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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Spring Break

Relax! Enjoy!

This coming weekend, Saturday, February 27th, there is no scheduled ELI trip. Just in case you aren't already aware of it, our Spring Break is next week! If you do not yet have any plans for Spring Break, we have some suggestions for you.

If you are staying in Gainesville, there are lots of cool things to do!

If you like being outdoors, check out:

- Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site
- Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
- Walking in Paynes Prairie
- Biking on the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail
- Canoeing on the Ichetuknee River

If you like museums, check out:

- Harn Museum of Art
- Florida Museum of Natural History
- Matheson Museum

If you want to eat some local food, try:

- Mac's Drive-Thru (burgers)
- Yummy House (Chinese)
- Leonardo's in Millhopper (pizza)
- 43rd Street Deli (breakfast)
- Midnight Cookies (cookies)

<http://www.keneatsgainesville.com/> is a good blog to read for some local restaurant reviews and ideas.

If you have a car, make sure to check out the little towns and larger cities nearby:

Ocala	High Springs
Miami	Atlanta
Savannah	Jacksonville
Cedar Key	Orlando
Tampa	St. Petersburg

Check out some of the web links below for some information about traveling or things to do here in Florida.

www.visitgainesville.com
www.visitflorida.com

Here is a good Internet resource to help you locate last-minute hotel and flight reservations.

www.kayak.com

If you're planning on renting a car, be sure to call all of the companies in town to check on the available rates.

Reminders:

- Missing any classes on the Friday before Spring Break or the Monday after do count toward total absences.
- If you plan on leaving the country, check that the second page of your I-20 is signed.
- Canada, Mexico, anything involving cruises, and your home countries all require a signed I-20 and your passport.

Notes from the Office

RTS: From February 27th to March 6th, RTS will have reduced city service for Spring Break. If you're staying in Gainesville, make sure to check the RTS website so you'll know when the bus is coming. www.go-rts.com

B-Term Students: During Spring Break, new students will arrive to begin the Spring B Semester. They will not be taking classes with you, but you should say hello and welcome them to the ELI!

The Next Trip

Our next weekend activity will be our **Midterm Picnic**, which is also our **B-Term Welcome Picnic**, on Saturday, March 5th.

Join us in welcoming the new Spring B students to the ELI family! All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited. It will be a fun day in the sun to have a picnic. There will be sports, games and great conversation!

When & Where: Saturday, March 5th at 12:00pm on Norman Lawn, in front of Norman Hall.

What to Bring: This activity is free. We will provide the food, so come hungry!!

IMPORTANT: Spring C students need to sign up on the Activities Board. Everyone is Welcome!

ELI Talent Show



As you probably already know, the ELI is going to have its fourth annual Talent Show. The talent show is open to ELI students, faculty, staff, and LAs. Acts can include, but are not be limited to:

- o Singing
- o Dancing
- o Skits
- o Juggling
- o Comedy Routines
- o Cultural Presentations

When: March 25th, 7:00 to 9:30pm

Where: University Auditorium

Requirements: You need to sign up on the Activities Board. The last day to sign up is Wednesday, February 24th.

The act must be appropriate and not offensive. This is a safe, family-friendly show.

Group acts are needed!

Rehearsals will begin after Spring Break. They will be from 5-7 pm on March 15th, 22nd, and 25th (before the show). You must attend all rehearsals to perform!

If you have any questions, you can talk to Nate, Tate, or Greg in the CIP Office, Matherly 211.

Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from February 22 to March 6:

Students:

February 22: Husain Mohammad
February 22: Ashraf Aldawsari
February 24: Alexandre Marques Carvalho
February 24: Estefania Villacis Salinas
February 26: Abdullah Almutairi
February 26: Abdulrahman Alamoudi
February 27: Sondos Albishan
March 2: Asrar Alfeneikh
March 5: Soim Abdoul Kassif Baba Moussa Traore

Staff:

February 21: Kate Alicante
February 25: Olga Moody
February 27: Ahri Lee
March 6: Debbie Kellermann

Happy Birthday, everyone!

Manners and Culture

Q: What is the polite action when you first meet people?

A: Look them in the eyes and say, "It's nice to meet you." Older people will also shake hands but this isn't as common among younger Americans, especially in informal settings.

Q: If I look at an American for more than 5 seconds, why do they say, "Hi, how you doing?"? I don't know them so maybe it's normal.

A: There might be two reasons for this. They are being polite and really saying hello, or maybe because you are staring at them, they are being impolite and making you aware that you are staring at them. Try not to stare at people.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between most and almost?

A: *Almost* is an adverb and *most* is an adjective. You cannot use *almost* in front of a noun.

- Correct: All students speak English
- Correct: Most students ride the bus.
- Correct: Almost all students take grammar class.
- Incorrect: Almost students take grammar class.

Q: When do I use little and few?

A: *A little* and *a few* mean a small (yet sufficient) amount. *Little* and *few* mean an amount so small that it's not enough.

- I have a little money so I can go out but I can't do much.
- I have little money so I can't go out.

Q: What's different between lots of and a lot of?

A: Very little, actually. *Lots of* is a tiny bit less formal than *a lot of*, but it's a very minor distinction. Both are more common in spoken English than *much* or *many* in a positive statement.

Word of the Week

distinction – (Adj) a difference or contrast between similar things or people

Quote of the Week

Too much work, too much vacation, too much of any one thing is unsound.

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