

Highlights

- La Chua Trail
- Immunization
- Notes from the Office
- Places of Origin
- Manners
- Grammar

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 125, Issue 3
September 22, 2014*



La Chua Trail on Paynes Prairie

Come out and see some wildlife!

Paynes Prairie is a 21,000 acre preserve about 15 minutes south of the University of Florida. It is covered by fields, wet prairie, pine flat-woods and oak hammocks. If we're lucky, we might see Florida wildlife such as bison, wild horses, alligators, otters, osprey and even bald eagles! This is a great way to get to enjoy the "real" Florida!

When: Saturday, September 27th. Meet at the Norman Garage at 11:00am. We will return to Gainesville around 2:30pm.

Cost: The cost is \$2 cash per person. Bring some money for lunch in case we get something to eat afterwards.

What to Bring: A backpack with water, sunglasses, sunscreen, and your camera. Wear comfortable shoes and clothes!

This is a carpool trip. Please sign up on the activities board by Thursday, September 25th at 4:00pm.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, on Saturday, October 4th, we will be traveling to **Islands of Adventure** for the day. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next

week's *Weekly*. Please reserve your spot on the van by signing up and paying \$20 in cash, exact change, to Nate in the CIP Office (Matherly 211). You can buy the pass starting on Wednesday, September 24th, from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Bus passes are first come, first serve, and they do NOT include the price of Islands of Adventure tickets (about \$92.00). Please come early; these bus passes will sell out very quickly!

Immunizations

All of our students are required to have certain immunizations in order to attend class. We do this because UF requires it and because we care about you and don't want you to infect each other with tuberculosis or get sick and not have insurance. Unfortunately, every semester there are some students who don't bring us their immunization records or don't have immunization records at all. If you received a green note from Emily, you are one of these students. Please carefully read the green notes, and if you don't understand, please see Emily in Matherly 223 immediately. **If you have to miss class because of an issue with immunizations, it counts as an absence.**

Notes from the Office

Go to class: There are no excused absences for any reason. You are allowed to miss 15% of classes but, unless you told your teacher about a religious holiday, any classes that you do miss will negatively affect your grade in class and more importantly, your ability to improve your English.

Speak English: You're here to learn English and the best way to learn is by using it all the time. This includes in the hallways, in the classroom before class starts, and while eating lunch.

Wait Your Turn: Please be polite in the office and wait until the office staff have finished helping the person or people ahead of you.

Smoking: There is no smoking ANYWHERE on the UF campus. If you need to smoke, speak to your LAs about places where it might be acceptable. Please put your cigarette butts in a trash can or you can be given an expensive ticket for littering!

ELI Places of Origin

The following is a list of the many places of origin of our students:

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Angola | Japan |
| Argentina | Korea |
| Bolivia | Kuwait |
| Brazil | Libya |
| Burkina Faso | Qatar |
| China | Russia |
| Colombia | Saudi Arabia |
| Costa Rica | Senegal |
| Ecuador | Switzerland |
| France | Taiwan |
| Greece | Turkey |
| India | United States |
| Iraq | Venezuela |
| Israel | |

Manners and Culture

Q: Why doesn't UF have more parking lots?

A: This is not just a problem at UF—it's a difficult choice for many universities around the country. Some people suggest that we should put garages where there are now lots, but that isn't a good solution, either. The roads and the existing infrastructure can't sustain that many cars entering and exiting from a single location. This is one of the reasons that Gainesville has a much larger bus system than most cities this size in the US and why UF and Santa Fe fund a large portion of the bus system's operating budget. Which leads us to the next question...

Q: Why is there so little public transportation on the weekends in Gainesville?

A: The fact of the matter is, not many people actually use the buses on the weekends, and when they do, they aren't moving in a common direction as they are during the week. As a result, RTS can't justify having many routes and buses on weekends.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between hear and listen?

A: You hear something whether you want to or not—the sound reaches your ear and enters your brain. You listen to something because you want to.

- I heard the baby cry while I was listening to music.
- I can hear my neighbor upstairs even with the TV on.

Q: What's the difference between speak and talk? Can I say "I talk English"?

There are two main differences. The first is the formality. *Speak* is more academic than *talk*. Look at the two examples below. Which one would you use with your friend and which one would you use with your professor?

- Could I speak with you?
- Let's talk.

The other difference is that *talk* can't have a direct object but *speak* can. This means your sentence is incorrect. They can both take indirect objects using *with*.

Correct: I speak English.
Incorrect: I talk English.

Correct: I spoke with my professor.
Correct: I talked with my professor.

Q: I think my English is not improving. Is there a secret to get better fast?

The number one thing is to speak English. This is why your teachers make you speak, read, write, and listen to English in every single class. This is why we scold you when you speak something other than English. We know that using it is the best way to improve. Speak it, use new vocabulary and grammar, make mistakes, learn from those mistakes, and try again. Make a pact with your friends to only speak English. Find friends of other nationalities. Do whatever you need to do to use only English but basically speak, read, write, and live English all the time.

Quote of the Week

A great way to learn about your country is to leave it.

Henry Rollins



English Language Institute
 PO Box 117051
 223 Matherly Hall
 Gainesville, FL 32611-7051, USA
 Phone: (352) 392-2070
 Fax: (352) 392-3744
 StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu
 www.eli.ufl.edu
 www.facebook.com/UFLELI
 www.instagram.com/UFLELI
 www.youtube.com/UFLELI
 www.twitter.com/UFLELI