

Highlights

- **Midterms**
- **Summer Break**

- **Manners**
- **Grammar**

The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 119, Issue 6
June 17, 2011*



Midterms & Summer Break

Good luck on your exams!

There is no scheduled ELI trip this weekend, as it is the beginning of our Summer Break! Meanwhile, this week, many classes will be holding Midterm Exams. Good luck on your exams, everyone!

Summer Break

If you do not yet have any plans for Summer Break, we have some suggestions for you! Within an easy day's drive from Gainesville, you will find Atlanta at one end and Miami at the other, with Savannah, Jacksonville, Cedar Key, Orlando, Tampa/St. Petersburg, and many other interesting places in between.

If you're staying in Gainesville, there are lots of things to do, too! If you like museums, there are the Harn Museum of Art and the Florida Museum of Natural History, both located on the southwest side of campus. Each of these provides an afternoon of cultural enjoyment. If you like nature, check out the Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site and Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. And if you like bicycling, there is the Gainesville-Hawthorne Rail Trail—15 miles of paved cycling trail that winds through Paynes Prairie and beyond. Also, you

can try the Depot Avenue/Waldo Road trail system. Also, Paynes Prairie itself has some really nice walking paths worth checking out. Remember to take sunscreen and water!

If you're traveling, do please remember that missing any classes on the Friday before Spring Break or the Monday after do count toward total absences.

Reminders from the Office

- **Summer Break and I-20s** — Remember to come to the office to have your I-20 signed so that you won't have trouble getting back into the country!
- **Smoking**—Remember that there is no smoking ANYWHERE on the UF campus.
- **Immunizations**—Remember to see Emily if you received a note about your immunizations. Emily's office is Norman 316.

Bike Theft Warning

Bicycles are a great way to get around Gainesville quickly. However, they are also very easy to steal. Bike theft is the number one crime on UF's campus. To

protect your bike from theft, you should take the following precautions:

1. Park your bike in well-lighted areas.
2. Lock up your bike when you park it. The best lock is a U-lock. This kind of lock looks like a U and is very difficult to cut or break. Be sure to put the lock through the bike's frame and wheel as well as the bike rack. If you just put the lock through the wheel and the rack, a thief can easily take the rest of your bike and leave the wheel only.
3. Register your bike with the University Police Department. If your bike is stolen, this will help the police find it. Registering is a very quick and simple process. Just go to the UPD building on Museum Road and ask the officer at the front desk to help you register.
4. If your bike is stolen, call the UPD immediately. The faster you call them, the better the chance of them finding your bike.
5. For more information, go to the UPD website's page on bike theft prevention at http://www.police.ufl.edu/csd/csd_safetytips_bikesecurity.asp.

The Next Trip

There is no ELI trip scheduled this week, since we are in our Midterm Week and then it is the start of our Summer Break. On Saturday, July 3rd, we will be having the **Midterm Picnic**. Details will be on the Activities Board and in the *Weekly* after the break.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the weeks of June 17-June 30:

Students:

June 18: Cristian Martinez Veracierta
June 19: Han Ah Cho
June 20: Abdullah Fayadh Alanazi
June 30: Ayodele Arotile

Staff:

June 19: Emily Kirby
June 24: Laura McLeran
June 26: Tom Ratican
June 29: Valentina Komaniecka

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do Americans hold the door open for strangers?

A: We don't always. It's really a politeness thing and a big-city vs. small-town custom.

Q: Why do you say, "Bless you," when a student sneezes?

A: This is just generally what we say for a sneeze—we also occasionally use the German phrase, "Gesundheit!" It's customary for us to say it when anybody sneezes. To leave the sneeze unacknowledged is considered rude.

Q: Do Americans like foreign students?

A: In my experience, we do. Obviously, I can't speak for the other 315 million or so people in the US, but we are a pretty friendly bunch, and we do like to find out about other cultures.

Q: Why aren't there more convenience stores in the US?

A: Many of our towns and cities actually do seem to have more of them per capita, with less distance between them. Gainesville has a lot of suburbs where convenience stores are not built.

Grammar

Q: Which is correct: "I wanna see a movie," or "I want to see a movie"?

A: This is an interesting point that is terribly confusing for many foreign speakers. Basically, the first one is what we say and the second one is what we write. This is called reduction, and it's a phenomenon that occurs when our speech starts to run the sounds of

common phrases together. After many years, decades or centuries of use, the reduction often actually becomes the written word.

Q: Is there an easy way to learn irregular and phrasal verbs?

A: No, unfortunately, there isn't. It's one of those things like vocabulary in general that only comes with memorization and practice.

Q: Can you end a sentence with a preposition?

A: There is a rule that says you should 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'll tell you who you can talk to.

Awkward: I'll tell you to whom you can to.

Quote of the Week

Laughter is an instant vacation.

Milton Berle

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