

## Highlights

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# The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Midterms

*No trip this week, folks!*

This coming weekend, Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, there is no scheduled ELI trip. We have this break from trips because many ELI classes will be having Midterm Exams next week, and we want to give you plenty of time to study. Our next trip will be on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, for **The Midterm Picnic**. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

## Bags and Backpacks

Students, we want to remind you that it's very important that you keep your bags and backpacks with you at all times—don't leave them unattended in the hallways, the bathrooms, or even the classroom, even here on the third floor of Norman Hall. While the campus is certainly a relatively safe place, remember that everything is open, and one never knows who might be walking in and out and around the buildings. Teachers, this is also a good time to remind you that it's probably a good idea to make sure that you close and lock your offices when you're not in them!

## Notes from the Office

- **Student Mail**—There is quite a bit of mail in the student mailbox. It's

the smoke-colored tray immediately to the right of the door to the ELI Main Office, Room 315. Be sure to check from time to time to see if you have anything in!

- **Lost and found**—If you are missing any items, or if you find anything in the classroom that obviously belongs to someone, we do keep a lost and found box in the Main Office.
- **Class Attendance**—Remember, your attendance is very, very important. Your teachers are taking note of both your absences and your tardies in every class every day. Many students are already having some issues with absence; if you're not sure of your absences, you should check with your teachers to make sure you're not going over the limits.

## New Activities Schedule

We have revised our afternoon activities schedule; remember always, though, to check the Activities Board for any changes!

Activity	Date	Location
Pool and Bowling CJ	Monday 6:30 p.m.	Reitz Union Game Room, Ground Floor Bring UF ID and \$5-\$10

Karaoke at Lollicup Sarah	Tuesday 6:00 p.m.	Meet at Lollicup
Coffee Talk Becky	Wednesday 6:00 p.m.	Meet at the Starbucks on Archer Road Bring money for coffee
Soccer Clay	Thursday 7:00 p.m.	Meet at Norman Field Free
Fabulous Fun Fridays LAs TBA	Something new and fun every Friday, Time TBA	Check Activities Board for Details

## Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of February 25-March 3:

Students:  
February 25: Suzana Boone  
February 27: Abdulrahman Alluhidan  
March 1: Ashwag Alqahtani  
March 1: Shahir Alruayni

Staff:  
March 1: Horica Ionescu

Happy Birthday, one and all!

## Manners and Culture

*Q: When did Christopher Columbus find America?*

A: Well, there's a lot of disagreement about the "find" part, since there were already a lot of people here. However, Columbus' first voyage (he had several) was in the year 1492.

*Q: What is the traditional food in the US?*

A: This country is so large and diverse with so many cultural backgrounds and traditions that there really is no one single American food. Sure, fast food was started here, but that is only about 60 years old. We do have lots of regional cuisines. There is a tradition of wonderful seafood dishes in the Northeast, for example. In the South, we have lots of dishes that have been handed down for generations; fried chicken is pretty much a southern invention. New Orleans, Texas, San Francisco, Chicago, and New York are all famous for certain dishes that combine old and new and

some international traditions. One thread that does seem pretty common in American (and in much European) cuisine is that we do seem to eat a lot of bread with our meals.

*Q: What should you do if someone bothers you inside the class?*

A: Take the first available private opportunity to tell the teacher about it.

*Q: What is the polite action when you first meet people?*

A: Shake hands, look them in the eye, and say, "It's nice to meet you."

## Grammar

*Q: What's the difference between "say" and "tell"?*

A: You say something or you say something to someone. You tell someone something. You can also tell the truth, tell a lie, or tell a story.

*Q: What's the difference between passive and active voice?*

A: In an active sentence, the subject performs the action in the verb, and the direct object receives the action of the verb. In a passive sentence, the subject receives the action of the verb, and we may or may not know who performed the action in the verb (if we do, it's shown in a "by" phrase).

*Q: What does "had better" mean?*

A: It's similar to "should" or "ought to", except that it implies that if you don't follow the action, then there will definitely be negative consequences.

## Quote of the Week

Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not.

—Oprah Winfrey



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