

Highlights

- Midterm Picnic
- Crossing the Road
- Manners
- Notes from the Office
- Midterm Reports & Evaluations
- Grammar

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 140, Issue 7
October 16, 2019*



Midterm Picnic

Join us and make new friends!

This Saturday will be a fun day in the sun to welcome the new ELI students. All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited to the Midterm/Welcome picnic on the Plaza of the Americas. There will be food, games and great conversation.

When: Saturday, October 19th at 12pm

Where: Plaza of the Americas, in front of Library West

What to Bring: This activity is free. Wear tennis shoes and sun-block. We will provide the food, so come hungry!

IMPORTANT: Fall C students need to sign up on the Activities Board.

Everyone is welcome!

The Next Trip

On Saturday, October 26th, we will have the second **Volunteer Day** of the semester! Details of all the things you can volunteer for will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Notes from the Office

Student Mail: Please remember to check from time to time to see if you have any

mail from home or from other sources. The student mailbox is a tray located on the shelf immediately below and on the right-hand side of the teachers' mailboxes just inside the door in the ELI Main Office.

Bag Vote: We are changing from plastic bags for our orientation materials. We are either going to go with a drawstring backpack or a canvas tote. We are asking our current students to help us decide on which one to use. Stop by the ELI Main Office (MAT 223) to cast your vote for your favorite!

Crossing the Road

We've seen a few ELI students cross the roads at dangerous times. Please be very careful when crossing the road. According to the University Police Department, about 3 crashes a week involve a pedestrian. Always cross at the crosswalk and only when the pedestrian signal is white. You can be ticketed with a \$15 fine if you are caught crossing in the middle of the street. Also, it's a very good idea to make sure to look both ways before you cross!

The Thursday Activity

This Thursday, October 10th, we are going to visit the **UF Bat Houses**. Eat dinner, then visit Lake Alice and see the bats fly out before dark! We will meet at the Reitz Union Food Court at 6pm and take a bus to the bat houses. We will be out until around 9pm.

Midterm Course Evaluations

This is your chance to give your feedback to your teachers on how much you are enjoying your classes or to offer any suggestions on activities or skills you would like to work on. Please take the time to fill out these evaluations with thorough comments. Your comments are very helpful! If it is better for you, you can email your comments to studyenglish@eli.ufl.edu. If you do so, please be sure to put your class (skill and level) in the subject line.

Midterm Student Reports

Over the next couple of weeks, your teachers will be giving you feedback on how you are doing in the class. Check your myELI Portal after midterm for your midterm reports.

Santa Fe Workshop

So, here's your second reminder that on Wednesday, October 30th, we will be holding a workshop for students interested in going to Santa Fe College. The meeting will be from 5:30 to 6:30pm in MAT 210. Mark your calendars

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of October 16th to October 22nd:

Students:

October 16: Mohammed Alzorgan

October 17: Andrea Orozco Burbano

October 17: Shunsuke Shiraki

October 22: Santiago Guanipa Morales

Staff:

None this week.

Happy Birthday, ya'll!

Manners and Culture

Q: Why is the US a multicultural nation?

A: We've always been a nation of immigrants and therefore many cultures. From the start of American history, from the standpoint of European colonization, the American story is one of many different people coming here for many different reasons, including freedom from religious persecution, economic

opportunity, and the sheer adventure of starting something new.

Q: How do people in the US visit other states other than by plane or car?

A: Well, those are the main ones. There is also the Greyhound Bus system, which can be the least expensive option (though it can also take the longest), and many of our larger cities are also linked by Amtrak train, particularly in the Northeastern US.

Q: Why do some Americans not like to say their age?

A: It's on a list of taboo topics, which also involve money and religion. We also dislike discussing weight or even things like our grades in school.

Grammar

Q: Do I need a comma before a FANBOYS conjunction in all cases?

A: You need one in a compound sentence with a FANBOYS conjunction or in a series of 3 or more items, but not with only 2 items.

- I like to eat hamburgers, but my sister dislikes them.
- I eat a lot of hamburgers, yet I'm skinny.
- I like to eat hamburger, fries, and ice cream.
- I like to eat carrots and yogurt.

Q: What's the difference between "who" and "whom"?

A: Technically, "who" is a subject pronoun and "whom" is an object pronoun. However, nowadays most speakers do not use "whom" at all, especially in spoken English. The only time it's absolutely required in spoken English is if you put a preposition first. And most people don't even do that!

- Who is speaking?
- Whom are you speaking with?
- With whom are you speaking?

Q: How do I improve my reading?

A: This is a very common question. The best way to improve something is by doing that thing. Therefore, the best way to improve your reading is by reading, a lot. It also improves your grammar, your spelling, your vocabulary, and your writing. The Friends of the Library Book Sale is a great place to get used books. It has thousands of books! It's October 25th to October 29th close to downtown.

<http://www.folacld.org/bksl.html>

Quote of the Week

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

Mark Twain



English Language Institute
PO Box 117051
223 Matherly Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611-7051, USA
Phone: (352) 392-2070
Fax: (352) 392-3744
StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu
www.eli.ufl.edu
www.facebook.com/UFLELI
www.instagram.com/UFLELI
www.youtube.com/UFLELI
www.twitter.com/UFLELI