

ELI STUDENT VOICES

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Overcoming our Biological Verdict

Carlos Ancatén González
RW55*First Place*

This is my first time in USA. I always felt scared to come here due to fear of being discriminated since I come from South America. I am from Chile, the most wonderful place in the world. I often asked myself why I should expose myself to be the target of bad comments or jokes about my roots, since some people told me that in USA people are racists. However, my desire to be better and develop myself were stronger than my fears and I decided to enter to the ELI program belonging to University of Florida to improve my English. When I arrived here, the first thing I watched in TV was a strong political argument against immigrants. A politician was consulted about their ideas regarding foreigners who were arriving to this country, to which he answered that if he wins, foreigners are going back their countries. In that moment which I already was here, I felt a voice inside me telling me: You knew this before. Why, in spite of knowing this, did I decide to come here? In time, I understood the reasons why I am here, and I would like to tell you some thoughts before sharing my actual feelings.

All these years, since I have been aware, I have heard opinions about races, foreigners and religions. Since I was a child, I have asked myself why people are so different. For a long time I grew up thinking differences classify people in different levels. That was a great mistake. In my studies in biology I learned all human beings are formed by the same structures: basically same body structures, same organs, same tissues, same cells, same proteins, and almost same genes. According to Steve Connors, the difference between our genes is less than four per cent (2006). This difference is almost insignificant but it produces notable differences in our phenotype. That means we cannot see our genes, but we can see their effect on our bodies and behaviors. In other words, this minimal difference in our genes produces our differences in color skin, eyes shape, affections, predisposition to diseases, ways of thinking, and so on. Even more, we are different from our parents, and you do not need to know biology to notice that. So, if we have the same biological basis, should we think that a person can be better than another because their origin? Should we discriminate against others? Should we feel superiority or inferiority regarding to others?

Another finding of the biology was all human beings are the descendants of a small African group (Barnett, E 2013). That means all humans share the same root; all of us are relatives. However, our behaviors show that we act as different species, trying to govern the world and destroying those who interfere with our mission or think in a different way. We have used the terminology “races” as a way of classifying new species and distinguishing one from others. As a result, we have made our own divisions, so we do not seem to belong to the same human species. The evolution process resulted in the disappearance of many living beings because the strongest destroyed the weakest, because they were competing between themselves to survive, but we do not require that these days. Nowadays, being born in third world countries seems to be a sentence; people from “developed” and more powerful countries are the judges. Under what charges? Being an inferior creature, looking different, thinking different: case closed. Curiously, studies have found that humans have evolved as social animals, and they have required cooperation and strong relationships for adapting and surviving (Handel, S 2011). So, at which moment did we change our minds about cooperating with others worldwide?

According to Dr. Frans de Waal, a connoted primatologist, empathy is the ability to understand and share feelings of another (2011). If this mental capacity is the product of evolution, we could think that empathy makes us smarter than others species, but our behavior is actually not so smart. For a long time, human beings have tried to eliminate those who have other beliefs, other cultures and other “races”. That is probably due to the fact that caring and kindness do not belong to our biological nature that is sub-developed and selfish. Even more, dominance and violence has been attributed to our DNA (Williams,R 2009). However, some people have been able to overcome this biological fact, and they have dedicated their lives to build a better society. Here in USA you have many people studying how to defeat the most evil diseases, the effects of which produce sadness and despair for huge populations around the world. Other people are working to help poor people in third world countries, without benefits for themselves, because in their minds they know that each one of them are their brothers and sisters. Here at the ELI, some people are giving the best of themselves to help other people who came here to learn English and search for better opportunities. Philanthropists around the world are dedicating their lives to help, because life is not for competing to be better than the rest, life is

for supporting each other in hard times and being content with the success of others. So, if we were more empathic, everyone would be better.

Today, three months after my first bad impression, I understood why I am here even although I have occasionally felt bad attitude from some people because my condition as a “latin” person. The main reason and most noteworthy for me is the fact that I have known incredible people whose stories and lives have taught me more than I could imagine. Also, some people here love knowing others cultures and foreigners, and they have helped me to improve my learning so I am really pleased. These people have collaborated with me to help me understand that life is for sharing, learning about diverse cultures, marveling at our differences and reaffirming that above all, we are the same. Obviously, you can always find people with bad feelings, but you have to try to understand that people with smaller minds exist in all countries and places around the world. We just need time to open our minds and hearts to comprehend that all of us have desires, dreams, fears, goals, and much more to learn, and we can help us each other. Money, nationality or your roots do not make you a superior or inferior being. The smartest people know that the most valuable assets are love, respect, wisdom and knowledge. All of the other aspects can be lacking, but we need those elements to build a better world. Now, in front of racism I do not feel anger but sadness. Please understand all of us are valuable, but both those who feel strong and those who feel weak must work together to change our world. We need take our hands and grow together.

From NRN to MAT, in One Second

Azhar Malibari
RW62

Second Place

What would you do to reach a long distance class in seconds if you are late? Probably, you will run, bike, drive a car, or even call UBER to drop you off in your class location which means wasting money, time and maybe effort, and, all of that time you are supposed to be learning, not in reaching classes. So, because of this suffering, I invented this magical chair for everyone's convenience! In just one second, you can fly from Matherly hall to Norman hall or Black hall by this unbelievable chair. Now, you won't find any tardies in your grades, you won't miss an important announcement in the beginning of the class, and you won't get a ticket because you parked your car in inappropriate parking. All you have to do is use the campus app and connect it with the chair Bluetooth and fly rapidly to the desired building.

What makes this chair remarkable? First of all, I created intentionally as the normal chair but all features are hidden in order to make it understandable for people. The magical chair has two colorful wings and you are the decision maker of choosing the

colors. Once you push the button, the wings will run. Moreover, since it looks like the normal chair, there is a blank under the seat so I exploited this area and replaced it by a drawer to put personal belongings and keep it from theft or rain, for example. Importantly, the chair has a sensor to notice people if they took a wrong turn or if there is a quicker shortcut to reach the place they want. Such an amazing features cannot be found in any other invention!

You probably think now that the price of this magical chair is very expensive and not affordable, however the price is very symbolic and make you dispense of paying for an expensive parking on campus or paying for taxis every time. It costs just \$2000, and you can pay it monthly. This magical chair is accessible to everyone but the preference goes for those who have a busy schedule. For instance, I start my classes at 11:45 a.m.: GM class in Black hall, L/S in CBD classrooms, R/W in Norman hall, Can you imagine that! So, this chair will be really helpful especially because I have no break between classes. Furthermore, you can control your magical chair depending on your schedule and it will fly you without any human control, just the technology. Ultimately, one call to my phone at the bottom of this page, and the chair will be at the door of your house. Personally, I specialize in bringing comfort and joy to human hearts. If you have any suggestion email me at Happiness_maker@human.com

My Stay in the United States

Doumdongar Samuel
RW35

After getting my high school diploma in 2015, I planned on leaving my country to go to the United States for a program at the University of Florida's English Language Institute.

Indeed, at the English Language Institute, classes are taken every day from Monday to Friday except on official celebrations. However, every new ELI student must attend the orientation week, so I took part in this. As a result, I had to test my English, to take a look at the Cultural Immersion Program, and to meet friends during the Welcome Picnic on January 16, 2016 in front of Norman Hall. Other ELI Students and I receive the ELI Weekly each week during our Reading/Writing class. For this reason, we are aware of what is happening at the ELI. In addition, The English Language Institute organizes activities and trips each week in order to help us to practice our English with partners.

In Short, I have enjoyed my stay in the United States by learning a new culture, enhancing my English, and making friends.

My Vacation in the Buchart Garden

Bobae Kim
RW42

Close your eyes and imagine an exuberant forest with colorful sounds. Planning to visit a garden for your vacation is absolutely a nice choice, and you will not regret it. The Buchart Garden is located in Canada, and there are a lot of plants and flowers. While I was traveling through the garden, I was surrounded by all of the senses of nature. Touching, seeing, and hearing nature makes me euphoric.

There are many small gardens, the names of which are Sunken, Japanese, Italian, Mediterranean, and Rose garden. I especially like the rose garden because my favorite flower is a rose. When I touched a petal of roses, it was like cotton. I tried to shake hands with flowers, grass, and trees. When I put my hands on the grass, I could feel freshness and clearness. If I go there some time, I want to feel touching nature again.

The biggest garden is Sunken garden. As I entered there, I was attracted by colorful scenery. Under the sunshine, the garden was shining with gorgeous splendor, which was even more beautiful than a rainbow made up of only seven colors in the sky. Also, when the wind was flowing, it seemed that all of the leaves on the trees were dancing. That was the most impressive part at the time.

Lastly, I headed to the Japanese garden where a variety of birds were living together. Birds were welcoming me by singing a song in their own words which was great harmony. I could hear chirping wherever I went. In addition, I could see a bird family particularly a mother bird was feeding her babies. I felt love of family, and I cannot forget the harmony of birds.

In conclusion, while I was visiting The Buchart Garden, I felt free and peacefulness. I was so impressed by feeling nature, and it is an unforgettable memory in my life. I realized that nature is very important in our busy life. I definitely recommend that you visit there, and you can make fascinating moments!

How My Brother Changed My Life

Ahmad Abdullah
RW60

My older brother Fahad, who is the eldest in my family, can be considered my first and biggest hero. He is ten years older than me so he has more experience in life more than me, and whenever I need to ask about any matter, he is the first person I go to. When I was young, I used to envy Fahad for the friends he had, for his courage to do whatever he wanted and for the trust he had in himself. I remember that every time I imitated him, I mostly failed.

I used to hate not being able to do what he does, having what he has. In this story I am going to tell about how trying to imitate him made him become my hero and how he changed my life to becoming a better person.

When I was 11 years old, my brother and his friends were racing their bicycles and I wanted them to notice me. Therefore, I waited for them to start racing again and raced with them until I passed them into first place. At that time, feeling the air pushing against me as I was passing them one by one, that was the best feeling I had ever had. I was in first place, maybe because I was smaller or because my bicycle was small; I did not care about why I had won, only that I was in first place.

Life can change in a matter of seconds and I will tell you why. While I looked behind me to see if they were impressed with me, my life changed at that exact point. Not looking ahead, I lost control of the bicycle and hit a parked car. My nose, head and foot were all bleeding. Seeing the blood and realizing that this was the first time I had bled this much. I could not do anything but call my brother for help. Fahad picked me off the ground and rushed me to the nearest hospital, on foot. On the way he told me that I did not need to impress him or anyone else. He said if I wanted others to like me; I should be myself and trust myself so that others might trust me.

The hospital, the place where my brother changed my life and became my biggest hero. When we were in the hospital, before my parents had arrived, he started giving few advices which changed my life. He told me that I only live once, so I should enjoy it as much as I can, never fear anything and do whatever I want if it will not harm anyone. He also said that I should try to make friends wherever I go because they are the fuel to this life. Finally, the last advice he gave me was that whatever happens I should not hold grudge on any person even if they hurt me and always treat them the same way, a kindhearted treatment. From that day, I have followed his advice and I am enjoying my life the best way possible.

I never told my brother, but he changed my whole life that day. His words helped guide me through the hardest situation in my life. They made me confident of myself, open to people and adventurous in life. Because of what happened that day and the advice he gave me, I consider him my biggest hero.

Why Did I Learn English?

Anhar Almehmadi
RW43

English is spoken as a first language by about 400 million people around the world (Santillana, 2013). It also helps on both personal and social levels, and improves the quality of life. So, why is learning English so important? Some of the the best reasons to

me that made me want to learn English as a second language are: to be able to communicate with more people, to get a better job, and English opens up more opportunities to study abroad.

The first reason for me to study English was people around the world use English to talk to each other. The English language has advantages, especially when visiting other countries as a tourist, making traveling easier. As a result of learning English, you can have a conversation, a great shopping experience, and ask for help when ordering food. Additionally, it makes it easy to make reservations for tickets and hotels. You won't have to worry about how to communicate there.

In addition, knowing multiple languages helps people get jobs with higher wages. This also allows you to find a job in your country or work abroad, allowing for more opportunities. A good job in business, technology or science all depends on the English language. There are examples of kids with positions and careers in business, customer service, sales, marketing and communications. In science and technology there are also job titles such as data analyst, computer engineer, and processing manager.

The last reason why I wanted to learn English was it gives you access to universities and helps you get a higher education. For example, to get access to American universities you have to know how to speak and understand English. When you apply, you need to take English tests such as IELTS and TOEFL before admission to show that you know the language.

In conclusion, English is one of the most commonly spoken languages on the world. Being able to speak English helps you to communicate as a tourist. It also improves your chances of success in both education and when looking for a career. Because I have education and work prospects/goals, I chose to learn English as a second language. The English language is a key to a better life!

My Funny Christmas

Çağatay Belgin
RW3

(this story is a fiction and any resemblance to the names, places and facts is only a coincidence)

"My funny Christmas" he said to himself while sitting at the sofa of his small hotel room, which has a marvelous view of the Champs-Elysees Avenue from a distance. In fact when he leaned out the window, he could see the Eiffel Tower but he took the opportunity to look at his now sleeping baby boy while taking another sip from his fresh brewed coffee. "Master Lentini likes French vanilla in his coffee" he mumbled. He looked outside the window and saw the Christmas lighting on the Champs-Elysees. "At last me and my son are together before the Christmas of 2012, thanks to Tyra" he said to himself. Last week he received the

adoption approval order of his son from the court of Adoption Issues and picked up his son from the social security office in Paris. Since then he has been staying at the old hotel room to take care of his baby and to plan their future. There is no way he could go back to Washington, where he worked for his master, or North Carolina, where he actually is from. Taking another sip from the hot coffee, he again remembered Master Lentini and how he always mentions to his long-term butler and driver that the vanilla must be from the "Rungis" fresh veggie and fruit market in Paris. He closed his eyes for several minutes and thought to himself, thinking about his master, a long term Republican senator from North Carolina. Mr. Lentini's family had moved from Sicily, Italy during the gold rush times to North Carolina. Since then they had become rich and powerful in the state. The Republic Party very well knows his family with their dedication. His father and his grandfathers served their country as Republican senators. Ken's family worked for the Lentini Family for more than forty years as butlers in their manor. Ken was born in Lentini Manor and grew up there and like his father he became a butler and a driver for Mr. Lentini.

Ken loved his master before something went very wrong between the two of them and Myra, Ken's beloved, his child's mother as well as Mr. Donatella Lentini's wife. Looking once again at the beautiful views of the Champs-Elysees, Ken took another sip from his coffee and tried to remember how it all started two years ago when he and Myra had an affair, an intercourse at the Lentini Manor while the Master Lentini was away for some meeting in London. Miss Myra McCarthy was a beautiful Irish girl who actually lived in London with her family. She was a guest of honor in the Lentini Manor for more than three months because she and Mr. Lentini would get married in May 2012.

In February 2011 Ken drove Mr. Lentini to Chicago to meet his fiancée Myra. Myra ran away to Chicago after having made love with Ken. She was very ashamed of what she did. She took her time to think about her future and decided to break up with Don her fiancé. She called Don to come to Chicago to talk when she realized that she was late. When Ken drove Mr. Lentini to Banderria Restaurant, little did he know that Mr. Lentini would meet with his beloved Myra who disappeared after they had made love. Ken was shocked to see Myra sitting at the table and crying. As a butler-driver Ken was not able to go near to Myra and Don and he did not hear what they were talking about.

Alexander Banderria was an Italian American from Sicily like Mr. Lentini. He is from the same town, Lentini, named after the Lentini family who moved to the US in 1840s. He owned the famous Banderria Restaurant in Chicago. When Mr. Banderria came to Myra and Don's table, Ken was very scared because this man was known as a gang leader in Chicago and the restaurant was said to be a cover for his illegal business. After that day Ken was never able to see Myra until September 2011 when they met in a restaurant in New York. That day Myra told Ken that she was pregnant with his baby and giving a birth in two months.

In March 2011, Ken drove Mr. Lentini to the same restaurant and Mr. Lentini met and talked to Alex for several hours. Before this meeting Ken drove Mr. Lentini to Wells Fargo bank in Chicago. Mr. Lentini looked very curious that day. Ken saw Mr. Lentini hand a black bond size case to Alex. He then realized he had a bill that Mr. Lentini had forgotten on his seat of the car. It was a 10 million US dollar withdraw bill issued in the name of Mr. Lentini.

After realizing that she was late, Myra immediately called Don to talk and break up. They met in a restaurant in Chicago but learned the situation of Myra, Don did not accept a separation and shouted at Myra and threatened her. He was a senator of Republican Party and their wedding had been announced. He said this would cause shame for him and for his Lentini name and he would kill her if she did not get rid of the baby before their marriage. He said that he would not meet with her for a while and during that time she should stay low until the baby is born and given away to another family. Myra suggested an abortion but Don did not accept it because of his stand on abortion and that he did not want to be a baby killer. However he said that she should get rid of the baby as soon as she gives birth.

After staying six more months in Chicago, Myra went to New York City in August 2011 to talk to her sister who is a gynecologist at the Presbyterian Hospital. She mentioned her situation and said that she did not want to give her baby away. Her sister told her that she could adopt the baby if she wanted to give the baby away. Two days later Myra received a phone call from Alex, whom she had met in Chicago almost six months ago, asking her to meet with him at a coffee shop in Little Italy. When she went to the meeting, she found out that Don sent Alex, to force her to leave the country and give birth in London. That way, Don would have an excuse for the magazines that were saying that her fiancé was away in London to stay a while with her parents before the big wedding. Alex paid her one million dollars to encourage her to leave the country in two days.

It was June 2011 when Ken suddenly remembered Myra talking about a gynecologist sister at the Presbyterian Hospital. He had not been hearing from her since they made love. Ken finally got a call from Myra, after leaving more than ten messages for her for the last four weeks. He explained his situation briefly to Myra and asked her if she had heard from Myra lately. Myra was very concerned about her sister's situation and wanted to help her and gave a fake appointment to her sister. When Myra went to the restaurant, she was surprised to see Ken. She tried to run but burst out crying instead and explained everything to Ken. Ken did not believe what he heard but was very happy to hear that he would be a father. He convinced her to adopt and look after the baby.

It was a cold November day when Myra gave birth to a boy. It was almost two months now since her arrival in London. She never went to see her parents but rented a small flat in Harlow, an hour away from London. In her last two months of pregnancy, she changed her mind and decided not to give the baby away.

When Don learned that Myra has changed her mind he got frustrated. He got on the first plane and flew to London. He met Myra at her flat and threatened her. He said that he would kill her and her baby if she did not do the things he asked her to. Myra agreed to give the baby away. Four months later she got a call from Alex saying that he wanted to see her in New York. Myra went to New York and talked to Alex. Alex said to her that he would pay her another million dollars if she gave her baby away immediately to a complete stranger. The next day she took the money from Alex and opened an account for her boy and deposited two million dollars in it. She told her sister that if anything happened to her, her sister would take care of the baby boy with the money that she had deposited. She gave the baby to her and went back to London.

In May 2012, Don and Myra got married at her family's farm. Ken was at the wedding and could hardly hold himself from making a scene. After the wedding ceremony, Don and Myra went back to the US for a honeymoon. One morning Don caught Myra talking silently with her sister about the baby. Don decided to murder Myra when he realized that Myra in fact would never give up her child. It was a rainy day when Don pushed Myra from the roof of Heron Tower, the third tallest building in London. He claimed that she was walking on the sidewall of the roof when she slipped and fell down. The court never believed his story and arrested him in September 2012 in Paris. He is sentenced to life for attempted murder.

Taking another sip from his now cold coffee Ken thought to himself that he never believed that Mr. Donatella Lentini would ever do such a horrible thing. He smiled while looking at his baby boy and said to himself, "what an unlucky coincidence that an Italian gangster - who I believe killed my beautiful Myra - has slipped on his feet and fell in front of the train while the train was passing the stop at full speed without stopping on its route; or is it?"

Ken almost fell asleep when he finally said; "It was August 2012 when Mr. Alex died unexpectedly when his feet slipped and he fell in front of a passing train. It has been three months by now. I think I'll get away with that."

My Brother and I

Carla Sofia Marquez Salazar
RW44

Brothers and sisters are, in my opinion, the best presents that our parents can give to us. When I was younger, my parents told me that I was jealous of my little brother. He was born one year and four months after me. All of the attention that I was used to receiving was now given to him. I did not like that. However, over the years, we became inseparable, and even now we are inseparable. In fact, if I had to, I would die for him. Even with the love that I have for him, sometimes we fight (as the good siblings

that we are), but that doesn't make us stop talking to each other, never. Yes, we have a lot of differences. The most important differences between my brother, Jose Alonso, and me are our personalities, our hobbies and our future plans.

The first main difference between us is our personalities. My mother and father have always let Jose Alonso get what he wants. The only bad part of this is that my parents have made him spoiled. He always gets upset when he doesn't receive what he wants. I am different than him in that way; even when my parents give me what I want, I appreciate it and try to take care of it. And if I don't get what I want, I just keep quiet and stay calm. I don't get upset because I know that my parents want the best for me. Another example of how our personalities are not alike is that he holds a grudge. He never forgets and he never forgives. Right now, he is actually mad at me because I did not answer him weeks ago in WhatsApp. Yesterday we talked on Facetime, and he said to me, "I am still upset because you didn't answer me on Whatsapp last month." As you can see, that happened a month ago, and he still remembers it. On the other hand, I have the ability to forgive everybody and forget everything. Sometimes I think that is one of my biggest weaknesses. As these examples show, our personalities are like water and oil.

The second big difference between us is our hobbies. He loves to play soccer, and I don't even know how to play it. In contrast, I love to play tennis, and he literally hates to play tennis. Also, he can spend an entire weekend playing videogames, which I think are a waste of time. Conversely, I can spend an entire weekend reading books, which is something that makes you think and grows your intellect. But my brother? He cannot even read ten pages because he says that his brain gets tired. Obviously, our hobbies are totally different, but we know how to have fun with each other anyway.

The third difference between us is our future plans. Jose Alonso is super intelligent, but he is lazy. In contrast, I really like to study because I think that knowing and learning are a pleasure. Maybe when he grows up more, he will understand me. His plans for the future are to study business; he likes to earn money and sell, buy and negotiate. Also, one day he wants to have his own company. In contrast, I would like to study medicine. I really like to get to know people, ask them about their lives, treat them and help them, etc. I would like to work in a hospital and help people who need help. Our goals are different, but maybe my brother and I could create a relationship between his company and the hospital where I am going to work, to help the people.

To sum up, even though our personalities, our hobbies and our future plans are very different, Jose Alonso and I still love each other, and that is not going to change. I am so grateful that my parents gave me such a nice brother. For me, that is the biggest gift that parents can give you -- a sibling, a "partner in crime" forever and ever -- for life.

Positive Effects of Getting Married

Faisal Aldossari
RW45

I still remember when my mother said to me, "Faisal I want to be a grandmother and I want to see your children." I said to her "I agree with you, now you can search for a wife for me. I'm ready to get a married." Marriage is a sacred bond of partnership and eternal. Maybe you have noticed a woman and man who got married and are happy and psychologically stable. This is called magic of marriage and its impact is important. Marriage changes people's lifestyle and personal habits. If you get a married, you will move from bachelorhood to family life. Marriage has had several positive effects on our life.

The first positive effect of getting married is making family. Marriage is the foundation for a family. Husband and wife are going to become parents. They will achieve their desire to have children. While children are a great joy, parents have to take more responsibility for their children when they need feeding and serve them when they sick. Moreover, parents must share to take care their children. Also, parents must respect family connection. Consequently, parents will lead their family to a safe life.

Another positive effect of getting married is building an honest relationship. The couple should build an honest relationship based on love and tolerance. Due to sharing life in marriage, the couple must cultivate true love in their live. Also, they must forgive each other's slips. Moreover, they are going to become close to each other and trust each other. Also, marriage allows you to share your feeling with your spouse. Thus, this helps both spouses to recognize each other and strengthen relationship for long-life.

Finally, marriage leads to stability. The couple is going to live in one place. Furthermore, they will take care of each other. Also, they will share on one goal. When one spouse passes a specific problem, both of them will go to the other to tell what happen to feel comfortable. Both of them discuss their proposals for future planning. Also, they share in eating and drinking. As a result, marriage will lead to emotional and physical stability.

In conclusion, making family, building relationship, and stability are considerable affirmative effects for everyone who wants to get married. To ensure a healthy married life free of problems, both of the spouses must choose his/her life partner accurately and correctly.

Corporal Punishment as a Way to Raise Children

Aljawharah Almuqbil
RW60

On one day, I went with my family to the mall. It was a wonderful day until I saw a woman hit her child. The child was very angry then he broke something in a store because his mother did not buy a toy for him. Corporal punishment was one of the old ways for raising children, but it is still an ineffective way for that.

Negative impact on child's personality is the significant influence of corporal punishment. It is a useless way for raising children. Many studies have proven that there is a relationship between beating and violence. Use a beating is a message to use the violence to solve the problems. Therefore, violent child is an expected result for that. Beating is responsible for creating a scared, shy, liar, violent, and weak personality (A violent Education, 2009).

Alternative ways are the best option. Enticement or reinforcement schedule is a successful way to encourage the good behavior and ignore the bad behavior. For example, if your child do any good thing, put a star or sticker on the reinforcement schedule. Moreover, deprivation and time out are effective ways to limit the bad behavior. You can prevent your child from watching TV, playing or having a candy, but not for a long time. Furthermore, you may use a chair with timer in a quite area where the child can sit on it for several minutes to thinking and no one can talk to him during that time.

On the other hand, some people would support using corporal punishment to raise children. They believe that it is a useful way with a stubborn child and it is the fastest treatment for bad behavior. That might be true, but they are thinking from a tight angle whereas many educational studies have proven that stubbornness is a natural result of using corporal punishment repeatedly. In addition, beating does not correct behavior. As an illustration, when your child stopped to do something bad, he or she just stop to do it in your presence not because of conviction (10 Reasons Not to Hit Your Child, As Dr. Sears).

In conclusion, negative influence and the alternative ways are completely convincing justifications toward corporal punishment. It is one way for raising children, but it has temporary effects and deep impact. The worst memory we have is when our parents hit us. We would like our children to respect us not be a friend of us.

Venezuelan Emigration

Claudia Lanni
RW49

Imagine that you are Venezuelan and you have been living in Venezuela all your life. How would you feel saying goodbye to your family to go to another country? I know for sure that it would change your life, and I tell you that because I lived it. When I graduated from high school, I decided to say goodbye to my family, to my friends and my beautiful Venezuela to seek a better future.

Venezuela is a small country located in South America; it is known to have a mainland and a large number of small islands in the Caribbean Sea. As Venezuela is near to the coast, it is summer all the year. Also, it has 23 states and its capital is called Caracas. On the other hand, Venezuela has an economy based primarily on the extraction and refining of oil and other minerals. In 1799, Alejandro Humboldt a Venezuelan geologist found a source of oil in the Araya Peninsula. Later, in 1839 the government started to investigate about the product. Once they had made the respective inquire, they came to the conclusion that the oil will be richer than the gold because oil had a great chance to use it. In that time, the oil was only used for very simple things and the extraction was fairly rudimentary and it was not exported from an industrial form. Over the time, Venezuela became the fifth country that produces and exports oil; dropping out the other production areas of the country making the economy get worse.

Despite Venezuela was the fifth country that produced and exported oil, Venezuela has had strong economy problems for the last few years. Consequently, these issues have been affecting the population making them leave their homes and their country to go to a new one to have better opportunities and a better quality of life.

The principal factor that is causing emigration in Venezuela is the need to have better opportunities. Venezuelans emigration has increased in the last seventeen years for the cause of several circumstances. The first cause of this issue is political problems that Venezuela has been going through. In 1998, Hugo Chavez was elected president and he made wrong decisions that caused a big change to that beautiful and resourceful country. For many people he is known as a savior and an autocrat, but what many foreigners do not know is that he damaged Venezuela. As a result of Chavez, many economic problems came out. Venezuela has the highest inflation rates in Latin America because he produced the devaluation of the currency called Bolivar. As a result, people cannot buy basic products such as personal hygiene products and food. Also, external debt has quintupled because of civil wars. On the other hand, when Chavez died in 2012, he left in the presidency Nicolas Maduro. He brought with him unemployment causing poverty because Venezuela's economy is the worst in America and

it makes lack of money in the country. For that reason, people cannot find a job and for them, is impossible to earn enough money to live. Also, companies have been forced to close or to lay off staff. Consequently, many graduate students want to make their own lives and try to buy a house or a car and they can't. For them, leaving Venezuela means having new and good opportunities for the future. Also, it means personal growth. Moreover, unemployment cause poverty because people cannot find a job and for them, is impossible to earn enough money to live.

Crime has pushed many young Venezuelans to leave the country. According to a Venezuelan newspaper called "El Nacional", Venezuela is among the countries with the highest crime rates in the world with over 19,000 murders a year. This is because Caracas, the capital has overpopulation. This issue occurred when many peasants left their homes to go to Caracas to look for new opportunities. They want new jobs where they could make more money to have a better quality of life. Peasants formed their lives in dangerous neighborhoods because they did not have enough money to live in a safe place. The population and the delinquency is increasing at the same time in that place because a lot of peasants did not find jobs and they fell in the poverty. Most of the time, the police, who are supposed to protect citizens in a city, are thieves and that is the reason of why the crime in Venezuela is different to other countries. For example, if a kidnapper takes a person and asks the family for money, that family should not call the police because the police is working with the kidnappers. The family must pay the amount of money and if they are lucky the person who was kidnaped will be returned. Sometimes, there are people who are not so fortunate and the criminals killed them. For this reason, parents are so nervous to let their children go out to a party at night. Not only at night, but also some parents did not let their sons and daughters to go out alone with a group of friends. As a result of those events, Venezuelans are scared and want a better and quiet lives. Consequently, people in Venezuela left their homes and prefer to live in other place.

One of the biggest effects in the Venezuelan emigration is that the potential of the country is gone. It means that the population that went to school and also graduated from excellent universities do not have opportunities and decided to go to others countries. If that situation continues to happen, Venezuela won't move forwards. Every day, emigration is negatively affecting the country because people who can leave are those who have companies and these companies are able to make better Venezuela's economy. This issue is endangering the companies because people won't want to invest money for fear of losing it. Most of the people who stay in Venezuela nowadays are those who cannot afford to live or settle in another country. That means that they did not have big companies or other labor that could be a hope to safe the economy. Also, the poverty will increase because there is no economic capital in Venezuela to offer jobs to the population.

Immigrating to other country is affecting to people lives in different ways. The majority of people that are going to other places go alone. They try to fit in the new environment and see is that investment will be good for them. Nowadays, it is really difficult for people to leave Venezuela. Not only in the economic part, the most important impact for us is leaving the country where we born on and leave our family. As a result of that, people's mood change every day. I personally will put my example. Seven months ago, I graduated from high school and my parents and I decided that was time to leave Venezuela because a lot of dangerous things happened in my life while I was living there. The first time I arrived in Gainesville I was shocked. People could walk alone in the streets without fear, but the thing that shocked me the most was how people could be so independent. I was used to living with my parents and doing everything with them and I knew that this habit will be end in the moment that my parents left Gainesville. Now I can say that I really miss my family and my country. This situation is having a negative impact for Venezuelans that are living far away from there because they might do not focus in making money or studying as they need. Conversely, they might still think about the lives they used to have. On the other hand, when Venezuelans are abroad, they feel more patriotic and they can notice other Venezuelan. We think that we are all brothers and sisters from the same mother called Venezuela.

Venezuelan with the help of different governments have to implement possible solutions to stop the Venezuelans emigration. One possible solution is to put an end to the corruption that the government of the President Maduro has implemented in Venezuela for the last few years ago. Also, send to jail to those politicians who stole a big amount of money and get out of the jail important people such as Leopoldo Lopez. On February 12th, 2014 Leopoldo Lopez called Venezuelans to a peaceful protest. The government disagree with that protest and they sent the police and the National Guard to end the protest. Everyone knew that was going to end badly if the National Guard appeared. Because of the National Guard, 43 people died and the government blame Leopoldo Lopez by encouraged the protest. As a result, he was sent to jail.

Education in Venezuela should be encourage for young people who do not have the same opportunities as others. There are a lot of Venezuelans who cannot afford for education. The government should implement a scholarship program so that the population can have access to education. This solution will benefit the low-income population because they will be able to study without paying. For that reason, they may save money to live in safer places such as private residences. In addition, they will be able to think for themselves and do not do what a political party wants. This solution would solve emigration problems because Venezuelans want to study in their country and if they have the opportunity, they will do it.

These solutions must be complemented to take forward the country. Population should cooperate to put an end to the

corruption to will improve the country. Also, other way to improve the country is to make a scholarship program Venezuelans emigration have increased in the last years and the government has the responsibility of that. Each Venezuelan deserve to live with their family and stay in their country if they want it. Instead of having the pressure of having to leave everything to have a better future.

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Effects of Cellphones in People's Daily Lives

Barbara Rodriguez
RW46

Cellphones have become a necessary tool in modern living. People can't imagine the life without it. So many people use cellphones for communication. Nowadays, people not only use cellphones for calls, but use it to access the internet, especially cheating, searching for something or taking photos. Are cellphones really so important to our daily lives? What are the negative or positive effects of cellphones in people's lives?

The very first positive effect of mobile phones is easy communication. With mobile phones you can communicate with anyone from anywhere at any time. For example, if you are in Antarctica with cell phone you can call to anyone in other part of the world of easy way, thing that we could not do years ago. The newest generations of smartphones are coming small in size and light in weight which makes it easier to carry. All these make the cellphone an indispensable tool for our daily conveniences.

Despite the efficient in communication the cellphone bringing us since cellphones have become so popular in the world there has been a huge decrease in face-to-face interaction. For example, many a time we can see that when we are in a place most people do not speak as much with each other, but instead, they would talk to someone else on their cellphones because is more practical and all people do the same.

The popularity of cellphone we also affect interpersonal relationships in a bad way, It is in fact one of the main causes for divorce and break ups, it is so easy to cheating your loved one with the help of the cellphone because gives more privacy in the communication with other people, people think that they can get away with anything because the deceived person has no control over the situation and it is very difficult to check cheating in this way.

Most of us can hear so many time people saying phrase like: "I will die if I do not have my cellphone with me" or "I do not know how the can lived without cellphone before". This this could

be sometimes an addiction and could lead to one becoming a slave to technology. Since the person must always stay updated with the newest gadgets and be surrounded by technology. This also causes a short attention span of people when it comes to other activities. For example, when you are driving most people pay attention to the phone rather than the condition on the road; because of these accidents often occur.

In conclusion cell phones can be very negative at times and may cause some problems, but when used properly, they may be a very interesting thing. Everyone using cellphones needs to learn to use them at the correct times, and when it is necessary, and do not let them come between our relationships with other people.

Live in an Other World

Soin Abdoul Kassif Traore
RW 34

Live is so awesome. Many fun activities to do. Hangout with your friends, hope for the best and believe in your own capacity. People like to think that. We like to say that people are born the same. When I was born, my parent thought the same thing. After few months, they knew that I was special. I don't see the world how it is. For me to live is to fight all the time. My body didn't work as it should. I didn't get the honor to eat pizza, this delicious food, myself. I could never have my privacy when I took a bath. You would find out my problem. When an adult asked me which career I will choose, my answer was to become an engineer. Today, everything that I hope is that my body can withstand another surgery. I stopped counting at five. I have cancer that weakened me day by day. Sometimes life is so unfortunate for some people. I believe in God and that I can continue to fight. We have a wonderful life. I just wrote this paragraph to tell people who have a normal life to say thanks. Thanks for this amazing gift. If you don't trust me, take a second to think about the story above. You will know the privilege you have to believe in the future.

Farewell UF

Abdulrahman M. Alamoudi
RW62

It is hard to write about a place that you considered home when eventually you need to leave it to follow your dream. I was intimidated about living in the U.S. when I was preparing for my wedding and I wondered how my life would be after that as a married person. After a long trip, our plane landed in Gainesville

Regional Airport, it was quiet and almost no-body was there; it was the first shock and I thought that would be my final destiny, especially after I had been living in a city where it was never sleeping. As the days went by, I started to adapt and love UF more and more. Although now I have received many admissions from prestigious and well-known schools in the US, I could not find an acceptance at UF where my passions belong. However, I spent two years at the ELI where I considered my teachers as my brothers and sisters and whenever I needed help they were there. My friends at the ELI, my wife and my family were the biggest support for me through this journey. It was a journey of hope, joy, determination, optimism, and triumph. As it is said: nothing lasts forever; these days are as a countdown to farewell to UF and to building a new path paved of success and achievement.

I Am A Pilot, but I Hate Airports

Cristian Poli
RW1

Hello my name is Cristian Poli. I want to begin with a question for you.

Is anybody here, afraid of flying? Well I love flying but I really hate airports and immigration offices.

Today I'm going to talk about the most terrible experience I had in Miami airport.

Last February, my friends and I had a terrible experience. We arrived at Miami airport, we were really happy but we were also tired. We wanted to go to the restroom so we moved away from the rest of passengers. When we went out we got lost. We couldn't find the exit. We went to the migration office where they asked me if I had brought any goods. I told them I was carrying Yerba so a police woman looked at me with her big eyes and I said that it was Yerba for mate. The police told me that I had to go to a different place because the police had to scan my bag. I was very very stressed and nervous. The police treated me like a drug dealer.

After 2 hours the police understood that my problem was the language. I couldn't speak English very well so they finally they let me go.

My first trip to Miami was a terrible experience but I learnt a lot from it. It was difficult but now I understand better what I have to do in an international airport.

Live in an Other World

Soin Abdoul Kassif Traore
RW 34

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How to Make Your Teacher Angry

Khalid Alrajhi
RW 34

Most teachers in school are not happy if some students do not care about their classes. Why do some students do that? There are several ways to make a teacher angry. The first way is to be absent. If students are absent many days without a reason, teachers get annoyed because they think students do not care about classes. Teachers want every student to attend all of their classes every day in school because they provide important information for students in their classes. Another way to make your teachers upset is to not come on time. Teachers hate when students habitually show up late to class. Every student has to be there before the classes are starting since the teachers are always starting class on time. However, if you have a serious reason, you can be late on one day, but not on many days. Another way to make teachers mad is to use a phone. If students use a phone when teachers are teaching in classes, teachers become bothered because students are not paying attention and do not respect the teachers when they are explaining things to them. Finally, not doing well on a lot of tests is a way to make your teacher unhappy. Teachers are not glad if some students do not do very well on a lot of them. If you do not do very well on some tests, you should talk to your teacher about that. Teachers want to help students to improve their grades. In conclusion, it is easy if you want to make your teacher angry, but you should not do that because your teacher wishes each student to be successful in their school and their life. I hope everyone is interested in their classes and respects their teachers.

At the Moment of Choices

Jaesun Han
RW 45

Sometimes I look back and think about the important choices of my life. "That time I chose something else...What about my appearance now?" I wonder where or what I could have been. Our life is a succession of big and small choices. Often, the choice was not important. For example, drinking coffee or tea is not serious and does not have a significant impact on my life. However, the choice of my job or a spouse affects the rest of my life. Actually, there is no correct answer in our lives. Remorse about our past choices is meaningless. The most important elements are to think carefully at the moment of choice and to make the best choice at that time. At those moments, I think about three characteristics.

Sometimes, we have an opportunity that we will not get again in our lives. What is more important; something that you can only do once or something you could do any time? Particularly, the youth have these kinds of situations happen the most. For example, being a cheerleader is only possible as a college student, and I am at the UF which is a famous university for the football team. Therefore, being a cheerleader at this point in my life might be my first priority. However, the important thing you retain at this time is your responsibility as a college student. In other worlds, if you choose to be a cheerleader don't forget about your studies!

Another one of my concerns is having short-sighted thinking, and failing to think of the future. Do not be fooled by the temptation which gives a brief pleasure. Think at least 10 years ahead. Don't count the money. Money is a very important concern, but sometimes it makes me forget the original meaning of why I'm doing things. Furthermore, we should also be free from joy and attention of others, including parents and family. The interest of others is appreciated, and I know it's for me. However, strictly speaking, my choice is merely few days concern to them, whereas these choices can have a huge affect on my life, so I must do my best to always make the right one. Which choices will I not live to regret? This rule made me smarter and less prone to mistakes. So I have this rule apply to all my choices.

Finally, I think we should consider the reality of the situation and think about the limits of my ability. 'Why do I do this work?' Because 'I like it' or because 'I'm good for this job'. If you choose the first one, you may always happy, and if you choose the second one, maybe you can have fame and fortune. However, selecting either of these one-sided values may be accompanied by a lot of damage. Even if you end up getting the best case scenario at that moment, it still might not mean much to you in the future. People can't live with only one thing in mind; they need to consider other things as well. So several factors are balanced of it.

At the end of the day, if you choose the best choice for you, just let it go! Sure, there can be obstacles, and every so often you

will make mistakes. Sometimes you ask 'Is my choice wrong?' However, if you have endurance for effort and faith in yourself, you can make your choice become the perfect answer. Even a tough journey towards a dream, moment by moment, is worthy of thanks. Enjoy the process and keep going. Usually we think the answer is located at the very end, but at the same time result also can be a part of process.

Benefits of Dancing

Karen Tavares
RW45

Paintings from 3300 BC in India and Egyptian tombs show images about dance. Throughout history, dance is present in rituals, ceremonies, celebrations, and entertainment in almost all the civilizations and peoples. This kind of cultural and emotional manifestation is intrinsic to humans and also highly beneficial for people who learn and practice dance since childhood. Some of the main benefits include better social skills, physical and cognitive development, and discipline.

Social skills are the abilities to live together with others, knowing your own space and respecting others, which make it possible for us to live with other people, in groups. The dance classes, using group and individual dynamics and activities help children learn and understand themselves in relation to other kids, and also how to help and cooperate with the classmates and working as a team. Because most of dance presentations are in groups, the feeling that everyone has an important function to the final success helps the children become more self-confident. These skills will be useful in the whole life at school, college and later at work.

The physical and cognitive development is a process that occurs at young ages, when the kids are acquiring abilities like balance, motion coordination, self - knowledge about their bodies in the space, also endurance, strength, and flexibility. The dance helps this development to be faster and with better " quality." The dance classes and lessons make the kids stay firm on both feet or even just one foot helping the balance. Young dancers make movements with each body part, one at a time, that promote consciousness about the body. For example, music and rhythms help people express their emotions and feelings while they dance, making these individuals more complete.

Furthermore, dance classes help children develop discipline and respect to the teachers because they need to follow rules even more restricted than at regular school. Young dancers have to divide hours between the classes, homework and fun activities. They also learn how to administrate their own belongings, because usually parents are not permitted in the classes. However, the important point about this is that kids learn this and grow up with pleasure because they are practicing a fun activity, which they like

In conclusion, even more than sports, dancing classes help the children's development in many ways, with resources like music, arts and creativity. These classes help to increase their social skills, physical development and discipline, in a fun way, which will affect their lives forever.

Land and Animal Conservation

Pascal Valbrune
LS54

Animal and land conservation has become in the past years a big issue for nature and the environment. Statistics from researchers who have been working in the field revealed that more than 800 species have been totally extinct from nature due to a variety of reasons. The question being asked is if the authorities should spend more money on land and animal conservation. This question is a good subject to debate, since this will not only benefit for animals and nature, but also for us humans who inhabit the planet. To quote the former prime minister of India "An environment in which animals and plants become extinct is not safe for human being either". Thus, it is concluded that the authorities should definitely spend more money in order the preserve the lands and animals.

The first reason that authorities should consider spending more money for animals and land preservation is because such actions will definitely avoid extinction of some very nice and good species of animals and plants in nature. Animal extinction can happen from different reasons: it can be natural, but mostly extinctions are caused by us the humans. An example of a natural extinction is the one of dinosaurs. Scientists have found that this above mentioned species became extinct due to volcano's eruption which was a naturel disaster. However nowadays a lot of animals are hunted by humans for their meat, for their skin to make clothes and so on. Many animals are now endangered because of this, for example take the Jaguar which is one among a diverse group of animals hunted by human for clothing fabrication. Such cruelty among our animals is harmful not only for the species but also for the nature, the human nature.

Furthermore, species extinction can have a negative impact on the environment and the ecosystem. Thus, the authorities should make more investment in the preservation of lands and animals in order to protect the environment and make the world a better place to live in. For example, the climate change issue that the world is facing today has plenty of good reasons and deforestation is one of them. Humans use woods for a lot of things that have partial benefits or satisfaction, but they don't realize that these actions may have long-term consequences and the result is now obvious with climatic change. The authorities should invest in lands and protect them. This will be a good step to avoid global

warming and create a better environment for the communities in terms of energy, biodiversity and so on.

Although, many people argue that the authorities should focus in spending more money in education, healthcare, and military instead of conservation of lands an animals people have to consider the question: can the humans live in this planet and be healthy when the environment itself is not healthy? Obviously not! Without conservation of natural resources and animals, life of the humans in the earth planet will change dramatically since water, oil, and many more will become less available. We have a clear example of that in Africa where people are dying just because drinking clean water is so rare to find. One thing to remember is that this type of crisis can happen everywhere, in every country that lacks the ability to preserve natural resources.

In conclusion, land and animal conversation should get more investment from the authorities worldwide. This will not only benefit the animals or the forests, but also the environment, the people and the nature. The younger generation will have a chance to live in a sustainable environment and also meet some animals, and plants that are actually considered as endangered species. This planet will no longer be a great place to live in if the nature itself is in danger.

Make Your Teacher Angry

Djeneba Toure
RW34

Some people were born to make others angry. Sometimes the victims are teachers. So how to make your teacher angry? To be an expert on that you should follow these different steps. First, you must be impolite in class by disturbing your classmates and having not to respect the instructions of the teacher. The second step is not doing your homework all the time and saying that you didn't hear when she said that you have homework, or you have forgotten. Third, when you ask a question, don't follow anymore when she tries to explain to you and use your cellphone. Next, speak loudly in class when she is explaining something really important. For example, talk about your journey to Bush Garden to your friends during the explanations. Finally, the very important step to make your teacher really angry, don't respect her, come late every day, miss class, get F all the time, don't study and don't do your homework. To conclude, to make your teacher seems difficult, but everybody can succeed by following these different and very efficient steps.

The Story of Catherina and Vincent

Micaela Ferrero
RW45

Vincent was a soldier with a painful past because when the twin towers fell, his two brothers died there. Consequently, he volunteered to the military army. When he was in this army the managers of this army wanted to make better soldiers, so they did experiments with them. The experiment was a failure-- they created beasts including Vincent. The soldiers were extremely strong; they were able to kill a man in seconds. Also they were uncontrollable, so the managers that created them tried to kill every man that was a beast-- but Vincent escapes.

Since that day Vincent has been hiding in abandoned factory in New York City. One day, Catherina had an accident with her car, so she called her mother to ask for help. Her mother went to help her. When she arrived to the place that Catherina was, two men attacked them; they shot the mother of Catherina. Catherina escapes from them, but they persecuted her. Just in time, Vincent appeared and saved Catherina.

Eight years later, Catherina was a detective. She was working in a very dangerous case. One day Catherina was going to catch those criminals. Some men persecuted her and almost killed her, but Vincent once again saved her. After this, Catherina told Vincent that she saw him 8 years ago when he saved her life. Vincent told her his story, and they began to be good friends. Vincent started to help Catherina in criminal cases. After a while Catherina fell in love with Vincent, but Vincent did not want to put her in risk. He told her that he could not give her a future because he was dangerous. They kept working together, and day by day both of them fell in love more and more. They started a relationship, where both needed to make an effort to be together. Their love was so big that they passed every obstacle that was impeding them to be together.

One day Vincent was kidnapped, and he despaired for 3 months. Catherina found him, but it was too late. The people that kidnapped him erased his memory. He was different when Catherina found him. She could not believe that he did not recognize her. She went to speak with JT, the best friend of Vincent. Catherina told JT that she found Vincent but the problem was that the person who kidnapped him erased all his memories.

Catherina and JT made a plan to rescue Vincent, but then they realized that Vincent was living in a boat. They went to Vincent's boat to speak with him. At first Vincent was very altered. Catherina asked him why he was living in that boat and that he was free. She also told him that she was very worried because she thought that he was kidnapped. Vincent told them that he did not know either of them and that he was occupied. JT and Catherina left him and started to make a plan to know that was Vincent doing. They started following Vincent everywhere. They found that

Vincent was killing beasts for someone. They continued investigating until they found that Vincent was working with an FBI agent. He was murdering beasts like himself, so Catherina went to speak with him and told him everything.

Vincent believed what she told him, so they started looking for the FBI agent that Vincent was working for. They found that the FBI agent was Catherina's father. Catherina was in shock. She could not believe that the one that was doing all this was her father. She arrested her own father. It was a very difficult decision, but it was the right one. Vincent started to get his memory back, so he went to see Catherina and apologized for everything that he had done. Catherina forgave him.

It was a new beginning for their relationship. Not long after, JT found a cure for Vincent, and it worked. Vincent was not a beast anymore. They live a beautiful life with 2 kids in a beautiful house, and most importantly, they love each other forever.

Dance Like Nobody Is Watching

Samary Shahein
RW43

Have you heard the phrase "dance like nobody is watching"? This is attributed to many authors. I love to dance, and I think because of that I love to read it. It is about that happiness that is the journey and is not the destination. Many of us hope that it arrives at the specific moment, and we do not enjoy the journey of life, which is true happiness.

Our lives are full of difficulties and challenges which we have to face with happiness because these are impulses that we need to live. For that, we need to stop worrying about what other persons think of you, need to put our heart into everything that we make, and always smile. For these reasons, "dance like nobody is watching, work like you do not need money, and love like you have never been hurt."

League of Legends

Miguel Carmona
RW45

I'm the last one; their nexus is not covered, and they think I'm dead. It is my last chance; they are pushing mid, and I'm running to their nexus with 200 Hit points. I flashed to be quickly. They are backing, but it is too late. I WIN!!!!!!!!!!!!!! This is not the real world, but League of Legends (or LoL) which is a MOBA (Multiplayer Online Battle Arena) videogame inspired in the famous computer game called World of Warcraft (or WoW). Riot Games, the company behind the creation of League of Legends, was inspired

by this famous title (World of Warcraft) and had the idea to create another MOBA, but with their own ideas. The characteristics of this game are champions and their roles, maps and their objectives, and ranks.

In League of Legends, players assume the name of “summoner”, and they can control a character (champion) with unique abilities against the enemy team, those could be another summoner or computer controlling other champion. In this game, champions have a role to be followed to win a match. Those roles are Tank, Jungle, Mage, Marksman, and Support.

There are 4 kinds of maps in League of Legends (actually 3) with different objectives; their names are Summoners Rift, Howling Abyss, Twisted Treeline, and Crystal Scar (actually deleted). The most famous map is the Summoners Rift, the objective in this map is destroy the enemy nexus in the center of their base protected by 11 turrets and 3 inhibitors. The Summoners Rift has 4 places for every role of champion: for tanks (the top lane), for mages (the middle lane), for junglers (the jungle), and for marksman and supports (the bottom lane).

For people who like challenges on video games, League of Legends gives to their summoners, ranked matches, these ranked matches help to know and improve the skills of the summoner. There are some ranks in this game; those ranks are Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond, Master, and Challenger.

League of Legends is a very fun game with many champions, many events, and many possibilities of enjoying for every summoner. People who loves this game never get tired when they play all time, and it is better if you play with you own friends.

Reading Writing Midterm

Ohoud Altammami
RW34

How to be successful on your midterm without studying? Reading and writing are important in our lives. You should study to be ready to complete your education. It takes many steps to study for the midterm in reading and writing. The first step is you should have a plan how to study. Studying reading and writing is easy when you have a plan. You should also divide the time. Then, you should know all questions in the midterm to be ready to pass. Next, you should write a lot because that makes you a good writer. Writing is a skill and you should know how to write, writing rules and steps. Then reading is easy when you know a lot of words. Finally, you should review what you take in class. It's very important to review before you go to your midterm.

Differences between Rugby and Football

Mohammed Alkarbi
RW45

“If you didn’t get dirty, you didn’t play.” This quote could be about either rugby or football. These two sports are both played in America. However, the two games have several differences in their history, playing rules, and dress code.

The first difference is rugby is a much older sport than American football. It started in British Columbia in the late 1800s. William Webb is the person who started this game in school. On the other hand, American football started in 1879. The University of Michigan was the first school to establish a college football team.

The rules of rugby are basic. Each team has a maximum of 15 players, two 40 minute halves, and a maximum of 10 minute half-time break. The scoring points in rugby is worth 4 points while in football is worth 6 points. American football rules are more specific; each player has a role to play on the field. You need 11 players to get the game started. They can only pass the ball in direct forward manner. Also, they need to cross the designated end zones to earn 6 points for a touchdown.

The dress is also different between rugby and football. Rugby wears a shirt, shorts, underwear, socks, and boots. However, American football has a helmet, shoulder pads, jersey, pants, and gloves.

In conclusion, both these sports are rough and can lead to a lot of injuries if a player isn’t careful enough and doesn’t go by the rules. Sport is good for you, but just be careful and stay safe.

Why Do People Move to the United States

Muaath Alshddy
RW 45

Moving to the United States had changed many people’s lives. I still remember when I first decided to move to the U.S. I did not want to leave my family and friends. However, learning English will offer me a great opportunity in my country. Moving to a new country has had three distinct effects on me, which are learning a new culture, studying English, and taking my masters degree in Law.

It is always good to learn another culture. When you move to the U.S, you will deal with a variety of cultures. The States have people from all around the world. Sometimes you will see culture differences you have never heard about. For example, in the American culture people do not kiss in the cheek when they are greeting others. On the other hand, people from my culture do kiss

in the cheek when they greet others. Learning a new culture will help you to adapt easily in the United States, and deal with other people from other countries. In addition, you will learn new ways to deal with your problems, and you will start to see them from a different perspective.

We all know that English is the most used language in the world. It is hard to get a job these days especially with the financial problems in the world. Many companies have fired their employees, seeking to save money. Other companies stopped hiring people. Being able to speak, read, and write in English will give a great opportunity to get a great job back in my country.

Upon searching for the best education system in the world, almost everyone agreed that the United States has the best education system in the world. Due to the diversity of U.S higher education system, many learning options are available for students to choose the way they want to study, and that will help them to express themselves and do their studies with more passion. Knowing that I have the chance to study in the best education system made me decided to go to the United States without hesitating. Everyone encouraged me to take this step starting from my family, especially my dad who knows it is a great opportunity.

In summary, moving to the United States has changed me in many ways. Learning a new culture, studying English, and taking my master degree in Law are the three main factors that were affected. This is a great opportunity many people are dreaming about it, so try to get the most of it and improve yourself to be a better person.

My Mother and I

Barbara Rodriguez
RW46

In the world, there are all walks of life. Some are similar and different in appearance and others in their personalities. My mother and I have lived together for 26 years, and people always say that we resemble each other when they see us, but it is not true. My mother and I could not be more different in personality, interests and ways of acting, but sometimes we can be similar in these aspects, too.

My mother and I share many physical characteristics such as, eye color, skin tone, hair color, facial features, etc. while we are different in personality, my mother talks to everyone and do not care about what people think. She is fun, charismatic, extrovert, and sure of herself. On the other hand, I am more reserved, serious, and quiet. I am not so extrovert, and I have a strong character; I do care about what people think of me.

Both my mother and I are also different in our interests, too. My mom does not like to read books, watch sports, and exercise. Instead, she likes going out, and all kinds of foods. In contrast, I

like reading, watch sports, exercise, prefer to be at home almost all the time, and I don't like all kinds of food.

Talking about the way we act, we can be different and similar. My mom always thinks well of people and when under pressure, she does not react well, but I'm the opposite. However, my mother and I are similar in that we are always there when someone needs us, and we are good listening, being good friends and we never give up when we want something.

Each similarity and difference between my mother and I, this make me feel that she is the best mother in the world. Although we are so different none of that matters because we are mother and daughter and at the end of the day, she is one of the most important people in my life and we love each other no matter what.

Teachers and Students

Norah Aljahaimi
RW45

"You have to ask knowledge from the cradle to the grave." This quote from my culture means the journey of education is very arduous, and people should not stop seeking for more knowledge. Each culture has a different understanding of the concepts that are related to the differences and the similarities between teachers and students. In a particular community the concept of respecting others is very important, so we can infer that respecting teachers will be as significant as that. Teachers and students are complementary to each other; however, they vary in many ways.

The first difference is education and knowledge. The academic degree that a teacher has is different from the student. The knowledge that the teacher builds over the years is deeper than what students already have. This experience is a main different between teachers and students. Teachers have experiences more than students, so they allow students to benefit from them.

Authority is the second difference between teachers and students. Teachers have the ability to force the students to do their tasks. In addition, they also have the ability to punish the students if they did any mistake. During class, teachers can control the students in a way that assists their learning. The authority that teachers have can change the student to the best.

The last difference between teachers and students is obligations. For instance, as it is known that attendees on time to the class is one of teachers' tasks. Also, getting ready for the lesson is another duty. Furthermore, teachers have other kind of obligations such as seminars, conferences, and any type of activities outside the class. As a result, teachers should handle a lot of tasks on one time that means they should be "multi-tasking."

In conclusion, education and knowledge, authority, and, obligations are the main different elements between teachers and students. The power that teachers have, and how they manage to

control the class are very important concepts in terms of teaching. In my opinion as a teacher assistant, the main goal when it comes to teaching mission is to keep the positive thinking and to leave a footprint to all students. As result, we can't deny the importance of each side because they complete each other.

Little Young Me

Anonymous
GM40

Feeling like you are empty is a normal thing when you are alone far away from home.

Sometimes maybe you are regretting and considering to go back home, but you know what is the best for you.

You know that your family and friends are supporting you in every step you are taking, to grow up as a human, and be mature.

You need to learn a lot about life, you don't have to be afraid, you are missing a whole world outside hiding yourself in your bedroom.

That's what I am doing, yeah it's me, I hope when you read this letter, you feel better, because I know that is not easy to be miles away from the people you love. I am just doing this to help you. This is what you wanted it, to be independent, but now you are just escaping from the reality, but just stop for a minute and ask yourself, this is not too bad right? You are here for something and you have to promise that you will make it. You seem like a confused little kid, but don't worry, time will make you stronger and clever.

Now you need to focus on your goals.

Don't be silly, there are many things to do in this place for you to attempt.

Years have passed, and I look back at myself, that little boy dreaming about going to another place to learn and explore new horizons, now you are older, look what you have done, you accomplished everything you set out.

Your father, I mean, our father is very proud of you, momma told me that every day he yearns your coming.

This is your future who you are talking to; don't be afraid, you need to struggle all these things to become what I am now. These are only your first steps.

You have to be enjoying your time now, life is too short to pretend to be what others want us to be, just be yourself and love what you are doing.

I promise you that all the effort you are making now it will worth in the end.

Supersaad

Saad Alshamari
RW60

Sad, bored, with nothing exciting to do. That's what I felt last night when I was sitting alone. I was looking at the sky and thinking about how I can be strong and how I can fly away. My friends told me that I am weak and I can't help anyone in my area. I almost cried and I felt sad in that night. Suddenly, when I was about to move, I heard a voice from the sky and this voice said don't move to help you. I ran away and I tried to disappear between the trees. I was waiting and waiting to see who it was.

It was a huge man who came from the sky to the ground and he said, "I will change your life so that it is better than now. He started with my name and he changed from Saad to Supersaad. He came to me and said to me "hold on to me tightly; we are going to fly to another planet to make a difficult test for you before giving you the power." I went with him and I passed the test. It was about how I control myself when I'm in bad situations and he checked if I have the patience to help people or not. When I did what he asked me to do, I passed a test and he gave me his powers. Then he died because he couldn't live without his powers. I went back to my city and everyone was surprised when they saw me flying and moving cars from streets. Here I started my new life and here also I started helping people in dangerous situations.

Superman, Spiderman, and Batman are not doing as well as I do. I'm the one who are you looking for when you are in trouble, and you will find me anytime you want. My super power is destroying huge buildings and flying away into space. One day, I was flying above my area and I heard people screaming inside a big building. It was at night and nothing was clear. I flew into space and I held one star. I kept it in front of me to light my way. I saw people inside the building and they were about to burn. I tried to open the door but I couldn't and it was too hot. I decided to fly very fast to get a huge rock from the mountain. I got one and I threw it at the building to make a hole and help those people.

I got them and I put them on my back while was flying, then I kept them in a safe area. Many people saw what happened in that day and they have started calling me Suppersaad. I'm very proud of my self and I will keep helping people as much as they want. I'm practicing every day to be active and to be strong enough to help poor people and to help whoever needs me anytime and any place.

In conclusion, each one of us has a great and different power and we have to know which kind of power we have. That could help us to be such great people because we are going to help whoever doesn't have energy or the power to move himself from some situations. God gives us many different possibilities to use in our lives and we have to use our brain to discover them and to know how to use them.

My Experience in Ultra Music

Stephanie Fadus
RW49

When I was 12 I started to love electronic music and I made Ultra music festival one of my dreams. Ultra music festival is a very famous festival of electronic music that happens every year in Miami, and people from all over the world come to Miami only for this festival. This year finally I came there, but many things happened to me that day. This year Ultra was on March 18, 19, and 20 and my birthday was on March 19. She this year finally turned 18 and she really wants to go there and actually me too, we tried to buy the ticket on an internet, but it was sold out. We decided to go anyway. We drove from Gainesville her birthday morning to Miami around 8, we were in Miami around 1pm. When we arrived in Miami we started looking for the hotel we found a hotel 20 minutes from Ultra. We went to the hotel, we dressed and went to Ultra to find the tickets. We started looking for the ticket for 3 hours or more and we found 2 with one man and 2 with another man, I put these 4 tickets in my backpack. When we started getting the police to ask for ID, but actually, that day was my sister's birthday and when the police were scanning her ID they showed a 17, all started to talk with the police and told her it was her birthday today she is 18; the police checked again and everything was good for this moment. We did another line to check if we had drugs or something and after that we did the last line for me to come into my dream festival. The police everywhere was very same. When we finally arrived at the entrance one girl scanned my ticket was good and I came in and also, my friend's ticket was good too, but my sister's ticket and my other friend's ticket were fake. I was so worried because I the police took both out. I was with my other friend in we wait for 45 minutes then we saw they can't come and we decided to go out. When I went out from my dream I started to cry but my friend looked at me and told me don't worry we can go to another festival don't worry. When I saw my sister all started to hug her and say sorry for this birthday and also, all was so sad about that we had to leave the hotel to miss this birthday, In this moment I started to think about how many more people were shortchanged these 3 days. Be careful.

The Importance of Cooperation during a Natural Disaster

Sarah Algtmi
RW 45

Nowadays, scientists believe that the issues and problems of a natural disaster are huge, and we can solve massive affairs by the cooperation between all countries. The reasons are numerous

behind scientist's declaration such as poverty, the lack of knowledge, and the positive effects of this cooperation.

One of the significant causes behind the terrible destruction in natural disasters is poverty. People and government in poor parts of the world are incapable of dealing with many problems because of the shortage of funds. For example, in Africa, if people suffer from chronic diseases, they will not be able to recover from this problem since they don't have the important tools, medicines, and the equipment to prevent these problems. Thus when another country contributes to help those poor countries, they will play a massive role to end many of complicated issues.

Another serious cause of destruction in a natural disaster is the lack of education. If the government doesn't have sufficient knowledge to treat different types of problems, that will aggravate the problem. Therefore, knowledgeable countries have to work to construct, inform and educate other countries in order to avoid numerous undesirable disasters.

The beneficial effects of the assistance to solve and help other countries exceed the affected countries to arrive the far countries from damaged countries. To illustrate, when the foreign government supports other country by their potential, that will limit from spreading many of dangerous and infectious diseases. In addition, some kind of businesses and trades could stop or lose dramatically if no one aids and boosts these countries. However, the cooperation will work to last various dealing with other countries and will fulfill big profits.

In conclusion, the dimensions of a natural disaster can create enormous problems that could pass different parts of the world. Governments, scientists, and regular people have to gather to face these affairs because any kind of negligence will predispose all the world to serious disaster. And vice versa, with the cooperation they will achieve remarkable performance.

Characters of a Positive Person

Sarah Alzuabi
RW45

"Be yourself, everyone else is already taken." Oscar Wilde focused on a person's identity, and so should you. Positive and negative are the habits of thinking and have a significant impact in our lives. Positive thinking means that you envision a great faith in what you want to achieve as if it were a reality. A positive person can determine what he wants, rejects all the pressures, and is a confident person who affects others' lives. Becoming a positive person has several characteristics.

A positive person is a person full of hope. He looks at his own failures as opportunities to be exploited. He realizes that failure is a step that must be passed to get to success. Also, he accepts others' opinions with an open mind and respects them. Being positive leads to success and happiness in life.

Another characteristic of the positive person is that he never forgets that people make mistakes, and no one is perfect. A positive person doesn't shy and hide from his mistakes. He will find away to learn from his mistakes. Unlike a negative person who looking for the mistakes and blames the others, the positive person will take the responsibility for his own mistakes.

Last but not least, patience and persistence are characteristics of a positive person. If the positive person poses a new idea and then faces rejection, he realizes that this refusal is only temporary rejection. Hard work and patience makes him develop his idea and make people accept this idea. Thus, giving in and slouching do not exist in positive person's dictionary.

It is important to have a positive side. Finding the positive side in every hard situation will help you to face the life. Being positive always mean to become a person full of hope, a person learns from his own mistakes and be a patient and persistent.

What is Success?

Ohoud Altammami
RW34

Success is very important in our life. We feel happy and more comfortable when we finish something we need. Success doesn't come when you don't give or do anything, so you should work hard to succeed. When I finished university and tried to find a job anywhere, I didn't care about the place and time, I was worried about what I wanted to do in my life after studying for many years. When I searched for the job, I put in my head in what I wanted to do after all these years I spent to study. After that, I asked myself this question, and I thought many days about it. I thought deeply to make sure that I will happy be in the future. Finally, I made my choices and I tried to search about these choices. When I tried to find the job, I didn't stay at home to wait for the job come to me. Instead, I went to the company and spent three months to practice in this company without a salary. One day, when I worked there, my phone rang and I answered. The university I wanted to work at asked me to come at 9:00AM and give them some important papers. I felt excited after they finished the call. Then I called my mother and I told her about that, so she felt happy and she said she will go with me the next day. The next day was an important day in my life. I went to the university and I gave them papers and I took the conversation tests and then the day was done. I waited for a month and after that I checked the website of the university and I saw that I passed the test and finally I got the job. After all, I feel successful because I did a good job searching for this job. Especially, when I saw that my friends after graduation did not do anything and are just staying home.

The Causes of Bullying Behavior in the School

Barbara Rodriguez
RW46

Bullying is a worldwide problem that occurs around us every day and everywhere. People experience some sort of bullying at some part in their lives, whether they are victim or the bully. The most common place where bullying occurs is at school. Bullying is in the classroom, on the playground or halls during breaks, and on the way to and from the school. People often wonder why this occurs.

One cause of bullying is that bullies are people who need to hurt, threaten, frighten, or control other people because they are often angry, upset, jealous, aggressive, mean, insensitive, and cruel. They usually lack self-confidence and want to gain confidence by controlling others in order to have a sense of power. Bullies think that being hurtful, aggressive, and frightening is a good way to make themselves feel better.

Another cause for people to turn into bullies is closely related to the kind of upbringing they have. Many people who resort to physical or verbal bullying behavior come from a single-parented family with one parent sometimes there is not enough given to the children and where parent involments and love is often lacking ,this behavior can come ,too. In families where parents argue or are being aggressive against children, such behavior is reflected in the behavior of the children who turn into bullies.

People could be the victims of bullying because of their family life. Their family could be either very well off or in the extreme opposite, very poor. This could be a factor for someone to get bullied. Also, a victim could be bullied because their parents are the focus of public attention. For instance, a kid gets bullied at school because his dad is in jail or does not have money. Other examples include the kind of race or gender of victim is, and if he/she is black or white or if she/he is gay. According to statistic reported by ABC New, nearly 30 percent of students are either bullies or victims of bullying, and 160.00 kids stay home from school every day because of fear of bullying.

In conclusion, I think bullying is a very serious problem and I think it can be stopped altogether if we take more actions for stop it. I just hope that people everywhere can learn to be less tolerant towards bullying in general. I think it would be great to live in a world where people do not have to worry about what is going to happen to them in school or in environment regard to bullying, but to achieve this it would take more than time because of the society we live in.

The Regime in Saudi Arabia VS The United States

Wasan Abdullah

RW45

Since the establishment of the kingdom in Saudi Arabia by King Abdul Aziz, the kingdom had become a monarchy system. It is a system, which the king is at the head of government for long time, and it is inherited among the royal family. However, in the United States, the system of government is federal system. It depends on the executive, judicial, and legislative. Although the monarchy is oldest system in the world, the federal government is most prevalent in the world. The regime in Saudi Arabia and United States has a lot of differences and similarities.

Saudi Arabia has Quran as the constitution while The United States has Constitution. In both countries, people should follow the Constitution and the application the items, and it is difficult to modify them. Both Constitution and Quran call for freedom, individual rights, and justice between individuals in front of the law. On the other hand, the difference here is Quran does not have any change, and it could not changing. While the Constitution was modified in 1791, and it was named Rights Bill (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/billofrights>). The amendments include more personal freedom, and it reduces the influence of the government.

In Saudi Arabia, the king is owner of all authorities in country although it has the Council of Ministers and the Shura Council, but decisions do not become effective before the approval of the king, while in The United States, the system of government is based on

three of the authorities. They are the president, the Supreme Court, and the Congress. All these are working together even making right decision for the country and individuals. Also any one of these authorities cannot issue a decision without reference to the other. The decision should be participation and consent from all of them. Law in The United States cannot issue on the basis religion. In the same time, each state has a different law from other states, and some of them can be changed by a vote of powers that have been mentioned previously. While in Saudi Arabia, the law comes from the Quran and Sunnah, and it is impossible to change.

In conclusion, despite these differences, both countries have a great history with a attempting to keep a stability of all aspects of their country. Most countries are trying to follow them both on the Arab or European scale. On the other hand, both countries possess a lot of different policies on economy of the country and have a lot of private investment policies.

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