Jacksonville Beach

Come spend the day with the ELI at beautiful Jacksonville Beach this Saturday! We will visit the beach in the afternoon and return to Gainesville after dinner.

When: We will meet at Norman Garage at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 24th. If you arrive after 10:30, you will miss the bus! We will be returning to Norman Garage around 8:15 p.m.

How: To buy a bus pass, bring $20 cash and your Gator 1 ID card to Nate in Matherly 211 between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

What to Bring: Extra money for lunch, dinner and shopping, comfortable shoes and clothes, a bathing suit, a towel, sunscreen, water and a snack, your Gator 1 ID card, and your yellow bus pass!

Immunizations: All of our students are required to have certain immunizations in order to attend class. We do this because UF requires it and because we care about you and don't want students to infect each other with tuberculosis or get sick and not have insurance. Please read the notes from the office carefully, and if you don't understand, please visit Matherly 223 for help immediately. If you have to miss class because of an issue with immunizations, it counts as an absence.

Smoking: There is no smoking ANYWHERE on the UF campus. If you need to smoke, speak to your LAs about places where it might be acceptable. Please put your cigarette butts in a trash can not on the ground or you can be given an expensive ticket for littering!

Trash: The UF campus has trash and recycling bins everywhere. Please use them to keep our campus beautiful.

Student Mailbox: Remember to check for mail in the Main Office once in a while!

This Week’s Birthdays!

Students:
- September 21: Fawaz Almalki
- September 22: Rebeca Michelen Rodriguez
- September 22: Eunhyeok Park
- September 24: Taisir Alsalhi
- September 24: Maria Antia Ortiz
- September 24: Hyunjong Yoon

Staff:
- September 19: Jennifer Schroeder (corrected!)
- September 21: Minsang Kim
- September 25: Jane Keeler

The Next Activity

Join us Saturday, October 1st, for the first Volunteer Day of the semester. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week’s Weekly.
This week, we have some more great advice for you written by ELI student, Jose M. Iglesias C.: “Make an Effort”

We are in Gainesville because we have different goals but we have something in common which is improving our English skills. One important thing is to not be shy to ask or make mistakes because we can learn about them and improve. You can try to participate more in class and the class will be more interactive. For example, you can improve your pronunciation when you read aloud in reading and writing class.

Another example is if your friends make mistakes when talking and you notice, you can tell them. They can do the same with you and we can help each other!

**Grammar**

Q: What’s the difference between *speak* and *talk*?

Can I say “I talk English”?

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

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

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

- Correct: I speak English.
- Incorrect: I talk English.
- Correct: I spoke with my professor.

**Manners and Culture**

Q: When should I tip at a restaurant?

A: At restaurants where you have full service from a waiter like The Top or Gator Suyaki, you should leave between 15% to 20% of the total bill. If your bill was $25 and you leave $2, this is not enough!

Some full-service restaurants automatically include an 18% gratuity in the bill for large groups. If you’re splitting the bill and the restaurant didn’t add the gratuity, make sure you calculate it and add it.

At restaurants that have partial service like Tijuana Flats or Bento’s, where you order at a register and they bring the food to your table, it’s nice to leave a small amount, but not as expected. Here $2 is good, and you can usually add it on your credit card receipt when you order.

Restaurants that are complete self-service like Maude’s or Leonardo’s where you order at the counter and then pick it up at the cashier, it’s not necessary to leave a tip. However, if they were extra friendly or helpful, it’s always nice to leave a couple of dollars for the tip.

Tipping in restaurants is particularly important here in the US; servers in restaurants in Florida have a minimum wage of only $5.03 an hour, which is much less than the Florida minimum wage of $8.05.

**Quote of the Week**

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

*Henry Rollins*