

## Highlights

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# The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Midterm Picnic

*Outdoor fun!*

This Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, we have no activities planned, as it is the beginning of Spring Break. If you are here in town, however, on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, we do have a planned activity. This will be our Midterm Picnic, which is also the Welcome Picnic for our new B-term Students.

This is a fun day in the sun to welcome the new ELI students! All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited. This will be a picnic at Yulee Pit. There will be sports, games and great conversation.

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. If it is raining call 392-3354 extension 230 after 10:00 AM to see if the picnic has been moved. **Even though this is not a carpool trip, you must sign up on the activities board by 4:00 PM on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> so we know how much food to order.**

**WHERE:** Behind Broward and Yulee Halls (Across 13th Street from the ELI).

**COST:** This trip is completely FREE!

**WHAT TO BRING:** Wear tennis shoes and sun-block. We will provide the food so come hungry!!

## Notes from the Office

- **Spring Break:** There will be no ELI classes during the week of March 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>. Regular classes will resume on March 16<sup>th</sup>. ***Please remember that Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> and Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> are regular class days.***
- **Lost and Found:** If you should lose something in the classrooms or elsewhere at the ELI, do come and check to see if it has been turned in in the Main Office, Room 315. Also, if you find something in the classrooms that got left behind, this is the place to bring it!
- **Spring Break and I-20s**—Be sure if you are leaving the country for any reason during the break to have your I-20 signed before you leave so that you can get back into the US!
- **Bulletin Boards**—Students, please do not post anything on any of the ELI bulletin boards without obtaining permission from the ELI Main Office, Room 315.

## The Next Trip

On Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be holding our second Volunteer Day of the spring semester. Details about the volunteering activities will be on the Activities Board and in the next issue of the *Weekly*.

## Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 6-19:

Students:

March 7: Loai Alkhatabi

March 11: Gulsah Billor

March 11: Takashi Tsuchiya

March 14: Pei-Wu Yu

March 18: Geunwoo Song

Staff:

March 6: Debbie Kellermann

March 6: Sonja Pealer

March 17: Melina Jimenez

Happy Birthday, one and all!



## Manners and Culture

*Q: What does the name “America” mean?*

A: It’s a mapmaker’s mistake. Back in the age of exploration, there was an Italian explorer named Amerigo Vespucci. A mapmaker in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century mistook the label on a trace of his route to the new world as a label for the new world, and the mistake has been duplicated ever since. Some historians dispute this account, but it’s still among the most widely credited theories.

*Q: Why do English speakers capitalize the pronoun “I”?*

A: No one seems to know for certain. The most widely accepted theory that I can find is that it’s because it’s the only pronoun of only one letter, so it helps distinguish it in a sentence.

## Grammar

*Q: What’s the difference between “for instance” and “for example”?*

A: Very little in meaning. “For instance” is perhaps a bit more conversational, but both are used in speaking and writing.

*Q: How can I use “shall” in a sentence?*

A: Really, anymore, you can’t. As recently as 40 years ago, it was

considered the proper future tense modal for the first person (“I shall, we shall”) instead of “will”. But it isn’t anymore. The only use we still give it is for polite offers or requests, as in, “Shall I get you some more coffee?” or, “Shall we go?”

## Quote of the Week

Before you agree to do anything that might add even the smallest amount of stress to your life, ask yourself: What is my truest intention? Give yourself time to let a yes resound within you. When it’s right, I guarantee that your entire body will feel it.

Oprah Winfrey

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