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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Gator Basketball Game

Go Gators!

On Saturday, February 8th, the University of Florida men's basketball team is going to play (and beat, of course) Alabama's Crimson Tide. We have a small section reserved so make sure to sign up early!

When: Saturday, February 8th, at 11 am

Where: We will meet at the O'Connell Center at Gate 3

Cost: The tickets are FREE for ELI students when you sign up in the office with Nate. You MUST bring your Gator 1 IDs

The Next Trip

Next weekend, on Saturday, February 15th, we will be going to **Tallahassee to play in a soccer tournament**. Details about the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Note from Daryl

If you would like to speak with Daryl, please schedule an appointment on Mondays, Wednesday, or Fridays. Tuesday and Thursday he will be helping new students before they arrive.

IRS Tax Forms

All international students are required to file a tax form in the United States. You are required to file this form even if you have no income. The deadline to file if you have no income is June 15. The deadline to file if you have income from any source other than bank interest (like an on-campus job), is April 15.

You can find the form you need to complete and the directions on how to complete it at:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf>

You can also find many answers to your questions on the UF International Center tax page:

<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/iss/Taxes.html?menuId=1&smId=5>

I have posted the links above on the ELI Facebook page. You can also always make an appointment to speak with Emily or Daryl if you have questions.

Don't forget!

Notes from the Office

Class: First and foremost, go to class. This is the absolute best way to improve your English. Be on time! Second, speak English. Third, do the work. The teachers choose it purposely to help you.

Immunizations & Insurance: Remember to take care of your insurance and immunization as soon as possible. You will not be allowed to attend class until you do. Remember, if you're absent because you're taking care of this, your teacher MUST count it.

Travel and I-20s: Even though it's a bit early, it's time to start preparing your I-20s. If you plan to travel outside the country during Spring Break, you will need to get your I-20 signed in the ELI Main Office before you go. If you forget, you might not be able to return to the US when the break is over!

Trash: The UF campus has trash and recycling bins everywhere. Please use them to keep our campus beautiful.

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do Americans stand so far away to talk to each other?

A: The US was settled by Northern Europeans and traditionally they stand far away from each other, too. If you look at your classmates, you will notice that each culture

has differences in how comfortable they are when standing next to each other. You will also see the distance dance, where one person moves closer and the other person moves further back.

Q: Where can I go if I get sick?

A: During the week, you should make an appointment at Team Red. You can call 352-294-7465, or Emily can make the appointment for you. They are open 8:00am to 5:00pm on Monday through Friday and 12:00pm to 4:00pm on Sundays.

If you get sick on the weekend or at night, you can go to an urgent care clinic. There is a list in the ELI office, or you can just google "gainesville urgent care clinics." If it's late at night, you'll have to go to the ER, but if you can wait until morning you should. Remember, the ER really is only for emergencies, so if you don't have an emergency, you'll have a long wait.

Grammar

Q: How do you know which preposition to use?

A: You have to memorize the rules. As you become a more proficient speaker of English, you'll start to develop a "feel" for it.

*Q: When speaking English, do we usually say **on** Jan 20, 2012, or **in** Jan 20, 2012? Is it right to say **in** January or **on** January?*

A: The rule for prepositions of time for dates is the following:

Use **in** + month, year, century, or season.

- I was born in March, in the twentieth century, in spring.

Use **on** + date, weekday, weekday morning, afternoon, evening.

- I was born on March 17.
- I was born on Wednesday morning.

Use **at** + noon, night, clock time, present.

- I was born at 7:35.
- I was not born at night.

*Q: What is the difference between **at** and **in** for locations?*

A: Generally, **in** is used when you are inside of a place whereas **at** is used when you're somewhere near or around the place. **In** also emphasizes that you're inside the building and **at** is more of the idea of the location.

- I am in Norman Hall. [Inside the building]
- I am at Norman Hall. [Usually outside]

Q: Could you define "return", "exchange" and "buyback" for students?

"Return" means to take it back to the store and get your money back. "Exchange" means to take it back to the store and get another book of the same value. "Buyback" means to sell your book back to the store at the end of the semester for less money.

- You can return a clean book with a receipt for a full refund up to a week after class starts.
- You can exchange your book if you move to a different level up to the published deadline.
- You can try to sell you books at any time with a receipt, called "buyback." But don't expect more than a couple of dollars, even if the book has no writing in it.

Quote of the Week

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

Eleanor Roosevelt



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