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# The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Homecoming Parade

*Go Gators!*

Homecoming is the weekend when current and former UF students celebrate the Gators with a parade, a giant pep rally, and the Homecoming game, of course! The University of Florida's **Homecoming Parade** is the *largest student run parade in the United States!* It will have floats, bands, decorated vehicles and representatives from UF and Gainesville. Homecoming draws over 150,000 people every year and is broadcasted live on television. This truly is a part of US culture!

The ELI will go as a group to see the parade. It is a great chance to spend a morning with friends and to show your support for UF.

**When:** The parade is at noon on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> but *we will meet at NRN garage at 11:00am and we will walk to University Ave. together.* The parade will draw thousands of people, so we need to get there early to be able to see!

**What To Bring:** The most important thing are your orange and blue Gator clothes! You should also bring a blanket or folding chair to sit on, sunscreen if it's sunny, or an umbrella if it's raining. Also, you can bring snacks and drinks or money to buy food and drinks.

### Gator Growl

What is the world's largest pep rally? UF's Gator Growl is! It will be November 8<sup>th</sup>. This is not an official ELI activity but it is great

experience! A ticket is required for entry, so you **MUST** buy your ticket beforehand. Tickets cost \$17 for students (limit one) and \$27 for guest tickets (no limit). If you're interested in attending, make sure to buy your ticket with friends because the seats are assigned. Gates open at 6:00 pm and Gator Growl will start at 7:00 pm.

Go to [www.gatorgrowl.org/](http://www.gatorgrowl.org/) for more information.

### The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to the **Gainesville Rock Gym and the Downtown Festival and Art Show!** Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

### Printing on Campus

**Printing:** Students, many of you have been trying to use the free printing at the computer lab in the Reitz Union. ELI students cannot print for free at the RU lab because it is funded by student fees (like the Southwest Recreation Center). We don't require ELI students to pay UF fees because they are very expensive, but this also means ELI access to some facilities is limited. To learn more about the Student Fees, you can visit this website: <http://www.fufl.edu/bursar/current-students/tuition-and-fees-2013-14/fall-2013-students-for-the-2013-14-academic-year/>. Printing is available at any of the computer labs around campus – you can ask Emily if

you have questions about how to pay for printing.

### Undergraduate University Admissions Workshop

If you're interested in applying to Santa Fe College or UF for an undergraduate degree, come to the Undergraduate University Admissions Workshop. A representative from Santa Fe College will give important information and tips on the admissions process, and she will answer any questions about enrolling in their program. Please sign up on the ELI Announcement Bulletin Board.

**When:** Tuesday, November 5 from 5:15 to 6:30pm

**Where:** Norman 2337 (New Norman)

### Crossing the Road

We've seen a few ELI students cross the roads at dangerous times. Please be very careful when crossing the road. According to the University Police Department, about 3 crashes a week involve a pedestrian. Always cross at the crosswalk and only when the pedestrian signal is white. Make sure to look both ways before you cross!!

## Notes from the Office

**Student Voices:** If you haven't already, send your submissions to Melina at [mpjimenez@ufl.edu](mailto:mpjimenez@ufl.edu) for *Student Voices*. The last day is November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Class Attendance:** Remember, your attendance is very, very important. Every 3 tardies counts as 1 hour of absence, and you are limited in the number of hours you can miss. If you have any questions about your attendance, be sure to ask your teachers as soon as possible.

**Homecoming Holiday:** Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, is Homecoming and Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, is Veteran's Day. There will be no ELI classes and the ELI Main Office will be closed on Friday and Monday.

**Holidays and RTS Bus Service:** There is reduced or no campus service on these days: November 11 (Monday, Veterans' Day) November 27, 28, and 29 (Thanksgiving Holiday, Wednesday thru Friday) December 16, 2013 - January 1, 2014 (End-of-year Break)

These changes can be accessed on the RTS website [www.go-rts.com](http://www.go-rts.com)

**I-20s:** If you're leaving the country for the Thanksgiving or End-of-year breaks, have your I-20 signed in the ELI Main Office (Room 315).

## Manners and Culture

*Q: What's the most important holiday in the US?*

A: Well, that's a tough question, mainly because there are so many holidays that hold special meanings to so many people. Our biggest family holiday is probably Thanksgiving. This is the one holiday that is specifically about visiting family and friends. It's a big feast day that isn't specially linked to any one religion or set of beliefs. Many people fly or drive to visit their family in other states.

## Grammar

*Q: What's the difference between slang and idioms?*

A: Slang words or phrases are new and fairly temporary in the language. They are very informal and may only be used by some speakers. Idioms are set phrases that mean something different from the individual words in the phrase. They are also forms that have been accepted as part of the language and are used by a wider variety of people. Look at the following examples concerning money.

Slang: cheddah, cheese, bread, paper, mullah, greenbacks, dough, lettuce

Idiom: Bringing home the bacon, make a living, hand to mouth, hit the jackpot

*Q: Do I have to learn spoken colloquial expressions? They confuse me.*

A: It depends mostly on why you're learning the language. If you plan to sit in your room alone and do nothing but read textbooks, you can probably get away without learning the spoken language and the slang and colloquial expressions. And, this is certainly true if you don't plan to study here in the US or have much interaction with native speakers of English. But in everyday use, including in professors' lectures, in newspaper and magazine articles, and in almost all social interactions you have with native speakers, slang and idiom and colloquial English will be necessary parts of your daily communication.

## Quote of the Week

There are short-cuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them.

Vicki Baum

**UF** English Language Institute  
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

[StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu](mailto:StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu)

[www.eli.ufl.edu](http://www.eli.ufl.edu)

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