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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 21st, there is no scheduled ELI trip. Next week, June 23rd to June 28th, there are no ELI classes since it is Summer Break. If you do not have any plans for Summer Break yet, we have some suggestions for you. It's probably going to be very, very hot, so we recommend that you stay indoors.

Try the local restaurants:

- Boca Fiesta (Mexican inspired food)
- Reggae Shack Café (Jamaican food)
- Vellos Brickstreet Grill (fancy food)
- Midnight Cookies (late night deliveries!)

Visit the local museums:

- Florida Museum of Natural History
- Harn Museum of Art
- Matheson Museum

Watch a play at

- The Hippodrome Theatre
- Acrosstown Repertory Theatre,
- Gainesville Community Playhouse

Do something unique to Gainesville

- Paint the 34th Street Wall
- Ride bike on the Gainesville Hawthorne Trail

If you want to brave the heat, you can

- Go tubing at Ginnie Springs
- Visit Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo
- Visit Swallowtail Farm in Alachua
- Visit other places on the UF campus

The best place to get information about activities in Gainesville is the site below:

www.visitgainesville.com

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

You can also visit Miami, Atlanta, Savannah, and other cities within a short drive. If you're planning on renting a car, be sure to call all of the companies in town to check on the available rates.

Reminders:

- Missing any classes on the Friday before Summer Break or the Monday after do count toward total absences.
- Get your I-20s signed if you plan on leaving the country.
- Canada, Mexico, anything involving cruises, and your home countries all require a signed I-20 and your passport.

The Next Trip

Our next weekend activity will be our **Midterm Picnic**, which is also our **B-Term Welcome Picnic**, on Saturday, June 28th.

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 Norman Hall. There will be sports, games and great conversation!

When: Saturday, June 28th, at 12:00pm

Where: At Norman Lawn, in front of Norman Hall

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!

No Excused Absences!

Please remember that we continue to track your attendance through August 7, 2014. Per ELI and SEVP rules, all non-probationary students are permitted a maximum of 36 hours of absences regardless of the reason. This includes absences for leaving early, hospital visits, or religious holidays (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#religious>). Students who plan to leave early must consider the immigration implications and how it will affect their grades and promotion for the following term. We cannot make special arrangements for students who leave early and it may mean that you will have to

repeat a class. In some cases, your sponsor may require you to repay the tuition for the term. If there is an emergency and you must leave early, please make sure that you see Daryl right away.

Study hard and go to all your classes. The end of the term will then much easier for you!

Daryl Out

Daryl will be on vacation from July 3rd to July 14th. He will also be out of town for meetings from July 16th to July 18th. If you have an emergency, please see Emily in MAT225F.

Reminders from the Office

Speak English: You're here to learn English and the best way to learn is by using it all the time. This includes in the hallways, in the classroom before class starts, and while eating lunch.

Smoking: There is no smoking ANYWHERE on the UF campus. You should NOT smoke e-cigarettes inside buildings. 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!

Manners and Culture

Q: In my country, people brush their teeth in public bathrooms. Do people do that in the US?

A: After doing a quick survey of my colleagues, it seems that brushing your teeth in public restrooms happens but not very often. It also depends what kind of public restroom. It's more common in an office building where people work than a mall restroom. But don't be afraid to brush your teeth. Personal hygiene is important!

Q: Is it safe to drink water from the water fountain?

A: Yes. The federal government passed the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1974. This act makes sure that the water that comes out of the tap, including the faucets in your apartments, is safe to drink. In fact, tap water is so tightly regulated, many studies have shown that it's cleaner than bottled water.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between be used to and get used to?

A: *Be used to* means that you are already comfortable with that thing. *Get used to* means that you're in the process of getting comfortable with it. Here are some examples:

- I'm used to hot weather since I've lived in Florida my whole life.
- The students are getting used to the daily rain showers.

Special thanks

A special thanks to Reading Writing 52 for contributing to this edition of the *ELI Weekly*.

Quote of the Week

Good friends, good books, and sleepy conscience; this is the ideal life.

Mark Twain



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