

Highlights

- **St. Augustine**
- **Student Voices**
- **Letters of Recommendation**
- **Game Night at Weaver**
- **Scholarship Nominees**
- **Manners, Grammar, and Vocab**

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 126, Issue 11
March 30, 2015*



St. Augustine

Visit the Nation's Oldest City!

On Saturday, April 4th we will be going to St. Augustine which is the oldest European city in the US! St. Augustine was founded in September 1565. It was named St. Augustine after the Saint with the same name.

First, we will visit the Old City, where everyone can visit the Fort and walk through the streets during a special art show event. After that, we will visit the beach (depending on the weather) and the lighthouse. Families are welcome!

When: Saturday, April 4th. We will be meeting at Norman Garage at 9am. We will leave St. Augustine around 7pm and arrive in Gainesville around 9pm.

Cost: You'll need to purchase a bus pass from Nate in Matherly 211 between 9:00am and 12:30pm before Friday, April 3rd. Please bring \$20 cash, exact change, and a picture ID (like a Gator 1 ID card or a passport). Bus passes are non-refundable and first come, first serve.

What to bring: Your yellow bus passes and Gator 1 IDs to get on the bus. You should bring about \$40 for museums and food. Bring a swim suit, towel and sunscreen for the beach! Don't forget to bring a camera!

The Next Trip

Saturday, April 11th we will not have a weekend activity, so you can study for finals. Saturday, April 18th will be our **End of**

Semester Barbeque. Details about the activity will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Scholarship Nominees

Please join me in congratulating the nominees of the ELI Scholarships to study in the Summer 2015 semester.

- Nader Aljohani
- Jafar Alsaleh Nivea
- Atenas Calzadilla
- Tzu-I Chen
- Leonardo Costas Vincenti
- Espoir Esaucé Dofu Ndandou
- Eleana Padilla

It is very difficult to be nominated for a scholarship. This means the nominees all worked extra hard this semester and achieved the following criteria.

- Full-time C semester student at the ELI.
- Academic Excellence: The student should have a 4.0 GPA and demonstrate a high level of proficiency in at least three of the four skill areas.
- Outstanding Progress: The student should display outstanding progress in language skills as evidenced by improvements in coursework.
- Excellent Attendance: The student should miss no more than ten hours of class in the semester.

- **Speak English:** The student should make every effort to speak English at all times while at the ELI and at ELI-sponsored activities.
- **Successful Work Strategies:** The student should demonstrate personal initiative in and out of the classroom, making an effort to get involved in the ambient culture through outside activities such as regular participation in Cultural Immersion activities.

Students, if you want to win the scholarship next semester, make sure to follow the same criteria and talk to the nominees to learn how else to become an excellent student.

ELI Emergency Cell Phone

The ELI emergency cell phone is for **emergencies only**. This includes going to the hospital or going to jail. If you need to make a doctor's appointment, visit Emily between 9:30 and 4:30 or you can call her office (352-273-4394). If you have a question about your attendance, ask your teacher or you can ask the Main Office. If you have a question about your grade in your classes, speak with your teacher.

Student Voices

Submissions are due by Friday, April 3rd. You can submit your entries for the *Voices* to me at mpjimenez@ufl.edu. Include your name, class, and a title for your piece!

Game Night at Weaver Hall

On April 6th, come play board games like "Apples to Apples" and "Taboo" with ELI friends and UF students! Instead of meeting at Starbucks like usual, we will meet at Weaver Hall (by the O'Connell Stadium) from 7-10pm. See you there!

Letters of Recommendation

If you need a letter of recommendation, please ask your instructor first to see if she or he can write a letter for you. Please note that instructors' letters have to be an accurate description of your work and student skills so if you have a lot of absences or do not do the classwork, it will be very difficult to write a letter that will be helpful for you.

If your instructor agrees to write a letter for you, you will then have to go to the ELI main office and fill out a document request form. We will send the request to your instructor. Without this form, your instructor is not able to write a letter.

For all other requested documents, please talk to our receptionist. Documents can take from 3 days to two weeks.

When possible, please plan ahead if you need a document or letter from the main office or your instructor.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of March 30 to April 5, plus one that I missed:

Students:

March 30: Bruna Tanello
March 30: Farahnaz Kazemi Pour
March 31: Hawra Alabbad
March 31: Sharah Alfahimi
March 31: Metab Alsolami
March 31: Alfredo Castillo Briceno
March 31: Mustafa Beyazit
April 1: Saemi Choi
April 1: Sumayah Fahimi
April 5: Lina Alammar

Staff:

March 26: Grazyna Drzazga
April 2: Wesley Huffman
April 2: Samantha Ramos
April 4: Leah Warwick

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: What is April Fools? What do people usually do this day?

A: We play practical jokes on people. A common one is to put sugar in someone's salt shaker. I'm not recommending that you do this; it's just an example!

Q: Why do some Americans get offended when someone gets scared of their dog?

A: There might be a couple reasons for this. First, Americans often consider their dog as their family member. Would you act scared of someone's child? Probably not. Also, Americans might not actually be offended. They just want to express the idea that their

dog is not dangerous and that you shouldn't be afraid.

Q: Why do teachers expect students to work in pairs or groups?

A: At universities, teachers expect students to work together on projects. Group work is also an important part of most of our work culture so your teachers are preparing you for an aspect of 'real world' in the US.

Grammar

Q: Can you end a sentence with a preposition?

A: There is a rule that says you shouldn't end sentences with a preposition. However, this rule came from Latin so it doesn't really work in English and can make sentences sound awkward. In everyday speaking, there's definitely no problem with putting them there.

Appropriate: I told you who you can talk to.

Awkward: I told you to whom you can talk.

Word of the Week

Look for this word in this *Weekly!*

Practical (___) - _____
Collocates: solution, application, provide

Quote of the Week

This curious world we inhabit is more wonderful than convenient; more beautiful than it is useful; it is more to be admired and enjoyed than used.

Henry David Thoreau



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
www.facebook.com/UFLELI