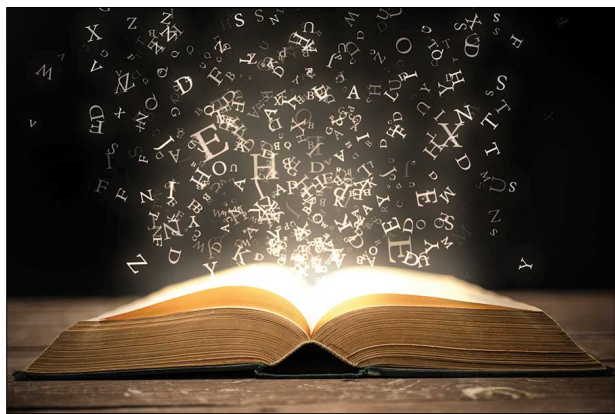


The ELI Weekly

Study Weekend!



This weekend there is no scheduled ELI activity - the weekend is yours to relax and study for your classes. Midterm week starts on October 16th, so you might have important quizzes and exams in your classes for the next two weeks. Take advantage of the weekend to prepare!

Here's some study advice:

- Don't wait until the last minute! Review your notes, do your homework, and study a little bit everyday
- Make flashcards to practice vocabulary and important information
- Get enough rest before a quiz or exam so you will be able to think clearly
- Get some friends together to create a study group and motivate each other to practice
- Eat breakfast on your test day!

Notes from the Office

Min out: Min will be out of the office until 11/3. While he's out, some LAs will be helping in the main office, but you may have to wait a little longer than usual. Please be patient when you visit the office to ask for something!

Writing for the Weekly: Each semester, the ELI creates a collection of student writing called *Student Voices*. You can send in any kind of writing - essays, poems, paragraphs, scripts, or anything else you've written this semester! To submit, send an email to Christine at christinevoigt@ufl.edu with your writing attached, and include your name, a title, and your class number. Talk to your teachers for ideas or if you need help editing!

Gatorlinks & UF Email: If you haven't done it already, you NEED to create a Gatorlink account. When you do, you will also have a UF email address. Remember to check your UF mail every day because you might get important messages from your teachers or mail about UF charges, such as from the UF Student Health Care Center. To check your email, go to outlook.com/ufl.edu and if you have questions or need help, you can ask Victoria in MAT 223.

Study Skills Workshops

Are you preparing for the GRE or looking for ways to improve your study habits? The UF Teaching Center offers free workshops for a variety of skills. There is an upcoming GRE Prep course which will meet Monday through Thursday, 10/30-11/2, from 5-7 p.m. You can go to www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu, then "study skills" then "workshops". You MUST have a Gatorlink ID and password to register.

Upcoming Activities

For the Thursday afternoon activity this week, we will be going to the Reitz Union Arts & Crafts Center! The Center is in the Reitz Union basement, and we will be there from 7-9 p.m. Bring \$5-\$10 to buy a cup or bowl you can paint while hanging out with your friends.

We will have the Midterm and B-term Welcome Picnic on Saturday, October 21st. The picnic starts at noon and you can invite any of your friends and family. Details will be on the CIP Activities Board in next week's *Weekly*.

Manners & Culture

Q: Can I ask my teacher for a letter of recommendation?

A: You can ask your ELI teachers for recommendation letters, but there are some important points to remember.

1. Don't ask a teacher for a recommendation if you have a low grade in the class.
2. When you ask your teacher, be very polite!
3. Try to only ask teachers who know you well. If you ask someone for a letter at the beginning of your first semester here, they won't be able to write you a strong recommendation because they don't know much about you.
4. Give your teachers a lot of time to write the letter! A good recommendation takes some time and you need to submit a request in the main office.
5. If it has been some time, don't assume your teacher remembers you. Send some information about what memorable things you did in class and details about what program you are applying to.
6. Only ask teachers for recommendations if it is important to have one about your English ability. Your ELI teachers probably can't say much about how good you are at engineering, business, or teaching, for example.

Q: When is Fall Break?

A: Unfortunately, there is no Fall Break. During the Fall semester, we have many other holidays at different times, so UF does not take a break in the middle of the semester. Here are the remaining UF holidays for Fall when will not have classes:

- November 10th - Veteran's Day
- November 22nd-24th - Thanksgiving
- December 8th - Commencement (no classes)

Birthdays!

Students:

October 9: Yoo Ri Kim

October 10: Vovener De Verlands Edmond

October 10: Fawaz Mahmoud

Staff:

October 11: Matt Goode

Grammar

Q: Why do some people in Gainesville say "y'all" but others don't? What does it mean?

A: "Y'all" is a contraction of "you all" and it common for people from the southern part of the US to use this. However, in other parts of the country, people use other ways to say "you all", and Gainesville has people from all over the country.

- "you guys" is used in many non-southern states (for men and women)
- "youse" is used in some northeastern areas, like New Jersey
- "yinz" is used only in Pittsburgh, PA

Since "y'all" is informal, you can try to use it in your own speaking, just don't write it in an essay! Does that make sense now, y'all?

Q: Can I use 2 modal verbs together?

A: This is another feature you might hear in informal southern American English, but it is not grammatically correct for formal writing and speaking. The most common combination you will hear is "might could", which means the same as "maybe I could". All of these examples have the same meaning:

- I *could maybe* go to the party.
- I *may be able to* go to the party.
- I *might could* go to the party.



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