

Highlights

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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Skate Station Funworks and Sonic *Something Different!*

WHAT: Skate Station Funworks is a new attraction in Gainesville!! We will go and play miniature golf, roller-skate, play arcade games, rock climb and play roller hockey. Everything is located inside the building, so you won't be too hot or too cold. Afterward, we will eat dinner at Sonic Drive-In.

If you are interested in going with us, please sign up on the Activities Board by 4pm on Thursday, February 8th.

WHEN: Saturday, February 10th. Meet at the Norman Hall garage at 2:00PM. We will probably return around 5:30pm, or whenever you want.

COST: One attraction: \$6.50
Two attractions: \$9.50
Unlimited: \$13.50
Bring about \$5+ for food/drinks.

TRANSPORTATION: This is a car pool trip. You can drive your own car and bring family and friends (make sure you sign up your family and friends on the board).

WHAT TO BRING:
-Wear comfortable clothes and shoes
-BRING SOCKS!!
-Have a great time!

Quiet, Please

Everyone, we have been asked to make an announcement about high noise levels in front of the Education Library (2nd floor, facing the courtyard). The Librarians are asking for us to try to keep it down. The windows in the front of the library don't provide a lot of protection from really loud voices and laughter. This area is somewhat of a quiet zone because so many people come here to work in relative quiet. Many cannot find quiet in their dorms or sorority houses, etc., so they need a quiet place to study. So, please, just try to keep it down a bit.

Use of English at the ELI

It has come to our attention lately that a lot of students aren't aware that the use of English in and around the ELI is something that is required, not just suggested.

Here is the exact text from the application to the ELI that appears right above the signature:

"I am aware of the importance of using English in all ELI-related activities. I pledge that I will use English exclusively in all activities involving the ELI."

And, here is the text from the ELI Student Manual:

"ELI Students are expected to speak only English in the ELI and at ELI Activities."

Of course, since we have many students who have shared native languages, we know it's a real temptation to use them. However, it's not much help to you in learning English, and it will actually slow down your progress! So, we'd just like to make an extra reminder to everyone that when you're at the ELI, you mustn't use anything but English.

Notes from the Office

- **Student Mail**—There is quite a bit of mail in the student mailbox. It's the black tray immediately to the right of the door to the ELI Main Office, Room 315. Be sure to check from time to time to see if you have anything in!
- **Lost and found**—If you are missing any items, or if you find anything in the classroom that obviously belongs to someone, we do keep a lost and found box in the Main Office.
- **Class Attendance**—Remember, your attendance is very, very important. Your teachers are taking note of both your absences **and your tardies** in every class every day.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be playing **Paintball!** Details on the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of February 9-15:

Students:
February 13: Shiori Yamazaki

Staff:
None this week!

Manners and Culture

Well, we STILL don't have any questions from you guys! So, here are some from last year.

Q: Why isn't there a big Arabic restaurant in Gainesville?

A: Interesting question. Mostly, it's simple economics once again. We don't have a large Arab population in Gainesville, and Middle-Eastern food isn't one of the more popular types of food all across the US. So, for now, it's difficult to keep an Arab restaurant going in a town this size. Maybe someday one of our students can be really enterprising and start a good one up!

Q: Why can't I get good coffee at the ELI? The coffee in the Florida room is terrible.

A: Honestly, I wish I had a good answer for this one. Your manners columnist very sincerely wishes he could get better coffee here, too!

Q: Why are there not more taxis in Gainesville?

A: Low demand. Most people in Gainesville have their own cars.

Q: Why can't you drink at 18 but you can buy a gun at that age?

A: Have you thought of going into politics? That's a really good question. The answers are probably more political than anything else. We raised the drinking age all across the US when we raised the speed limit back up from 55 a number of years ago. It was a political compromise that was supposed to reduce the number of drinking and driving accidents. On the other hand, it's very difficult in the US to make gun sales more restrictive. The mood among the US population is usually against it.

Quote of the Week

I believe the choice to be excellent begins with aligning your thoughts and words with the intention to require more from yourself.

--Oprah Winfrey



UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
English Language Institute
PO Box 117051
315 Norman Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611-7051, USA
Phone: (352) 392-2070
Fax: (352) 392-3744
Email: StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu
Webpage: www.eli.ufl.edu