

The ELI Weekly

Vol. 128, Issue 6, October 12, 2015

Midterm Exams

There is no scheduled ELI trip this weekend since many classes will be holding Midterm Exams. Use the weekend to study. Good luck on your exams!

Since your midterm exams are coming, here are some tips to help you do well on the exams but more importantly, to improve your English overall.

Do the activities in the book that your instructor assigned and didn't assign.

Find activities online. For example, if you google "preposition practice", you'll get lots of results.

Practice whatever you're studying, but do it out loud. Practice using pronouns in sentences, reading the newspaper and finding them there, listening for them when people talk, and writing texts to friends using them.

Get plenty of sleep and eat well!

Next Weekend: Midterm Picnic

Next weekend is the Midterm and Welcome B Picnic. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Notes from the Office

Megan out: Megan will be on a recruitment trip for UF and the ELI from October 1 to October 20 in South America.

Student Voices: Start sending your submissions to Melina at mpjimenez@ufl.edu for Student Voices. The last day is November 20th.

Research Corner

Are you a Spanish speaker in levels 40 and 50? Participate in some brain research and get paid \$10/hour! You will be reading letters, words or sentences while your brain waves (EEG) are recorded over two days. The first day is one hour and the second day is about three hours.

Contact Patricia at paziz@ufl.edu

This Week's Birthdays

Students

- October 13: Leiden Gualdron
- October 14: Nora Aljohani
- October 15: Bakr Hamdi
- October 16: Keita Kinoshita
- October 16: Amal Alamri
- October 16: Daeun Kim
- October 17: Mohammad Alhajri

Staff

None this week

Happy Birthday, everyone!

Quote of the Week

You have to resign yourself to wasting lots of trees before you write anything really good. That's just how it is. It's like learning an instrument. You've got to be prepared for hitting wrong notes occasionally, or quite a lot. That's just part of the learning process. And read a lot. Reading a lot really helps. Read anything you can get your hands on.

J.K. Rowling, from remarks at the 2000 Vancouver International Writers' Festival

Manners and Culture

Q: Can I invite my friend to a party that I've been invited to?

A: It depends what kind of party this is. If it's a small gathering, you should ask the host first. If you heard about it from a friend who heard about it from a friend and so on, it's probably ok to invite all your friends too. But it's best to check first.

Q: If I want to have a party at my apartment, should I invite my neighbor?

A: In general, Americans tend not to socialize with their neighbors, especially if they don't know them very well. You could invite them to the party, but you don't have to. If you expect a large, noisy crowd late at night, you should let your neighbors know as a courtesy.

Q: As an Arabic woman, when I cook, is it okay to give my neighbors a taste of the food even if we don't know each other?

This question is related to the previous one. While you could offer your neighbors some food, it would probably be considered out of the ordinary. However, it all depends on your neighbors. Some people would love to make new friends this way and others just want to be left alone.

Grammar

Q: Do I need a comma before a FANBOYS conjunction in all cases?

A: You need one in a compound sentence with a FANBOYS conjunction or in a series of 3 or more items, but not with only 2 items.

- I like to eat hamburgers, but my sister dislikes them.
- I eat a lot of hamburgers, yet I'm skinny.
- I like to eat hamburger, fries, and ice cream.
- I like to eat carrots and yogurt.

UF English Language Institute
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

English Language Institute
PO Box 117051
223 Matherly Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611-7051, USA

Phone: (352) 392-2070
Fax: (352) 392-3744
StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu
www.eli.ufl.edu

