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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Thanksgiving Dinner

Join us for a holiday meal!

On Friday, November 18th at 6pm, we will be holding **The ELI International Thanksgiving Potluck!** This is a great opportunity to celebrate an important holiday in the US by joining with your ELI family to give thanks and enjoy some wonderful food!

Thanksgiving in the US is a time to gather with friends and family to give thanks for all the good things in our lives, enjoy each other's company, and eat delicious food. The ELI celebrates the holiday as an international potluck. ELI staff, teachers, administrators, and LAs will bring traditional Thanksgiving Day food like *turkey and stuffing, cranberry sauce, green bean casserole, pumpkin pie*, and more!

Please bring a traditional food from your own country to share. You should bring enough to feed 5 to 10 people and a serving utensil for your dish. We will provide plates, napkins, knives, forks, spoons, cups, and drinks. We will also provide notecards so you can write your name, your country, the name of your dish, and the major ingredients of your dish. For example, you might write:

*Megan Forbes
US
Mashed Potatoes
(Potatoes, Milk, Butter)*

All students, teachers, language assistants, staff, and administrators who would like to go should sign up on the Activities Board by Wednesday, November 16th. Please write what type of food you will bring and the number of guests.

Student Voices Deadline

It's almost that time, everyone! Steve wants to let you know that the deadline for *Student Voices* submissions is fast approaching. We would like to have everything in by Friday, December 2nd. Submissions can include any student work that you might like to see in print. You can submit your entries for the *Voices* to your teacher or you may email Steve directly at sflocks@ufl.edu. Let's see what you can come up with, everyone!

Notes from the Office

Attendance and End of Term Feedback: Everybody, please remember how important it is to attend all your classes even as the term winds down. Take advantage of the remaining time you have here at the ELI to practice and study English! We will also soon be asking for your feedback on our

classes, so please be sure to be there every day.

Thanksgiving Holiday: Thursday, November 24th is Thanksgiving. There will be no ELI classes and the ELI Main Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday. **Classes will meet as normal on Wednesday.**

The Next Trip

On Saturday, December 10th, we will be holding our **End of Semester Barbecue**. Details will be on the Activities Board and in the last issue of *The ELI Weekly*.

Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from November 18-December 1:

Students:
November 22: Abdulmohsin Almarghni
November 23: Fahad Alzoabi
November 24: Abdulhadi Abdulwahed
November 24: Younghyun Kim
November 25: Daniel Muratty
November 26: Fabio Pinto
November 27: Haton Khayat
November 28: Bader Ragaban
November 29: Afnan Almarghani
November 30: Reema Alyamani

Staff:

November 20: Natilee Festa

November 20: Juliette Naintre

November 23: Joanna Klager

November 27: Kaitlin Callaghan

Happy Birthday one and all!

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between "must" and "should"?

A: There are actually lots of uses for both words, but the most common use for both of them is to talk about obligation. "Must" means that there is no choice—it's an absolute obligation. "Should" means that the action is advisable, but there is a choice.

- You **must** come to class to keep your visa.
- You **should** make American friends to improve your English.

Q: What's the difference between "under" and "underneath"?

A: There's not a large difference; in most cases, they're probably interchangeable. The biggest difference is that "underneath" connotes an idea that something is under something else and is hidden or not readily visible.

- The cat is under the table. [It's visible.]
- The cat is underneath the couch. [It isn't visible.]

Q: What's the difference between "advise" and "advice"?

A: The first one's a verb and the second one's a noun. The pronunciation of the "s" is [z] and the pronunciation of the "c" is [s].

Manners and Culture

Q: Why don't American students dress up for class?

A: Some of the UF students that you see live on campus, so they roll out of bed and go to class in their pajamas. Most students don't have money to spend on fancy clothing. But the biggest reason is probably because we are more laid back than other cultures, especially in a university setting like UF in a climate like Florida.

Q: What is the meaning of the Thanksgiving Holiday?

A: Just what the name says, basically. It's a day that we set aside to express our appreciation for all the people in our lives and all the things that we have to be thankful for. Thanksgiving is the universal family holiday in the US, as it

doesn't have specific ties to any one particular religion or belief system.

Q: When do the Christmas holidays really start?

A: Traditionally, through a sizable chunk of the 20th Century at least, the Christmas decorations started coming out right after Thanksgiving. In recent years, though, it seems to be creeping back farther and farther. You can often see in retail stores that the Christmas stuff is sharing shelf space with the Halloween stuff. All of this, of course, is more related to trying to get people to shop more than it really is to Christmas. The actual traditional Christmas season in the Church calendar starts with what's called "Advent" (which is Latin for "coming"), which includes the 4 Sundays prior to Christmas.

Quote of the Week

Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving.

W.T. Purkiser



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