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The ELI Weekly

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Summer Weather Safety

Be safe!

Since your midterm exams are starting, we won't have a Saturday activity on June 14th so you can study. If you take a study break, go out and enjoy the weather. But be careful since North Central Florida has very interesting weather! It might look like a sunny day but then a thunderstorm will appear. Therefore, you should always have sunscreen *and* an umbrella in your backpack. You should also get into the habit of checking the weather each day. One hazard that you should watch out for is **lightning**. We have more thunderstorms in the summertime in Florida in a year than anywhere else in the world, so lightning here is a serious danger. If it looks like it's going to storm, you should go inside as soon as possible. A car is also a safe place. **DO NOT** stand under a tree or near anything that might be the tallest thing in the area and don't use a metal-tipped umbrella.

Occasionally, there are **tornado watches** or **tornado warnings**. A warning is more serious. If there is a tornado warning, you should go inside. **DO NOT** ride your bike, wait for the bus, or even drive a car.

Another thing that you should prepare for is **hurricanes**. You can go to

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/> to keep informed of hurricane activity, and they also have some excellent preparation and planning tips. Also, of course, if there is any hurricane threatening Gainesville, we here at the ELI will keep you informed and make sure you know what to do and where to go. The main thing about the NOAA website is that they have some excellent tips about early preparation!

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we won't have a weekend activity since many of you will be traveling for the summer break.

However, we expect you back for the **Midterm Picnic** on Saturday, June 28th! Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Midterm Student Reports

Over the next couple of weeks, your teachers will be giving you feedback on how you are doing in the class. Please remember that their suggestions are a guide to help you progress through the term and achieve the student learning outcomes for your classes. Please make sure you save your midterm forms from

your teacher in case you have any questions or in case you need any letters of progress from Patti.

Midterm Course Evaluations

This is your chance to give your feedback to your teachers on how much you are enjoying your classes or to offer any suggestions on activities or skills you would like to work on. Please take the time to fill out these evaluations with thorough comments. Your comments are very helpful!! If it is better for you, you can email your comments to studyenglish@eli.ufl.edu. If you do so, please be sure to put your class (skill and level) in the subject line.

Note from Daryl

If you would like to make an appointment to speak with Daryl, he will only be available Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays this term. Tuesday and Thursday he will be helping new students before they arrive.

Notes from the Office

New ELI Office: Remember that the new ELI Main Office is in Matherly 223.

The CIP office and the sign-up list for weekend activities, Emily's office, all of the administrators' and most of the teachers' offices are also in Matherly.

Emily Out: Emily will be on vacation from June 4th to June 15th. Please see Shaye if you have any questions.

Turns: When the office is crowded, please try to wait your turn. If everyone is patient, things move in a swifter and more orderly manner. Everyone **will** be served eventually.

Fire Drills/Alarms: Whenever you hear a fire alarm, whether in Norman Hall or in any other building, you need to leave the building quickly and quietly. Getting out in an orderly and expedient fashion may well save your life. Also, please note that the fire alarms must never, ever be pulled by anyone other than building management unless there is an actual emergency. Falsely pulling a fire alarm is against the law.

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 "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. The verb "lend" is rapidly disappearing and being replaced by what used to be exclusively the noun "loan".

- Can I borrow pencil?
- Can you lend me a pencil?
- Can you loan me a pencil?
- Can I take a pencil?
- Can you give me a pencil?

Quote of the Week

Absorb the energy of the new semester, take it with you, and apply it to your classes, your homework, and your English and it will carry you through the semester.

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