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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Summer Break

Relax! Enjoy!

This coming weekend, Saturday, June 23rd, there is no scheduled ELI trip. Just in case you aren't already aware of it, our Summer Break is next week! If you do not yet have any plans for Summer Break, we have some suggestions for you.

If you are staying in Gainesville, there are lots of things to do! If you like nature, check out the Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site and Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. And if you like bicycling, there is the Gainesville-Hawthorne Rail Trail—15 miles of paved cycling trail that winds through Paynes Prairie and beyond. Also, you can try the Depot Avenue/Waldo Road trail system. Also, Paynes Prairie itself has some really nice walking paths worth checking out. You'll see some gators and maybe some wild horses and bison, too! If you like museums, there are the Harn Museum of Art and the Florida Museum of Natural History, both located on the southwest side of campus. Each of these provides an afternoon of cultural enjoyment.

Check out some of the web links below for some information about traveling or things to do here in Florida.

www.visitgainesville.com
www.daytonabeach.com
www.visitflorida.com

Within an easy day's drive from Gainesville, you will find Atlanta in one direction and Miami in the other, with Savannah, Jacksonville, Cedar Key, Orlando, Tampa/St. Petersburg, and many other interesting places

in between. Here are some good Internet resources to help you locate last-minute hotel and flight reservations.

www.travelocity.com
www.expedia.com
www.orbitz.com

If you really want good bargains and are feeling adventurous, then you can try out Priceline bidding at www.priceline.com or blind purchasing on Hotwire at www.hotwire.com. If you're planning on renting a car, then be sure to call all of the companies in town to check on the available rates.

Please remember that missing any classes on the Friday before Summer Break or the Monday after do count toward total absences. Also, remember to get your I-20s signed if you plan on leaving the country even if it's a cruise to the Bahamas.

The Next Trip

Our next weekend activity will be our **Midterm Picnic**, which is also our **B-Term Welcome Picnic**, on Saturday, June 30th.

Join us in welcoming the new Summer B students to the ELI family! All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited. It will be a fun day in the sun to have a picnic at Yulee Pit. There will be sports, games and great conversation!

When: Saturday, June 30 at 12:00pm

Where: Broward Beach (Behind Broward and Yulee Halls, across 13th Street from the ELI).

What to Bring: This activity is free. Wear tennis shoes and sun-block. We will provide the food, so come hungry!!

IMPORTANT: Summer C students need to sign up on the sign up sheet.

Everyone is Welcome!

Absences

Students, there are no excused absences for any reason. You are allowed to miss 15% of classes but any classes that you do miss will negatively affect your grade in class and more importantly, your ability to improve your English. Please make every effort possible to be in class. If you have an emergency, let us know right away since your teachers may allow you to make up your work but it will still count towards your absences.

Note about smoking

Smoking: Remember that 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! Also, if they find too many cigarette butts in a location, they may make it a no smoking area also.

Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from June 18 to June 24:

Students:

June 18: Saud Alarifi

June 18: Waleed Alharbi

June 19: Abdulhamied Alsaegh

June 19: Saeed Ahmed Alqahtani

June 20: Mohammed Khojah

June 21: Eyad Alangari

June 21: Mercedes Serrano Viteri

June 21: Sofia Costas Velasco

June 24: Maria Gonzalez De Decan

June 24: Shogo Isa

Staff:

June 19: Emily Kirby

June 21: Tyler Bertot

June 24: Laura McLeran

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why is public transportation poor in most American cities?

A: The United States is very wide and has a lot of open space. Many of the major cities outside of the Northeast and Upper Midwest became large cities after the invention of the automobile. These two factors created a need for a strong highway system, rather than a strong public transportation system as is common in older countries. Rising gas prices and damages to our environment are forcing us to reconsider these choices.

Q: Why don't the buses run at night on the weekends?

A: The bus routes are based on ridership and profits. The more people that need a route, the more busses that run on that route. Not as many people ride the bus late at night on the weekends, so RTS doesn't offer services because it would be a waste of resources.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between "most" and "almost"?

A: "Almost" is an adverb and "most" is an adjective. You cannot use "Almost" in front of a noun.

- Correct: All students speak English
- Correct: Most students ride the bus.
- Correct: Almost all students take grammar class.
- Incorrect: Almost students take grammar class.

Q: When do I use "little" and "few"?

A: The quantifiers "little" and "few" emphasize that there is almost none or that there is much less of something than would normally be expected. "A little" and "a few" mean that there is a small amount, but probably enough.

- I have a little money so I can go out but I can't do much.
- I have little money so I can't go out at all.

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"

- My mother used to cook beans from time to time.
- I go to the beach from time to time.
- From time to time, this class is going to do impromptu presentations.

Quote of the Week

You have exactly one life in which to do everything you'll ever do. Act accordingly.

Colin Wright

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