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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of the English Language Institute Volume 129, Issue 12 April 4, 2016



Final Exams

Start studying now!

All ELI classes will be administering

final exams beginning next week. You have final exams in all of your classes and your teachers will tell you the specific dates. Remember that these tests are important for your class grade and for your placement if you are returning to the ELI next semester.

If you want to finish the semester strong and ace your exams here are some helpful tips from ELI teachers:

- Review tests and quizzes from earlier in the semester Zoe
- Make a study group with your friends who actually paid attention in class – Matt
- Don't study on an empty stomach! –
- Pay attention when your teacher tells you what will be on the test Laura
- Start preparing now, don't wait until the last minute and get a good night's rest before the exam – Raquel
- Actually study! Jennifer

In addition, you will be taking the CELT in your Listening Speaking and Grammar classes. There are no early CELT tests, no CELT makeups, and if you are late to the CELT you cannot take the exam.

Part time students who want to take the CELT should go to the main office to sign up.

If you're not currently taking Listening Speaking and want to return in the Summer,

your CELT will be Friday, April 15th from 12:50 to 1:40pm in Florida Gym room 230.

If you are not currently taking Grammar, and want to return in the Summer, your CELT will be Friday, April 15th from 1:55 to 2:45pm in Florida Gym room 230.

The Next Trip

We will not have a weekend activity on Saturday, April 9th, so you can study for final exams. The last weekend of the semester, Saturday, April 16th, we will be holding our **End of Semester Barbecue at Blue Springs**. Details about the activity will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Summer C 2016 Deadlines

If you are returning for the Summer C semester, you must check in online or in person May 5th to May 9th.

If you are returning for the Summer C semester but you plan to leave the US, you must get your I-20 signed **before you leave**. When you return, you must report to the Student Health Care Center for a PPD evaluation.

If you are taking a vacation semester, you must speak with Daryl **before May 18th**. If you are a sponsored student, you must have a written approval from your sponsor.

If you cannot study in Summer C but want to return for Summer B or Fall C, please speak with Daryl.

If you do not check in on time, there will be a \$100 fee and you may not be permitted to enroll. Summer C classes begin on **Monday, May 16**th and all students must be in class by **Wednesday, May 18**th.

Notes from the Office

IRS Tax Forms: If this is your first semester in the US, you don't have to worry about the IRS forms. If you have been here awhile, and have questions about how to fill out the form, you can see Emily or Daryl and they will answer your questions. Tax forms are due April 15. The form can be downloaded at: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf

Expiring I-20s: If your I-20 is expiring and you plan on returning to the ELI in the summer, you must talk to Daryl **before** the expiration date. This can be found on the front of your I-20; look for the words "program end date".

Library Fines and Infirmary Fees:

Remember that if you have any outstanding fees or fines, you'll need to clear those up soon. If there are any outstanding balances owed, we won't be able to release any of your academic information or certificates to you. The end of the semester will be here before you know it! If you have questions or need help paying your fines or fees, Emily has information in her office.

Final Day of Classes: Our last day of classes is April 21st. Remember all absences count in the final week!

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of April 4 to April 10:

Students:

April 4: Abdullah Almodimigh

April 4: Flora Marchi de Azevedo Lourenço

April 5: Lina Alammar

April 5: Abdulaziz Alomran

April 6: Napassaporn Ridbua

April 7: Mugahed Alameri

April 7: Juan Chavarria

April 8: Zaher Alazemi

April 8: Majed Albakheit

Staff:

April 7: Barbara Drake

Happy Birthday, y'all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do some students arrive late for class all the time? Is this polite in their own country?

A: Well, I don't know for sure; you'd have to ask them that. However, I can certainly tell you that it's considered extremely rude here! Students, if you are late for class, don't knock

on the door, don't say hello to anyone; just sneak in.

Q: Why is it considered highly inappropriate to interact with kids you don't know?

A: Families and parents are extremely protective of their children. It is every parent's nightmare for something bad to happen to their child. If the parents don't know you, they could be suspicious of you and not understand why you are talking to their child.

Q: In order to express affection towards a female in my country, we use "deer" or "moon." What animals/objects are used in American culture?

A: Not surprisingly, we like to use food. "Honey," "sweetie," and "cupcake" are common terms of endearment. Another common term is "baby," but that isn't food.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between for instance and for example?

A: There's very little difference in meaning. *For instance* is perhaps a bit more conversational, but both are used in speaking and writing.

Q: How can I use shall in a sentence?

A: In American English, you can't anymore. As recently as 40 years ago, it was considered the proper future tense modal for the first person (*I shall, we shall*) instead of *will*, but it isn't anymore. We really only use it for polite offers or requests.

40 years ago: I shall get an A in grammar. **Today**: I will get an A in grammar.

Polite offer: Shall I get you more coffee? **Polite requests:** Shall we go?

Word of the Week

Look for this word in this Weekly!

administering (____) ____ collocates: tests, program, drug, justice

ace (verb - informal) to be successful in something

Quote of the Week

Sometimes I lie awake at night and I ask, "Is life a multiple choice test or is it a true or false test?" ...Then a voice comes to me out of the dark and says, "We hate to tell you this but life is a thousand word essay."

Charles M. Schulz



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