

Highlights

- Ichetucknee
- Birthdays
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- Manners

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Tubing on the Ichetucknee *Outdoor Fun*

Take part in a unique Gainesville summertime tradition!! Float down the beautiful, crystal clear water of the Ichetucknee River while you relax in an inner tube. Enjoy the Florida sunshine, the cool water and the company of your ELI family!!

When: Saturday, June 6th. Meet at NRN Garage 10am. Each car will decide its own return time, probably around 3:00pm. Sign up on the activities board by 4pm, Thursday, June 4th.

Cost: The entrance fee is \$5.00 for each car. Also bring about \$5 to rent an inner tube.

What to Bring: Bring lunch, snacks, or money for lunch, your bathing suit, and sunscreen.

Notes from the Office

- **Summer Break and I-20s**
Summer break is only two and a half weeks away! If you plan to leave the US *at all* during the break—even on a cruise or a day trip to Canada or Mexico—please remember to come to the office to have your I-20 signed so that

you won't have trouble getting back into the country!

- **Student Mailbox**—Don't forget to check the student mailbox in the main office from time to time. There is mail for some returning students already.

ELI T-Shirts

Don't forget, everyone (students, teachers, and staff alike!), we are selling ELI T-Shirts for only \$10 (exact change only). To purchase yours, just see Sonja in the main office any day before 1:30pm. Get yours today!

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be headed to **The Devil's Millhopper State Park** right here in Gainesville. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of June 6-11:

Students:

June 7: Trad Abu-Onq
June 8: Butti Al Mehairbi
June 8: Hea Jin Lee

Staff:
None this week!

Manners and Culture

Q: Other than scrambled, how can I order my eggs in a restaurant?

A: Fried, sunny side up (not turned and yolk unbroken and liquid); fried, over easy (turned and lightly cooked on the yolk side); fried, over medium; fried, over hard; hard boiled; soft boiled; poached (broken open and cooked in a little bit of water); and various types of omelets.

Q: Why is public transportation poor in most American cities?

A: With the exception of the very large cities in the Northeast and Upper Midwest (which for the most part have excellent transportation systems), our cities are very young. They didn't really grow to be large until after the invention of the automobile. And in some cities that had streetcars at the turn of the 19th into the 20th century, it was actually

cheaper to build roads than to maintain the streetcars at that time. So, our cities grew up around the use of the automobile, and the vast distances were easiest to cross by superhighway once that was established. Now, we are discovering the need to change the system!

Q: Are there class distinctions in American society?

A: Sure. They're based mainly on socioeconomic status and personal achievement, though, and not by birth. We place a very high value on the identity of the individual—it's more about what you've done than where you came from. Money and material and professional success stratify us, but we also have a very, very large middle class.

Q: How do Americans manage road trips with the high cost of gas?

A: They do it less and less. Your manners columnist was at Walt Disney World on Memorial Day Weekend Saturday, and I was shocked at how light the crowds were. The high cost of gas seems to be having an impact on our habits.

Q: Is the rumor true that American girls don't like foreign guys?

A: I don't know for sure from personal experience. I'm an American guy, so I can't quite put myself in either shoe. I can tell you, though, that over the 14 years I've been here at the ELI, I have seen American guys dating female ELI students, I have seen American girls dating male ELI students, and I've even seen a couple of examples of

American guys dating male ELI students and one example of an American girl and a female ELI student dating. All of this is in addition to the many ELI students I've seen dating each other! So, I'd say from observation alone that it's just a rumor, or at least an incorrect overgeneralization.

Grammar

Q: Which is correct: "We'd appreciate it if you'd..." or "We'd appreciate if you'd..."?

A: it.

Quote of the Week

I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate.

--George Burns

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