

The ELI Weekly

Volunteer Day

Help others while practicing your English with friends!



We will be holding our first **Volunteer Day** of the fall term on Saturday, October 1st.

This is your chance to help out the community while practicing your English in a real-life environment.

The activity is free! Wear comfortable clothes for being outside and closed-toed shoes. You should bring a water bottle as well!

Arrive or be ready **ON TIME** for your activity!

Sign-up on the Activities Board by Thursday at 4 pm. Please don't sign up for an activity if it is full and if you have any questions ask Nate in the CIP office, Matherly 211.

If you decide you will not attend, be sure to tell Nate so another student will have the chance to participate!

Volunteer Activities on Saturday, October 1st

Ronald McDonald House 1:30 – 4 p.m.

Meet at Norman Garage

Help create door decorations for the families of sick children at Shands Hospital. If you like doing arts and crafts, this activity is for you!

Gainesville Greenway Challenge 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

LAs will pick up students

Work with other Gainesville community teams to help remove invasive plants from city parks.

The Humane Society 7:30 – 10 a.m.

LAs will pick students up

Help walk dogs, play with cats, and keep their living spaces clean and safe. In addition, we will be helping with any other cleaning and organizing.

Project Downtown Gainesville 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Meet at Norman Garage

Help serve lunch to the homeless community in Gainesville and interact with English speakers from different cultures!

Notes From the Office

Tuition, Immunizations, & Insurance: Remember to take care of this as soon as possible. You will not be allowed to attend class until you do.

I-20s: Make sure you know the date your I-20 will expire! If it is going to expire soon and you plan to stay in the U.S., you need to make an appointment to meet with Daryl as soon as possible. Don't wait until the last minute!

Birthdays!

Students:

September 26: Seliman Almutairi

September 26: Andreiska Escalona Gonzalez

September 29: Antonio De Andrade Dias Leite

September 29: Jean-Maude Louizias

October 1: Rashed Ayoub

Staff:

None this week

The Next Activity

On Friday, October 14th, the ELI will get together to enjoy a day off classes and watch the UF Homecoming Parade! More details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Research Corner

Sometimes researchers at UF need help from non-English speaking students, so they ask the ELI for volunteers. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and practice your English!

Right now, there are two projects looking for volunteers. If you would like to be part of them, or ask for more information, you can read the details below and email the researchers yourself.

1. A Nutrition Study

Researchers are looking for NEW students from China, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates,

Bahrain, and Qatar. If you are interested or know of someone from any of these countries, please have them contact Anne Mathews at anne.mathews@ufl.edu. You can get a \$10 voucher to use on campus. Two visits are required and each visit will take between 30 and 40 minutes.

2. A Reading Study

Researchers are looking for intermediate to advanced level students (levels 30-60). This project involves reading practice and there will be some instruction. If you are in LS30 to 60, a researcher will be visiting your classes. If you want to

participate, or have non-ELI friends who speak English as a second language, please contact Theresa Antes at antes@ufl.edu. Two visits are required, and they will take 1 hour each. There is no compensation but sometimes your teacher will offer extra credit. (Ask your teacher first!) You have the opportunity to practice your reading skills!



Manners & Culture

Q: I'm homesick and sad. I don't know what to do to feel better.

A: Don't worry! This is a natural when you move to another country. The best thing you can do is to keep active: participate in class, go to the CIP activities, and chat with friends. You can also talk to someone about how you feel. New students are going through the same thing and probably need your support, too. Returning students went through the same thing in their first semester and will have good advice for you. Your teachers and Language Assistants are also there for you. The person who talks most, adjusts the best.

Make local connections, with your own culture and the host culture. Did you know that UF has many student organizations including international student organizations? You can make friends with UF students who speak English but who are also from your country. You can find links to them on the ELI website: <http://www.eli.ufl.edu/firsttime/university.htm>

If you do all these things and you still feel sad, talk to Victoria. She is in her office in Matherly 223 and can listen to you or refer you to a counselor who can help more.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between the present perfect and the present perfect progressive?

A: Some verbs can mean the same thing in the present perfect and the present perfect progressive. These are verbs of habitual activities.

- I have worn glasses since 2001.
- I have been wearing glasses since 2001.

For other verbs, it depends on the context. Use the present perfect for something that happened at an unspecified time in the past. Use the present perfect progressive for something that is still happening. You can also use the present perfect progressive for actions that happened in the past but still have some connection to the present.

- I have seen the movie Dumbo a dozen times and I cry every time.
- I have been watching this movie for the past 30 minutes.
- My eyes are puffy because I have been crying from watching Dumbo.



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