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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Commencement

Can you believe it's already here?

Congratulations, everyone. It's been a long and tough semester, and you should all be proud of the excellent work you have done in all of your classes. This coming week is very busy with testing and end-of-semester activities, so please read this issue of the ELI Weekly carefully to make sure you know about all of the things you need to do to wrap up the term. This will be the last issue of the Weekly for the Summer Term, 2011.

The ELI Commencement Ceremony will be held in Room 1404 in the Health Professions Nursing and Pharmacy Building on Friday, August 12th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. All students and staff are welcome to attend. You are encouraged to invite your friends and relatives as well. Students will receive their grades and class photos after the ceremony. Everyone is encouraged to dress up for the occasion!

Exit Test Schedule

On Thursday, August 11th, we will be giving our exit test. There are no regular ELI classes on this day. **There will be no late exams and no late students admitted to the exams.** All ELI students are required to attend and take the test in order to receive a semester certificate from the ELI. **Please remember to be on**

time. If you arrive late to the test, you will not be permitted to take it, and you will not receive a certificate from the ELI. The schedule is as follows; sections refer to Reading/Writing classes.

8:45am-10:45am:

219 NRN: RW10, RW15, and part-time students not taking RW
260 NRN: RW20, RW 21, RW 30
292 NRN: RW31, RW 32, RW 40
270 NRN: RW41, RW 42, RW 50

12:15pm-2:15pm:

278 NRN: RW51, RW52, RW 60
288 NRN: RW1, RW 2
270 NRN: RW3, RW 4

The Weekend Trip

This Saturday, August 6th, we are holding our **End of Semester Barbecue at Ginnie Springs!**

WHAT: Swim or tube in the crystal-clear, bright blue waters of this Florida natural spring. Eat some delicious barbecue chicken, baked beans, corn-on-the-cob, and coleslaw catered by Sonny's Barbecue. Play sports like volleyball and frisbee. Enjoy the amazing Florida sunshine! All at beautiful Ginnie Springs. This is also your chance to celebrate the end of the semester and say goodbye to friends.

WHEN: Saturday, August 6th. We will meet at Norman Garage at 10:30am. You can come back to Gainesville whenever your car chooses to return, probably around 4pm.

COST: Entrance into the park is \$10.00 plus tax for adults if you say that you are with the ELI, and the barbecue is FREE and delicious! Tube rental is \$6 plus tax and we can share tubes. You may also rent canoes.

TRANSPORTATION: This is a carpool trip. Ginnie Springs is about a 45-minute drive from Gainesville. Even if you are going to drive your own car, you **MUST SIGN UP** on the Activities Board by 4pm Thursday, August 4th, so we can order food for you, and sign up any friends and family members that you are bringing. Please meet us at Norman Hall on Saturday!

WHAT TO BRING: Wear your bathing suit and bring a towel!!! Also bring sunscreen. If you want to rent a tube or canoe you will also need an ID and credit card. Most importantly, bring an appetite for good food and fun!

WHAT NOT TO BRING: No pets. Also, please remember that there is NO alcohol at ELI activities.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the period August 5-September 8:

Students:

August 5: Jiyoung Hwang
August 7: Byeongju Park
August 10: Canan Kizilkaya
August 13: Bayan Bawayan
August 14: Mohammed Aldosari
August 15: Jose Salas Velasquez
August 15: Abdullatif Al Makwa
August 15: Gustavo Gusmao de Carvalho
August 16: Ahlam Alghamdei
August 17: Azouf Bawayan
August 17: Eid Al Hajri
August 22: Ibraheem Alawadhi
August 24: Rodrigo Ramalho Diniz
August 27: Wei-Ting Chen
August 27: Moonkook Kang
August 29: Jumanah Alluhaydan
August 30: Mohammed Almutlaq
August 31: Abdullah Alskate
August 31: Ana Rivero Alonzo
September 1: Te Hun Noh
September 2: Marwa Bawareth
September 5: Saad Aldosari
September 6: Byung Ik Kim
September 7: Su-Fan Yang

Staff:

August 7: Jessica Salter
August 10: Alexis Moore
August 13: Steve Flocks
August 13: Megan Forbes
August 21: Kippy Jones
August 28: Victoria Shelley

Manners and Culture

Q: My teacher brings me the ELI Weekly today, Wednesday, August 3rd, but the date in the Weekly is August 5th. Why is that? Why not put the release date on the Weekly?

A: The actual release date varies from Monday to Wednesday, and distribution may be as late as Thursday, depending on various logistical factors and availability of information. Making the official document date on Friday allows for a point to begin reporting such things as birthdays and trips.

Q: Why do Americans speak so fast?

A: We don't. Relatively speaking, English isn't nearly as fast as some other languages. However, when you are learning the language, it seems a lot faster. And, of course, your teachers often must use "teacher talk", that is, slower language, to make sure that you understand.

Q: Are private universities better than public universities? How can I know which one is best in graduate studies?

A: It depends on what field you are studying. Many private universities have much larger endowments (reserve money—usually donated by alumni or local community figures) than many public universities, which receive a lot of their money from the taxes paid to a state. For example, Harvard University, our oldest university in the US, has by far the largest endowment, and it is often considered a leader in prestigious fields like medicine and law.

Public universities have the advantage of being lower in cost than most private universities, and they often rank very high in a number of fields. In the 2010 US News and World Report rankings (considered one of the better tools for ranking colleges), the University of Florida comes in at number 47 nationally, a very high ranking. You can go to

<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges/national-universities> to look at individual rankings.

Grammar

Q: I understand the use of "get" as meaning "obtain" or "receive", but can you give me an example of when it means "become" or "change into"?

A: Sure.

"It's getting late."

"I've been sick, but I'm getting better."

"The class gets more fluent every day."

Q: What's the difference between, "I have read the book," and, "I have been reading the book," and which one is correct?

A: They're both correct, depending on what you want to say. The first case means that you have definitely finished reading the book. The second case means that you have spent some time on the reading recently, but you probably haven't finished the book yet.

Quote of the Week

Wherever you go, go with all your heart.

Confucius

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