her. Beautiful women are getting the result of good actions they have done. Moreover, you may have wondered why vicious people in our society haven't got the bad results of their actions and are rich and have much power in our society. Don't forget that you might have seen only the wrong things they have done in this world, but not innumerable great meritorious deeds accumulated from many past worlds.

After all souls have finished their compensation, the Lord of Buddha said that it will be time to enter the state of Nirvana for bodies and souls. To get out of the Wheel of Rebirth is the final destination of all souls. Therefore, where we go after death depends on our actions in every moment of breath. Doing only good things is the only way to create permanent safety for ourselves even in this life or the next lives.

## The Provisional Governments of Korea

*Sang Soo Yoo*

*Grammar 41*

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, many western countries such as France, England, and so forth and Japan demanded economic relations from Korea. Japan got rid of the western countries in Korean territory. Finally, Korea accepted Japan as

its trading partner and Korea was controlled by Japan from 1906 to 1945. Generally, people call this the Colonial Period. During the colonial period, three provisional governments of Korea were established in Vladivostok on March 21, in Shanghai on April 11, and in Seoul on April 21 in 1919.

The National Council of Korea in Vladivostok, which was established first, integrated its activities with those of the Shanghai division, which then passed a resolution calling for integration with the Seoul provisional government. The first cabinet meeting was convened in Shanghai on November 4, 1919, marking the start of the functioning of the provisional government.

The provisional government in Shanghai was as a representative of Korean people and as Korea's only independence organization abroad. Despite its financial difficulties and Japanese attempts to suppress it, the provisional government in Shanghai led and coordinated Korean independence movements and did its best to carry out its international duties. It denounced totalitarian Japan and provided close cooperation with the allied powers in the world during World War II. For twenty seven years, until the provisional government in Shanghai returned in Korea on November 23, 1945, after Japan surrendered, it strove to represent Korean people.

The provisional government in Seoul proclaimed Korean independence, which intended to repeal Japan's colonial system and withdraw Japan's occupation forces from Korea. It urged Korean people to refuse paying taxes to the Japan government, not to accept trials by Japan courts, and to avoid employment at the colonial offices. A direct challenge was posed by the provisional government in Seoul against the Japan colonial system.

As a result, three provisional governments expedited independence of Korea. Moreover, it provided foundational laws, politics, economy, social system. To build the provisional governments of Korea were one event of the most important parts of Korea history.

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