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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 124 Issue 10
July 21, 2014*



Final and Exit Exams

A necessary evil, we know

This coming weekend, Saturday, July 26th, there is no scheduled ELI trip so you can study for your final exams.

All ELI classes will be administering final exams. In addition, you will be taking the CELT, in most Grammar, Listening Speaking, and Business English classes. Both sets of exams are very important for promotion purposes. Please be on time to your classes as all exams must start as scheduled. There are no early CELT tests, no CELT makeups, and late arrivals to the CELT cannot take the exam.

If you are not taking Listening Speaking, please stop by the ELI Main Office to schedule your CELT exam.

The Next Trip

The last weekend of the semester, Saturday, August 2nd, we will be holding our **End of Semester Barbecue at Lake Wauburg**. Details about the activity will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Scholarship Winners

Please join me in congratulating the winners of the Scholarships for the Fall 2014 semester.

The Jayne C. Harder Memorial Scholarship: Maria Reigadas Fernandez

The J.C. Casagrande Peace Scholarship: Francisco Marchi de Azevedo Lourenco

Congratulations as well to the other nominees:

Karen Lopez Valero
Solangel Padilla
Erick Perez Sifontes
Jose Vasquez Rodriguez

Reminders from the Office

Speak English!
Go to class!
Don't smoke on campus!

Fines and Fees: Pay your library fines and your infirmary fees. If you're not sure how to do this, Emily has a handout (Matherly 225F) with instructions. Remember that if you fail to pay your fines and fees, you won't receive your exit package.

Expiring I-20s: If your I-20 is expiring and you plan on returning to the ELI in the summer, you must talk to Daryl **before** the expiration date. It is in section 5 of the I-20.

Guest Column

This week we have a special column from a student, Ohood Alyaman.

Saudi Arabia and Russia are two important countries. They have a lot of differences and some similarities in their cultures. First, the only similarity is there are people who practice Islam in both cultures. Russian culture, on the other hand, has people who practice Orthodox Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, and many other religions. Second, Saudi Arabia is an Arabic speaking culture. In contrast, Russian culture has Slavic, Ukrainian, and Belarusian languages. Next, the most common sport in Saudi Arabia is soccer. Similarly, in Russia, soccer is very important. However, Russia has also many different sports like ice hockey, basketball, and wrestling. Additionally, everyone in Saudi Arabia smiles at everyone while in Russia, a person can only smile at friends and people who he knows, but a smiling in public places is very rude. Another important difference is their traditional outfits. In the Saudi Arabian culture, women wear "abaya" and "niqab" in public which covers her whole body, but in Russia, the women's outfits can be more provocative. Also, the most popular meal in Saudi culture is "kabsa", yet in Russian

culture, soups like “borscht” and “shchi” are the most popular. Finally, the most popular holiday in Russia is Easter because 90% of Russian people celebrate this holiday. However, in Saudi culture, people celebrate two Islamic holidays: “Eid Al-Fitr” which is celebrated after the month of fasting, “Ramadan”, and “Eid Al-Adha” which is the month of Al-Hajj pilgrimage. To sum up, Saudi Arabian culture and Russian culture are very different.

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do Americans wear flip-flops with socks?

A: You can see some people at UF sporting this strange fashion, but you may not get a good answer as to why they do it. One reason may be because wearing flip-flops makes your feet dirty, so wearing them with socks keeps your feet clean.

Q: Why don't people at UF wear a lot of clothes during the winter?

A: This is something unique to Florida. Florida's winters are mild, and the periods of really cold weather only last a few days. One reason people may not wear a lot of clothes during Floridian winters is simply because they don't HAVE any other clothes. They may figure that the cold days will be over soon, so why spend so much money on coats and boots? Still, some people enjoy wearing boots and shorts as a fashion statement.

Grammar

Q: When do you use “neither” and “either” with a negative verb?

A: *Either* is used when you give the negative verb in your answer. *Neither* is used when you don't say a verb in your answer and you are agreeing with a negative verb.

Rafael: I don't like hot weather.

Sasha: I don't either.

Elizabeth: Me neither.

Q: When do I use “so do I” and “so am I”?

A: They both mean that you agree with the person talking but which one you use depends on the verb in the original sentence. Use “so am I” for the *be* verb. Use “so do I” for all other verbs. Look at the conversations that follow:

Joan: I am tired.

Selena: So am I.

Joan: I want to go to the movies.

Selena: So do I.

Special thanks

A special thanks to Reading Writing 31 and Reading Writing 33 for contributing to this edition of the *ELI Weekly*.

Quote of the Week

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

Benjamin Franklin



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