

Highlights

- Beach/Fireworks
- Birthdays
- Notes from the Office
- Manners

The ELI Weekly

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the English Language Institute
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Beach! Fireworks!

Lots of stuff going on this weekend

This weekend, we are headed for a day of sun and sand at Crescent Beach. We will drive to the beach and spend the day sunning, swimming, and having fun! After the beach, we will come back to campus to watch fireworks at Flavet Field.

WHEN: Saturday, July 3rd. Meet at Norman Hall garage at 11:00am. We will return by 8:00 pm and go straight to Flavet Field to watch fireworks.

WHAT TO BRING: Bathing suit, towel, water, a picnic lunch or money for lunch, a change of clothes, sunblock!!

COST: \$20 (non-refundable) for a transportation pass. You need to pay in cash, with exact change. Bring your money to Room 318 NRN on Tuesday June 29 between 9:30 and 1:30.

***For students only going to the fireworks show, meet LAs at the Reitz Union Food Court at 8:00 to walk to Flavet Field. Bring a towel to sit on and something to drink. Food is available there, but it is expensive.**

Notes from the Office

- **Independence Day Holiday** – On Monday, July 5th, there will be no ELI classes and the ELI offices will be closed for our Independence Day holiday.
- **Lost and Found** – Be sure to check in the ELI Main Office if you lose anything in the classrooms or in the hallways. The lost and found box is usually full of interesting stuff!
- **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.

No Smoking

Just a reminder of the new policy, everyone!

Effective July 1, the use of cigarettes or other tobacco products on the UF campus, including in parking lots and vehicles, will not be permitted. UF is leading the state in promoting tobacco-free university campuses with the goal of providing a healthy and comfortable campus environment for everyone.

The Next Trip

Our next ELI activity will be the **Midterm Picnic**, which is also the **Welcome Picnic** for the B-Term Students, on Saturday, July 10th. Details will be on the Activities Board and in the next *Weekly*.

Birthdays

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

Students:

July 5: Juan Santiago

July 6: Saud Abu Onq

July 6: Khaled Al Wataied

Staff:

None this week!

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: If I am late to an appointment with an American, what should I do?

A: Well, the number one answer here would be for me to tell you not to be. However, unavoidable things do happen. The main thing that you

should do when it is unavoidable is to call as soon as you know you're going to be late. Calling after the fact is better than nothing, but it's better to keep the person informed at the time they are waiting. Here in the US, we consider it rude, arrogant, and selfish to be late without a good reason (like, maybe you're in the hospital)--and borderline unforgivable to not show up without calling personally. It implies to us that you think that your own time is more important than ours.

Q: Sometimes friends offer me rides because I don't have a car. Is it enough for me just to say, "Thanks!"?

A: It's a good start. If it's one or two friends who do it a lot, then you might want to occasionally offer to buy them some gas, particularly these days.

Q: Why don't teachers here dress formally? For example, they wear shorts to school.

A: This is not so much an American thing as it is a Florida thing. Fashion here is just much more casual than in some other parts of the country, largely due to the weather and the resort-like atmosphere that pervades much of the state. I personally am one of the teachers that you mention in your question. When I first started working here 16 years ago, I didn't wear shorts. And then I noticed that many of my colleagues did, so I adopted the practice. Fashion is often dictated by local custom.

Grammar

Q: What tenses can I use with the expression, "from time to time"?

A: This is a frequency expression that basically indicates a habit. So, you can use any of the simple tenses, plus "used to" and "be going to".

Q: Do "though", "even though", and "although" have the same meaning?

A: At the beginning of a dependent clause, yes. "Though" by itself has a special use, though. It can be used at the end of a sentence to indicate that the speaker or writer is going to add or just added an extra idea. As I just did in the second sentence in this paragraph.

Q: What's the difference between "borrow" and "lend"?

A: It's the same as the difference between "take" and "give". You borrow something from someone. That someone lends it to you. Interestingly, we are involved in a shift in usage. Also, the verb "lend" is rapidly disappearing and being replaced by what used to be exclusively the noun "loan".

Quote of the Week

Fight for your opinions, but do not believe that they contain the whole truth, or the only truth.

Charles A. Dana



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