

Highlights

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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Clearwater Beach

Fun in the Sun!

Clearwater Beach is a very nice place to hang out in the sun and surf and have a great beach day.

When: Saturday, September 21st. Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:30am. Please don't be late! We will return to Gainesville around 10:30pm.

Transportation: This is a bus trip so you must purchase a pass from the CIP. We have some passes left! Bring \$20 in exact change and your Gator1 ID to the CIP office during morning hours.

Cost: The cost of transportation is \$20 for a seat on the bus. You should also bring some money for dinner

What to Bring: Your bus pass, Gator 1 ID card, a swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, extra clothes, and money for dinner.

Reminder! If you plan to go with the ELI for ticketed trips, you must also sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board outside of the CIP Office.

The Next Trip

On Saturday, September 28th, we will be going to a Gator football game! Tate will have tickets on sale during morning hours in the CIP Office for the next two weeks; they cost \$20, exact cash. More details about the game will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*

ELI Places of Origin

The following is a list of the many places of origin of our students:

Bolivia	Kuwait
Brazil	Libya
Central African Rep.	Mexico
China	Paraguay
Colombia	Portugal
Dominican Rep.	Saudi Arabia
Ecuador	Spain
Egypt	Switzerland
Greece	Taiwan
Equatorial Guinea	Thailand
Italy	United States
Japan	Venezuela
Korea	Vietnam

The Thursday Activity

This week on Thursday, September 19th, we will be going to Celebration Pointe to enjoy some of Gainesville's newest shopping and dining experiences. We will meet at the Butler Plaza bus transfer station and walk to Celebration Pointe. We will meet at 6:00pm and go until around 8:00pm.

Notes from the Office

Go to class: There are no excused absences for any reason. You are allowed to miss 15% of classes but, unless you told your teacher about a religious holiday, any classes that you do miss will negatively affect your grade in class and more importantly, your ability to improve your English.

Practice 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.

Wait Your Turn: Please be polite in the office and wait until the office staff have finished helping the person or people ahead of you.

Smoking: There is no smoking ANYWHERE on the UF campus. 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!

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of September 19th to September 24th:

Students:

September 20: Luis Espinoza Garcia

September 24: Norah S. Almasaad

September 24: Lydia Yun

Staff:

September 21: Minsang Kim

September 21: Samaneh Moayed

Happy birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why doesn't UF have more parking lots?

A: This is not just a problem at UF—it's a difficult choice for many universities around the country. Some people suggest that we should put garages where there are now lots, but that isn't a good solution, either. The roads and the existing infrastructure can't sustain that many cars entering and exiting from a single location. This is one of the reasons that Gainesville has a much larger bus system than most cities this size in the US and why UF and Santa Fe fund a large portion of the bus system's operating budget. Which leads us to the next question...

Q: Why is there so little public transportation on the weekends in Gainesville?

A: The fact of the matter is, not many people actually use the buses on the weekends, and when they do, they aren't moving in a common direction as they

are during the week. As a result, RTS can't justify having many routes and buses on weekends.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between hear and listen?

A: You hear something whether you want to or not—the sound reaches your ear and enters your brain. You listen to something because you want to.

- I heard the baby cry while I was listening to music.
- I can hear my neighbor upstairs even with the TV on.

Q: What's the difference between speak and talk? Can I say "I talk English"?

There are two main differences. The first is the formality. *Speak* is more academic than *talk*. Look at the two examples below. Which one would you use with your friend and which one would you use with your professor?

- Could I speak with you?
- Let's talk.

The other difference is that *talk* can't have a direct object but *speak* can. This means your sentence is incorrect. They can both take indirect objects using *with*.

Correct: I speak English.

Incorrect: I talk English.

Correct: I spoke with my professor.

Correct: I talked with my professor.

Q: I think my English is not improving. Is there a secret to get better fast?

The number one thing is to speak English. This is why your teachers make you speak, read, write, and listen to English in every single class. This is why we scold you when you speak something other than English. We know that using

it is the best way to improve. Speak it, use new vocabulary and grammar, make mistakes, learn from those mistakes, and try again. Make a pact with your friends to only speak English. Find friends of other nationalities. Do whatever you need to do to use only English but basically speak, read, write, and live English all the time.

Quote of the Week

A great way to learn about your country is to leave it.

Henry Rollins

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