Highlights

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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of the English Language Institute Volume 142, Issue 2 June 3, 2020



Ecard Night

Let's be creative!

Join LAs and students in making eCards for our friends at Oak Hammock! Spread some love during our time apart. Get crafty, share designs, and socialize!

We will meet from 6:30-8:30pm on Saturday, June 6th.

Zoom link: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/7494991468? pwd=K1cyZUN2RXd4MlByUEdTL3 RpRTJWZz09

Zoom ID: 749 499 1468 Password: cards

Zoom Cameras

Some of you may be asking, "What's the point?" when it comes to having your camera on during class.

Though sometimes it is not possible to use a camera on Zoom and students may have personal reasons not to use it, there are some benefits to putting your camera on IF and when you can do so!

Having your camera on:

- Helps your teacher to physically see you participating in class.
- Enhances communication: a lot of communication involves

facial expressions. Imagine telling a joke to blank screens!

- Helps you be more understood: seeing the mouth shape and form words helps others better understand you.
- Creates more connection: seeing faces can help build a better sense of community when online.
- Better simulates in-person classes: the camera is one of the few features of being online that allows us a glimpse of what it is like to be in person.
- Helps your teacher stay excited: teachers love to see their students and their interactions. Imagine how strange it is to teach 15 blank screens compared to a class of 15 screens full of bright faces!

Also, remember to dress appropriately for class when your camera is on.

Local Information

Many of you may be wondering about businesses open, masks, and general rules about social distancing during the continuing pandemic. For the latest information as it comes out, some of the best and most user-friendly sources are the local government Facebook pages.

For the City of Gainesville, the web address is <u>https://www.facebook.com/Gainesville</u> FL

For Alachua County (the jurisdiction that surrounds Gainesville), the web address is <u>https://www.facebook.com/AlachuaCounty</u>

Notes from the Office

Class Attendance: Your attendance is very, very important. Your teachers are taking note of both your absences and your tardies in every class every day.

CIP Weekday Activities

Monday 6/1, Game Night, 6:30-9:30pm Come and play trivia with LAs and fellow ELI students!

Zoom Link:

https://ufl.zoom.us/j/978081072? pwd=ZXh0QW9tTko4SGpBRzZCMX l pVzYwQT09

Meeting ID: 978 081 072 Password:250371 Wednesday 6/3, Coffee and Culture Talk, 7:30-9:30pm Join Las and students for a discussion on pets and animals in your country. Bring your favorite warm drink!

Zoom Link: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/92528048712? pwd=T2RCMWNZalRtS0NVRUt1bW NmVFFqdz09

Meeting ID: 925 2804 8712 Password: 771544

Thursday 6/4, Movie Night, 6:30-9:30pm Vote among The Greatest Showman, Aladdin, or Guardians of the Galaxy and watch LAs and ELI friends. Use the chat feature to socialize during the movie!

Zoom Link: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97204757825? pwd=Y2VXRXRvY1pxSTVEaHM1Q m56 RHBvQT09

Meeting ID: 972 0475 7825 Password: 023879

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of June 3-June 9:

Students: June 5: Sarah Eid June 6: Muteb Alosaimi June 9: Kaushik Ragam

Staff: None this week!

Happy birthday!

Manners and Culture

Q: Is it OK if I didn't give a tip to the pizza delivery man despite the fact that I paid the delivery fee?

A: No. The delivery fee goes to the company whereas the tip goes to the driver. You should tip at least \$2 per pizza to your driver. For those of you using some of the other delivery services from restaurants these days, it's customary to give your driver 15%.

Q: Is it disgusting for Americans to eat by hand?

A: It depends on the food. Basically, we have a good number of foods that are considered "finger foods". Anything that resembles a sandwich (stuff between pieces of bread), breads, cheeses, raw vegetables and fruits, crackers, cookies, fries, chips, and of course, pizza, are finger foods. Also, fried chicken is usually eaten with the fingers, particularly in the South. Most people here, though, eat most foods that are wet or excessively oily with some kind of utensil.

Grammar

Q: I ask, "Are you at the lab?" and my student replies, "Sure." He means yes, or of course, but it doesn't really make sense. I've had other students make this same mistake.

How do I explain the difference between 'yes' and 'sure'?

A: "Sure" only means "yes" when you're accepting an invitation or agreeing to or giving an opinion. It doesn't mean "yes" when it's simple factual information.

Look at the questions below. When can you reply *sure* and when must you use *yes?*

- Would you like to go to the movies with me?
- Do you like pizza?
- Was Francois Hollande the French president?
- Does your grammar class start at 12:30?

Quote of the Week

I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate.

George Burns

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