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The ELI Weekly

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I-75 Super Flea Market

Browse interesting stuff!

This Saturday, October 4th, we are headed to the I-75 Super Flea Market in Ocala. Flea Markets are very popular in the United States. At the I-75 Super Flea Market in Ocala, there are approximately 1000 different vendors selling stuff... everything from music, to vegetables, to jewelry. This will be a great chance to buy some inexpensive gifts for people, to see a very interesting part of U.S. culture, and to practice your English!

WHEN: Saturday, October 4th at 10:00am at Norman Garage. We will return to Gainesville around 3:00pm. Sign up on the activities board by 5:00pm on Thursday, October 2nd.

COST: **FREE!** However, bring money for anything you plan to buy and for lunch. The amount of money you should bring depends on what you want to buy...most stuff at flea markets is less expensive when compared to regular stores.

For more information visit
<http://www.i75superflea.com/>

Notes from the Office

- **Fake IDs**-Not that we think that our students would do such a thing, but there are occasional rumors. Once in a while we like to remind you that certain things can be more serious than some people think they might be. A couple of years ago, Florida changed its laws regarding using a fake ID to purchase alcohol and made it much, much more serious. The penalty is up to 5 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine...and a foreign student is subject to immediate deportation for a felony. It's a big, big risk!
- **Lost and Found**-Don't forget to check in the main office from time to time for lost and found items. We keep a large box with items that have been found in our classrooms and turned in.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, there will be no trip in order to allow for you to study for any Midterm Exams your teachers may be giving you. Our next trip will be on Saturday, October 18th, for the **Cedar Key Seafood Festival**.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of October 3-9:

Students:

October 5: Hyejin Park

October 7: David Vasquez

Staff:

None this week!

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do Americans speak so fast?

A: We don't. Relatively speaking, English isn't nearly as fast as some other languages. However, when you are learning the language, it seems a lot faster. And, of course, your teachers often must use "teacher talk", that is, slower language, to make sure that you understand.

Q: Are private universities better than public universities? How can I know which one is best in graduate studies?

A: It depends on what field you are studying. Many private universities

have much larger endowments (reserve money—usually donated by alumni or local community figures) than many public universities, which receive a lot of their money from the taxes paid to a state. For example, Harvard University, our oldest university in the US, has by far the largest endowment, and it is often considered a leader in prestigious fields like medicine and law.

Public universities have the advantage of being lower in cost than most private universities, and they often rank very high in a number of fields. In the 2009 US News and World Report rankings (considered one of the better tools for ranking colleges), the University of Florida comes in at

number 49 nationally, a very high ranking. You can go to

<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/college/national>

to look at individual rankings.

Grammar

Q: I understand the use of “get” as meaning “obtain” or “receive”, but can you give me an example of when it means “become” or “change into”?

A: Sure.

“It’s getting late.”

“I’ve been sick, but I’m getting better.”

“The class gets more fluent every day.”

Q: What’s the difference between, “I have read the book,” and, “I have been reading the book,” and which one is correct?

A: They’re both correct, depending on what you want to say. The first case means that you have definitely finished reading the book. The second case means that you have spent some time on the reading recently, but you probably haven’t finished the book yet.

Quote of the Week

You've got to do your own growing, no matter how tall your grandfather was.

--Irish Proverb

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