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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Commencement

Can you believe it's already here?

Congratulations, everyone. It's been a long and tough semester, and you should all be proud of the excellent work you have done in all of your classes. This coming week is very busy with testing and end-of-semester activities, so please read this issue of the ELI Weekly carefully to make sure you know about all of the things you need to do to wrap up the term. This will be the last issue of the Weekly for the Summer Term, 2008.

The ELI Commencement Ceremony will be held at the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom on Friday, August 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. All students and staff are welcome to attend. You are encouraged to invite your friends and relatives as well. Students will receive their grades and class photos after the ceremony. Everyone is encouraged to dress up for the occasion!

Exit Test Schedule

On Thursday, August 7th, we will be giving the CELT, our exit test. There are no regular ELI classes on this day. **There will be no late exams and no late students admitted to the exams.** All ELI students are required to attend and take the test in order to receive a certificate of completion from the ELI. **Please remember to be on time.** If you arrive late to the test, you will not be permitted to

take it, and you will not receive a certificate of completion from the ELI. The schedule is as follows; sections refer to Reading/Writing classes.

9am-11:15am:

Section 20	311 NRN
Section 30	225 Little Hall
Section 40	313 NRN
Section 41	341 NRN
Section 42	341A NRN
Section 50	341B NRN
Section 51/60	340 NRN

2:45pm-5pm:

Section 1	311 NRN
Section 2	313 NRN
Section 3	340 NRN
Section 4	341B NRN
US Culture	309NRN

Note: If you are a part-time student not taking Reading/Writing, you are still required to take the CELT in order to receive a certificate at the end of the semester. Please come to the ELI Main Office, Room 315, before Tuesday, August 5th to find out which room you are assigned to.

The Weekend Trip

This Saturday, August 2nd, we are holding our **End of Semester Barbecue at Ginnie Springs!**

WHAT: Food, soccer, swimming, tubing, volleyball, and much more! All at beautiful Ginnie Springs. Lunch will be catered by Sonny's Barbecue and will be served around 12:30 PM.

WHEN: Saturday, August 2nd. We will meet at Norman Garage at 11:00 AM. You can come back to Gainesville whenever your car chooses to return, probably around 4 PM. If it is raining on Saturday, call 392-3354 ext. 230 after 9 AM and listen to the message to find out if the trip has been moved to Sunday.

COST: Entrance into the park is around \$10.00 plus tax (check the Activities Board to be sure) and the barbecue is FREE and delicious! Tube rental is \$6 plus tax and we can share tubes. You may also rent canoes.

TRANSPORTATION: This is a carpool trip. Ginnie Springs is about a 45-minute drive from Gainesville. You **MUST SIGN UP** on the Activities Board by 4 PM Thursday, July 31st. *If you are driving your own car- you must sign up on the activities board so we can order food for you!! Also, sign up any friends and family members that you are bringing.*

WHAT TO BRING: Wear your bathing suit and bring a towel!!! Also bring sunscreen. If you want to rent a tube or canoe you will also need an ID and credit card. Most importantly, bring an appetite for good food and fun!

Manners and Culture

Q: When should we say “hi” and when should we say “hello”?

A: In most any situation when you’re talking in person, “hi” is more appropriate. “Hello” is usually relegated to answering the telephone.

Q: Why do most Americans buy their food from Publix when Wal-Mart is cheaper?

A: They don’t. It just looks that way because of your experience in Gainesville. Wal-Mart is by far the largest corporation by revenue in the world. Last year, they took in over \$377 billion—more than the size of most countries’ economies. But Wal-Mart doesn’t have Supercenters in all of the cities in America, and the one here in Gainesville is new. So, there are a lot more Publix stores. If you look at the total picture, though, Publix is only in Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Alabama, and their total take last year was around \$16 billion.

Q: Why don’t Americans try to discover more about other cultures instead of developing such ridiculous stereotypes?

A: That’s a very good question. The only answer I have is that, as with so many habits that many of us consider negative, it’s easier to be complacent and ignorant.

Q: What is the action called “double dipping” and why is it rude?

A: It refers to taking a chip, putting it in the dip or the salsa, taking a bite, and then putting the chip back in the dip for more. One can hope that you now understand why that’s rude without further explanation!

Grammar

Q: What is the difference between “thing” and “stuff”?

A: “Thing” is a count noun (it can be made plural) and “stuff” is a noncount noun.

Q: What is the difference between “people” and “person”?

A: “People” is the plural of “person”. Many of you may ask, “What about ‘persons’?” Well, that word exists, but it’s only used in official instructions and legal documents. The usual plural is “people”.

Farewell

For those of you who don’t already know, we are saying a fond farewell to one of our core faculty members, **Alison Camacho**, at the end of this semester. She’ll be leaving us to assume a position at Georgia

State University in Atlanta. We’ll miss you, Alison!

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the period August 1-24:

Students:

August 12: Itzhak Elyahou

August 13: Hyemin Shin

August 16: Yoo-Kyoung Jang

August 18: Ahmed Bawareth

August 21: Christophe Djiguimkoudre

August 21: Jose Eduardo Ayres

August 24: Anibal Aparicio

Staff:

August 13: Steve Flocks

August 13: Megan Forbes

August 13: Rebecca Millares

August 21: Rajani Manchukonda

Quote of the Week

Man invented language to satisfy his deep need to complain.

Lily Tomlin



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