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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Paintball

Have fun but be safe!

Have you
always
wanted to

shoot paintballs at your friends? Saturday, November 2nd is your opportunity to do just that! The ELI will be going to paintball.

When: Saturday, November 2nd from 12pm to 5pm.

Where: First Strike Paintball in Newberry, Florida. We will meet at Norman Garage.

Cost: The cost per student is \$17 (cash) or \$20 (credit card) for 200 paintballs. This will cover the rental fee for your gun and safety equipment, and use of the field. Bring extra money if you want more paintballs.

What to Bring: Please wear dark clothes, long pants, long-sleeved shirt, and closed-toed shoes that are comfortable for running. Bring water!

IMPORTANT: Students under 18 should see Nate to pick up a paintball waiver which their parents will need to sign **before** the trip. Please sign up on the Activities Board as soon as possible. There are only 40 spots available and they go quickly!

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to the **Homecoming Parade!** Details will be on the Activities Board and in the next *Weekly*.

Notes from the Office

Smoking: Do not smoke on campus. This includes the picnic tables outside the Florida Room and the courtyards in Norman Hall, Matherly, MAEB, etc. Smoking on campus is not allowed anywhere! Even outside!

Class Photo: The ELI Class picture for Fall 2013 will be taken in front of Tigert Hall on SW 13th Street on **Wednesday, October 30th**, at **1:50pm**. Please arrive by 1:45. The second hour of LS will start at 2:05

Waiver of Liability: If you are under 18, you need your parents to sign the Waiver of Liability. Please note: you will need a Waiver of Liability **and** a paintball waiver for paintball for Saturday.

Immunizations and Insurance: Remember to take care of this as soon as possible. You will not be allowed to attend class until you do. When returning to class, make sure to show your teachers the note from Emily or the Student Health Care Center.

Sickness: Please sneeze and cough into your elbow. If you sneeze into your hand and then shake hands with your classmates or teacher, you could spread your sickness to them.

Student Voices: Don't forget to submit your writing to Melina! Email your submissions to mpjimenez@ufl.edu. The last day is November 6th.

Halloween Game Night

The ELI will be having a special Halloween Game Night! Please invite your family members, friends, and conversation partners!



When: Monday,
Oct. 28 from
7:00pm to
10:00pm.

Where: The Reitz
Union Game
Room

Cost: Bring money for games!

What to Bring: Remember to wear a Halloween costume!!! Please keep your costumes family-friendly.

Graduate University Admissions Workshop

The ELI will be having workshops to help students learn about the undergraduate and graduate school admissions process for universities and colleges in the US. A representative from the University of Florida Graduate School will be there to explain how to apply to grad school at UF and other universities. The first workshop is for graduate (MA, MS, PhD) students. Please sign up for the event on the ELI Announcement Bulletin Board, across the hall from the Activities Board.

When: Wednesday, November 30 from 5:15 to 6:30pm

Where: Norman 166

We will have an Undergraduate University Admissions Workshop on Tuesday, November 5!

Manners and Culture

Q: What's Halloween and why is it such a popular holiday in the US?

A: It's actually a combination of ancient Celtic and early Christian traditions. In Europe, All Hallows Eve (the night before All Saints' Day—November 1 on the calendar) was said to be a night when ghosts and spirits would roam the earth; people carved scary faces in vegetables and left them out to scare the spirits away. We see this tradition today with the carved pumpkins. In the 20th century, it became a popular holiday for children. And, so many of us remember fun at Halloween as kids that it has gradually become a holiday that adults enjoy as well!

Q: Where can I get a cheap Halloween costume?

A: The absolute best place to shop is in your own house. Be creative! Use things you already own to make clever costumes. For example, the Scooby Doo characters would be very easy to do.

Grammar

Q: I've tried using the three guidelines from the last Weekly but I'm still making mistakes on articles. Are there more rules to follow?

A: First of all, don't worry! When learning or mastering a new language, everything takes practice. But there are more guidelines. As a reminder, the most important rule is that all singular nouns need articles (with some exceptions). The difference between using *a/an* and using *the* depends on whether the object is specific, and new or old information. Also, you need to consider whether it's a member of a group or if there is only one of it in the world. If it's a part of a group, it uses *a*; if there is only one of it in the world, it uses *the*. Look at the examples below, and decide whether they should take *a/an*, *the* or nothing.

I had ____ dog when I was ____ little girl.
She was ____ good dog but she loved to howl
at ____ moon. When we moved, ____ dog

ran away from ____ home. I cried for ____ week. Then one day, I found her under ____ porch of ____ new house!

Q: Why don't Americans pronounce the words the way they are written?

A: English is a combination of French, German, Latin, Dutch, Arabic, Spanish, Japanese, etc. Because there are so many different languages with their own sound system and spelling system, the spelling in English got a little crazy. In addition, there was NO standardized spelling in English at all until well into the 19th Century. On top of that, the way words are pronounced today has changed, but we keep the old spelling. For all these reasons, learning how to pronounce words correctly is frustrating. Here are some crazy examples:

- too, shoe, flew, through, true
- toe, sew, flow, though

Quote of the Week

Friendship is the only cement that will hold the world together.

Woodrow Wilson

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