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The ELI Weekly

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Islands of Adventure

Theme Park Fun!

Islands of Adventure is a theme park in Orlando. It has roller coasters, 3D rides, water rides, and of course, the Wizarding World of Harry Potter! You can walk through Hogwarts Castle, drink butterbeer (nonalcoholic), and even buy a wand. This is one of the most popular trips of the semester, so don't miss it!

When: Saturday, June 15th. Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:00am. Please don't be late! We will return to Gainesville around 10:30pm.

Transportation: This is a bus trip so you must have already purchased a pass from the CIP. We have some passes left!

Cost: The cost of transportation is \$20 for a seat in the bus. Islands of Adventure admission tickets for Florida residents are \$76.50. **Bring your Gator 1 ID or Florida driver's license to prove that you are a Florida resident.**

What to Bring: Your bus pass, Gator 1 ID card, extra money for an Islands of Adventure ticket (at least \$92), money for meals and shopping (at least \$20), comfortable shoes and clothes, sunscreen, and of course, a passion for roller coasters!

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will not have a weekend activity since it will be the start of Summer Break.

The following Saturday, June 29th, we will be hosting the **Midterm Picnic**. Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Notes from the Office

New students: You currently have an *Initial I-20*. Jessica has your new *Active I-20s* which state that you are enrolled at the ELI. With the *Active I-20*, you can get a driver's license, and you will avoid confusion if you exit and reenter the US. If you are a new student, please go to the ELI Main Office (Norman 315) to pick up your *Active I-20s*.

Summer Break and I-20s: Summer break is only a week and a half away! If you plan to leave the US *at all* during the break—even on a cruise or a day trip to Canada, Mexico, or the Bahamas—please come to the office to have your I-20 signed so that you won't have trouble getting back into the country!

Immunizations & Insurance: Remember to take care of this as soon as possible. You will not be allowed to attend class until you do.

Midterm Student Reports

Over the next couple of weeks, your teachers will be giving you feedback on how you are doing in the class. Please remember that their suggestions are a guide to help you progress through the term and achieve the student learning outcomes for your classes. Please make sure you save your midterm forms from your teacher in case you have any questions or in case you need any letters of progress from Patti.

Midterm Course Evaluations

This is your chance to give your feedback to your teachers on how much you are enjoying your classes or to offer any suggestions on activities or skills you would like to work on. Please take the time to fill out these evaluations with thorough comments. Your comments are very helpful!! If it is better for you, you can email your comments to studyenglish@eli.ufl.edu. If you do so, please be sure to put your class (skill and level) in the subject line.

Ramadan

This summer, Ramadan falls at the end of our term during the last five weeks of classes and while finals are given. Because Ramadan is such a lengthy period, special accommodations cannot be made for exams and absences during most days in Ramadan,

except for Eid. We will make sure that we do not have any exams on Eid.

The month of Ramadan may be difficult because it is at the end of the term, and it will be hot. Please keep in mind the importance of working extra hard this term: studying hard and saving all your absences. By doing so, you will have strong grades, and will have learned everything well, so that the end of the term will be less stressful for you. Saving your absences will help you in case you feel very tired at the beginning of the fasting period.

Please remember that we continue to track your attendance through August 8, 2013. All non-probationary students are permitted a maximum of 35 hours of absences regardless of the reason (this includes leaving early, hospital visits, or religious holidays). Students who plan to leave early for Ramadan must consider the immigration implications and how it will affect their grades and promotion for the following term. We cannot make special arrangements for students who leave early and it may mean that you will have to repeat a class. In some cases, your embassy may require you to repay the tuition for the term. If there is an emergency and you must leave early, please make sure that you see Daryl right away.

Study hard and go to all your classes. The end of the term will then much easier for you!

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of June 10 to June 16:

Students:
June 13: Javier Prado Medina

Staff:
June 13: Helen Lin

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do students in the US call teachers by their first names? In my country, this is impolite.

A: Most of us don't. It really depends in most cases on the personal preferences of the professors. In a regular university class, we usually use "Doctor" or "Professor" plus the person's last name. Or, if they don't have a PhD degree, we might use "Mr." or "Ms". At the ELI, though, we are a little less formal—on purpose. We try to foster a less formal and more conversational environment in order to get students talking more.

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

A: American girls like all different kinds of guys so this is probably an incorrect

generalization. While I think American girls do tend to date American guys, I've seen American girls with male ELI students, American guys with female ELI students, and of course, ELI students dating each other. Please remember that the ELI policy prohibits LAs and teachers from dating ELI students!

Grammar

Q: What is the difference between the word lose and loose? When do I use lose or loose?

A: *Lose* is a verb and it means *to misplace* or *to not win*. *Loose* is an adjective which means *not tight*. You'll need to memorize the spelling and the pronunciation. Look at the sentences below to see the difference.

- I always lose my cellphone in my house.
- The players lose the game every time they have to play in the snow.
- My pants are loose so I need to use a belt.

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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