



# The Parrot

Your ARC newsletter by and for ESL, multicultural, international students, new Californians, and, well, anybody really...

Issue #41

Spring 2010

## Shoot for the Stars: Cecilia Hernandez

**Parrot 1:** Can you tell us your full name? tions?

**Cecilia:** My full name? Cecilia Hernández. **Cecilia:** Yes, we learn the constellations.

**Parrot 1:** Are you Spanish?

**Cecilia:** Spanish is my first language. I am from Puerto Rico.

**Parrot 2:** What do you teach at ARC campus?

**Cecilia:** I teach Physics and Astronomy.

**Parrot 1:** Astronomy? That is interesting. What do you teach in Astronomy class?



Ligia ( Parrot 1) and Prof. Hernandez

**Cecilia:** We study the planets, the stars, the sky, the moon... everything about the cosmos.

**Parrot 1:** That is interesting stuff.

**Parrot 2:** You know, like, the constella-

**Parrot 2:** So for example with a telescope right now you can recognize Virgo and all that?

**Cecilia:** Yes, most of those.

**Parrot 1:** How did you end up teaching here?

**Cecilia:** Here at ARC?

**Parrot 1:** Yeah

**Everyone:** ( laugh )

**Cecilia:** I graduated and I found the job announcement. I applied for it. Came for an interview, the funniest, most unusual interview ever . I left the interview thinking it would be wonderful to work here; that's how cool that interview was. Then I got offered the job and I moved all the

*Continued on pages 17, 18 & 19*

## Enjoying Multicultural Night: Song, Dance & Food

American River College's International Students again provided a lively night of entertainment recently on campus. Groups of students from different cultures sang and danced the night away, leaving all of us excited for next year's event. Each group presented traditional dances, songs and clothing to all in attendance. Also, the ARC Inter-Club Council graciously sponsored delicious food. Jamil Malik (Student Personnel Assistant of International Students) compli-



Experiencing the fun of diversity!

mented this year's performers for "making this Multicultural Night the most colorful and diverse" to date. For all who didn't get to experience this year's fun, put it on your calendars for next year.

Also, don't forget you still have an opportunity to learn and experience different cultures and traditions by attending the weeklong Multicultural Festivities coming up on campus April 27th - April 29th.

Prof. Elizabeth Moon

How Well Do You Know Your Campus? See page 11

"Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours"

Yogi Berra



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### Inside this Issue

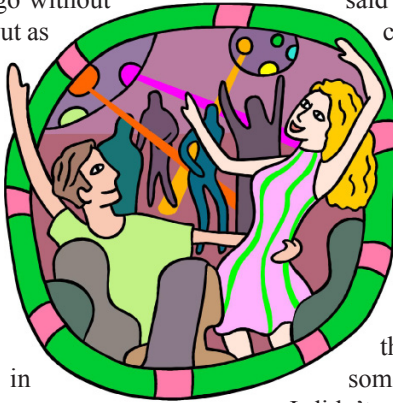
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# Student Chirpings

## The Dance

When I was sixteen years old, I had four friends. They were older than me. We were together all the time. If I had to go somewhere, they would go with me, so I had to be supportive as well. One day, in a town nearby there was a wedding dance. I asked my dad if I could go. He didn't let me go, so I decided to go without his permission. That day my friends and I went out as usual, and we were supposed to get back at ten. We went to the dance. It was wonderful until we saw my aunt, my dad's sister, and I knew she would tell my dad we were there. I was scared thinking what would happen if my parents found out I was there. I told my friends what was happening and we went back home before nine. When we got home, my dad was feeling happy because we obeyed him without arguing.

The next day, I was working outside my house in the yard when my aunt walked by. Usually, she never came to town, but she came to get a flu shot. My dad met her on his way home. When I looked at her, I was pale and scared. Would she tell my dad that I was at the dance the day before? Could she have mercy on me by not telling my dad? What would happen? I shouldn't have gone to the dance without permission, but it was too late. "What is next?" I asked myself, "a week without friends or



without my guitar?" "Time to dinner!" yelled my mom. There was no choice. We all had to get together for dinner no matter what. It was a rule and very important in my family. I went to the table, and I sat down waiting for my dad's rebuke. Dinner ended and nobody said anything about the dance. I felt relief and knew I could sleep better that night.

I think my dad knew we went to the dance because he was very quiet and observed me during dinner. I could not look him in the eyes, and did not talk much which was unusual for me. So I think he knew that I was feeling guilty and learned my lesson. His strategy was to let me worry whether I will be punished or not. Not knowing whether I would be punished was worse than any punishment I would receive. I understood something bad could have happened that night, and I didn't enjoy the dance at all. I never disobeyed my dad again. Now I think how could I have gone so far without my dad's permission.

Alma Saldana  
ESLG 320

## Whole Foods: The Only Place to Shop

We live in a time when air and soil are polluted, vegetables and fruits are full of pesticides and food doesn't have enough vitamins and minerals that people need. For this reason I prefer to buy organic food at the Whole Foods Store. It's my favorite grocery store because it is organized well, shop assistants are kind and helpful and I feel like a queen in a kingdom of food when shopping there.

First of all, when I come into the store I am attracted by the smart and clean organization. I can see green vegetables exhibited on the shelves by the wall. Fruits, cheese and other vegetables are exhibited on the tables in the middle of the aisle. All shoppers can easily walk, look around and choose what they want. I always feel like I am walking around small islands of bounty, where sometimes I can taste new foods placed on plates everywhere.

Second the shop assistants are so kind and helpful, that I always ask them for help and explanations. They have a lot of knowledge about healthy food, vitamins and minerals. They help me when I need to find a specific product or can not

decide which product would be best. They also let me return any product that I may later decide I do not like.

Third, Whole Foods is a kingdom of food where I am the queen getting my nourishment. I can find all organic products here from food and ending with soap. I can taste their already prepared food and smell the charming smell of coffee. I can have a slice of pie and a glass of freshly squeezed fruit. These things make me joyful, happy and satisfied all day.

Summarizing my thoughts about the Whole Foods Store I can say that everyone who wants to live longer and be healthier for their entire life must go shopping here. It's the best food store around. Maybe their food is more expensive, but our health matters more. There is nothing more expensive than everything in our lives.



Jurate Kasparaviciene  
ESL W40

## Reasons to Choose Fast-Food Restaurants

A lot of people only see negative sides of fast-food. Sometimes they are so used to this point of view they can't look on it from another side. Well, Roger Babson, an entrepreneur and business theorist, once said: "It is wise to keep in mind that neither success nor failure is ever final." So, I tried to take a look at restaurants from different points of view and I found three good reasons for choosing fast-food restaurants: affordable price, many locations, and fast service.

The first and main reason for choosing fast-food is affordable prices. Many of us always want to save money, especially now, when the economic situation is tough. Fast-food is one of the ways to save some money. Back in Ukraine, my country, one of my friends, who is a student, said, "For the money I spent with my girlfriend in an expensive restaurant, I could eat a whole month." That's true. Meals in popular Ukrainian restaurants will cost you about \$100. At the same time, eating hot-dogs or "chebureks" (national Ukrainian fast-food) is about hundred times cheaper. As a result, you will get 100 meals instead of one. Fast-food savings works for me too, often when the end of the month comes, until I get my next paycheck. Well, I guess almost everyone is now looking for more savings because of economic crisis.

The second reason for eating fast-food is the many locations. You can find at least one fast-food restaurant almost everywhere. Once, I was driving with a friend and she decided to count fast-food places on our way to college. In five-minutes she counted around ten of them. Probably it is really hard to die from hunger unless you forget your wallet. Restaurants are available even in some really strange and far-reaching places. A month ago my friend was driving through the mountains and saw a little fast-food restaurant of a famous name on top of a high mountain. That was weird and funny. Truthfully, you probably can find your favorite fast-food anywhere around the US and sometimes even in different countries. I always enjoyed going to McDonald's in Kiev,

Ukraine. The restaurant is on Khrischatik Street. It is fancy and nice looking and has all the attributes of a usual McDonald's. It has good service as in normal restaurants and they have tasty food known by everyone there, for example, Big Mac or cheeseburger. They taste way better than their US versions, especially burgers. Of course, the food quality will go down with time. Instead fast-food will be available in more locations.



The last reason to visit a fast-food eatery is the fast service. This is another reason why so many people choose fast-food. Often we are running and trying not to be late somewhere. We just do not have time to eat or to drink a cup of coffee in the morning. This is a perfect moment to choose fast-food with a "drive-thru". Often, before work, I go to Starbucks through their "drive-thru" to get my coffee. There is always a huge line of cars with people who don't have time to make their coffee at home. Well, the same thing happens to most fast-food restaurants. How many of us have been in a situation when there wasn't time to cook and the only way is to go to the "drive-thru"? I think almost everyone has been there at least once. I know a lot of people who spend many hours driving. They say the "drive-thru" is a really great idea for saving time. It is really sad "drive-thru" isn't that popular in Ukraine. There are only a few places where you can buy food "to go."

So even though fast-food is not the healthiest food, it is affordable, fast and available. These three factors are making a lot of people prefer fast-food restaurants to famous expensive restaurants and home cooking. Eating fast-food all the time isn't a good idea, but having it once in a while is really fun and helps to save some money.

Bogdan Komlyk  
ESLW 50

### Fast Facts About Fast Food

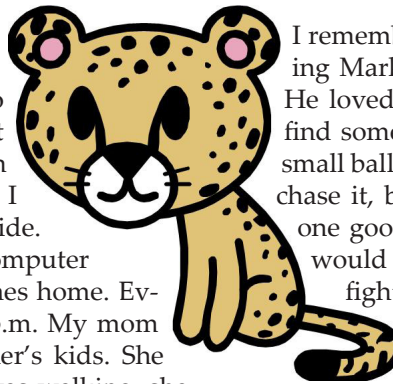
- Every month, approximately nine out of 10 American children visit a McDonald's restaurant.
- During the early 1900s, the hamburger was thought to be polluted, unsafe to eat, and food for the poor. Street carts, not restaurants, typically served them
- Proportionally, hash browns have more fat and calories than a cheeseburger or Big Mac.
- To keep salaries low, McDonald's and other fast food chains have intentionally engaged in anti-union activities
- Today, Coca-Cola and PepsiCo products are sold in every country in the world, except North Korea
- Late comedian and talk-show host Johnny Carson labeled the hamburger the "McClog the Artery"
- In 2005, Advertising Age cited Ronald McDonald as the number two top-10 advertising icon of the twentieth century. The Marlboro Man was number one
- The first located printed reference to hamburgers appeared in the Los Angeles Times in 1894

## The Remembered One

Watching him die on my front porch was a terrible thing. His name was Markus. A smart cat we had but not as smart as you might think he was. One day a car hit him. However, he managed to crawl to my front porch and that's where he was dying. I couldn't believe it. That was the last time I saw him alive, bleeding and lying on the ground helplessly dying. I had lost something very precious to me.

It started out a beautiful evening day. At five o'clock, I went to my backyard to play some basketball and I let Markus out to go play outside. Markus ran to someplace not far from my house to play. I was having fun playing basketball for about one hour. After I got bored shooting some hoops, I went inside. I washed my hands and decided to play computer games. Fifteen minutes later, my mom comes home. Everything went very well until it was 7:30 p.m. My mom just came back from babysitting my brother's kids. She went outside to pick up the mail. As she was walking, she noticed Markus lying on the ground bleeding and his intestines weren't a pretty sight. My mom called me and she said "look." I felt like I was about to cry but I couldn't. My mom, on the other hand, was crying. She was crying because she had raised Markus to a big cat and this is what had happened to him. I realized I was going to miss the good times I had with Markus. He was more than just a friend to me.

Before he died, I had some good memories of Markus -- the first day my dad brought Markus into the house. He was a white cat with a few black spots on him. He was very shy and as he was a young kitten, he loved to stay in his little box. When he was born he had a damaged tail that looked



like a hook. Every night, he would come to my room and sit by the window and he would stare out to the streets while cars passed by one by one. Later, he would get bored of that; he would later jump into my bed and lie by me sleeping. The best time I had with him was playing with him using a string and making him chase after it. That was a day I would never forget.

I remember the good times I had with Markus. Walking Markus to the park was very enjoyable and fun. He loved to dig into holes and he always wanted to find something good. Lots of times when I brought a small ball and when I would throw it, he would go and chase it, but he wouldn't bring it back to me. This is one good time I had a lot of fun with Markus. If he would have seen any other cats he would go try to fight them. I would have to break up the fight by running to him to pick him up. He would get mad, but I just want him to be safe. After playing for a while in the park, we would go home to eat. Then we would end our day by going to sleep. He would fall asleep and lie on my bed.

In conclusion, I realized, I will miss that poor fellow. There was nothing I could have really done to help him, but to only say "Pal, I'll miss you." It was very hard to say my goodbyes. It was a tough ending for my mom and especially for me. Especially, when I had lost something very precious to me, it's almost like I wanted to cry. I will never forget that day. I will always miss Markus.

Valentin Kerez  
ESLW 50

## Our Pet Facts About Pets

- In 1945, Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte -- the last surviving member of the famous Bonaparte family -- died from injuries sustained while tripping over his dog's leash.
- Every year, some 2.5 million people get new puppies.
- In the U.S., the two most popular cat names are Tiger and Samantha.
- An ailurophile is a person who likes cats.
- Cats and people both have identical regions in the brain responsible for emotion.
- Who do you think cats respond better to -- men or women? In fact, it's women, perhaps because they have a higher pitch to their voice.
- Signs that your cat trusts you include snoring and rolling over on his back to expose his belly.
- There are 75 million cats in the U.S., with 35.5% of the nation's households having at least one cat.
- One cat, two cats, three cats, four... some 50% of cat owners have more than one cat.
- It's sad but true; 52% of pet owners report that their pets get more exercise than they do!
- The only mammals with prostates are people and dogs.
- Among dogs officially registered with kennel clubs in the U.S., Labrador Retrievers are the most popular breed followed by Rottweilers and German Shepherds.
- At his Key West, Florida home, Ernest Hemingway was famous for keeping pets, lots of them, and many of which had six toes on their front paws!
- It's a proven fact that you can lower your blood pressure by stroking a cat.
- A cat's sense of smell is a whopping 14 times stronger than a human's!

## Name Your Poem! (ESLR 340)

Love to eat tasty foods  
 Yummy ice cream in the freezer  
 Uncle comes to drink some tea  
 Daughter eats all Hershey candy  
 Icy Pudding on the top  
 Lemon frosting in the middle  
 And everything is set for dinner

Am I happy?  
 No I'm not  
 Always busy, always worry  
 Too much homework every day  
 Only my family helps me out  
 Love is an amazing thing  
 I love my family  
 Yes I do

Remembering those days of my childhood  
 On days full of happiness, some others of sadness  
 Simplify my life and think that I still have my dreams to accomplish  
 Alone or with my partner the goals have to be completed

Engaging myself during this rocky way  
 Maintaining the serenity to try keeping going  
 Ignoring sometimes my tiredness and frustration  
 Looking at different alternatives to achieve it  
 Idealizing in my mind the triumph that will come one day  
 Appearing through the clouds closer each day

One can say when one looks at her  
 Likes to play with kids & baseball  
 Getting older every year  
 Always stays eighteen in soul

Apples are delicious  
 Lying on the ground  
 I admire beauty  
 Nature that provides us  
 Artist tries to paint  
 Some fragments of beauty  
 Apple looks like real  
 Visible marks of master  
 Carry your mind to the  
 Harmony of nature

Peek a boo, I said to my child.  
 At the in-laws house  
 So my child felt so good, she fell asleep for a while.  
 Hurry, my husband said to me.  
 As he knew what I did (actually he didn't)

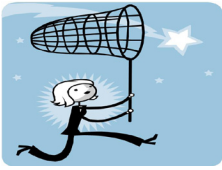


A lesson that I have learned from it  
 Nothing is impossible  
 Xmas will come  
 Imagine what will happen  
 Another surprise will appear  
 Nothing is impossible  
 Glad to see you again  
 Link you and me together  
 I dare to say  
 Nothing is impossible

All the bright stars on the dark sky  
 Looks like a perfect night  
 Every one is dancing around  
 Joyful expressions on their faces are visible  
 Abundant laughs heard all around  
 Nobody is worried for their problems in life  
 Daily routine doesn't go anymore  
 Repenting change for that moment goes  
 A perfect night is good for us

Hand on hand walking together  
 And I feel the sky spin out  
 Nobody sees my feelings  
 Heart on heart beating up together

Thanks for everything I have  
 Especially people who I love  
 That always lead me to improve  
 You never fall if it was hard  
 A most important in the world  
 Never forget to be helpful and kind  
 And awesome people that you love



## Netscape - Articles from the Web

### Much Hyped iPad Hits the Market

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) – Apple’s hotly-anticipated iPads are finally in consumers’ hands in what the maker of iPods and iPhones heralds as a personal computing revolution.

While Apple Stores were thronged for the iPad debut in the United States Saturday and the California firm was flooded with pre-orders, analysts said it remained to be seen whether the tablet computers would transform culture. “We think it will be a success no matter what,” Gartner Research vice president Ken Dulaney told AFP. “Tablets have not done well in the past. If Apple changes that paradigm, they are on a new road.”

Innovative new applications “plus using it as a television set” should drive iPad purchases, according to Delaney. The Walt Disney Company has released an application for watching ABC television shows on the iPad. US video rental titan Netflix and Warner Brothers entertainment studio have “apps” to deliver content to the devices.

Most consumers want to use mobile devices like the iPad to work while on the go, according to a Sybase survey released last month.

More than half of smartphone users (52.3 percent) said they would be most interested in using a new tablet device like the iPad for work than watching movies (48.2 percent) and television programs (35.4 percent).

Software savants who made fortunes crafting mini-programs for iPhone and iPod Touch devices were quick to focus on designing applications for the iPad. Facts: The new Apple iPad

The enthusiasm of developers bodes well for iPad, since the “ecosystem” of fun or functional programs is credited with being behind Apple mobile gadgets’ success as marketplace stars. iPad programs were filling up virtual shelves of Apple’s online iTunes shop. Even Internet leader Google threw its weight behind the iPad, rolling out a version of its free Web-based email service for Apple’s latest creation.

And while the iPad is seen as a threat to Kindle electronic readers, Amazon.com has released an application that lets people read digital books from the Kindle Store on the Apple gadgets. German TV journalist Richard Gutjahr, 36, said he hoped the multi-media device would bind together the increasingly fractured media market and help newspapers and other outlets collect revenue in an age where content circulates for nothing on the Internet. “I believe our work must be paid and if this will help, then that would be great,” he said after securing his small place in consumer history as the first person to exit the New York City Apple Store with a new iPad.

The 9.7-inch (24.6 centimeter) device allows users to watch video, listen to music, play games, surf the Web or read electronic books.

It runs most of the 150,000 applications made for the iPod Touch and the iPhone.

Unlike a laptop, the keyboard is touchscreen, making for a far slimmer, lighter package. It starts up as easily as a phone, customers said, and has lightning-fast Internet access. Related article: iPad, latest of many groundbreaking products by Apple

“The iPad is, in many ways, simply a proof of concept that’s certain to get better over time,” said Scott Steinberg, head of technology consulting firm TechSavvy Global.

“More importantly, it may prompt a paradigm shift in the way we look at portable computing, including serving to reignite interest in the tablet personal computer category as a whole.”

The flagship Apple Store in New York greeted hundreds of people Saturday who had waited since just after dawn with high fives, whooping and a New Year’s Eve-style countdown.

Many of the shoppers were from outside the United States, the first and initially the only country to sell the touchscreen tablet, retailing at between 499 and 829 dollars.

Adi Thomas, who flew in from Australia, said the iPad was “slim, beautiful.” “I really want to get it home and play with it,” said Thomas, 38.

IT consultant Hans Schoenmakers, 49, proudly declared himself the first Dutch person to own the shiny gadget. “It’s better than I thought. I will use it for email while on the couch -- and Internet and reading books,” he said.

The iPad leapt into the Top Ten list of topics at microblogging service Twitter, where buyers described it as “awesome” and “amazing.” “Wow, loving the iPad so far,” Digg social news website founder Kevin Rose said in a Twitter message.

Critics were also busy tweeting, with comments bashing the devices weighing in roughly equal with messages of adoration, according to Tweetfeel, a service that gauges sentiment by analyzing Twitter streams.

iPads quickly popped up on popular online auction website eBay, some offered at prices hundreds of dollars higher than those charged at Apple stores.

There was an array of offers at eBay to sell website names or email addresses playing off “iPad.” One seller was asking 999.99 dollars for the rights to “ipad-expert@hotmail.com.”

Analysts predict Apple will sell 300,000 to 400,000 iPads by the end of the weekend.

The model that went on sale two Saturdays ago features Wi-Fi wireless connectivity, while a model offering both Wi-Fi and 3G cellular connectivity will appear late April.



## For College Students: 6 Summer Jobs that that Have Fun Benefits to Make Up for Low Wages

College students rarely have high paying jobs, because their schedules require jobs that have flexible hours. Luckily, college students can still find summer jobs that have fun benefits. These summer jobs may come with free meals, discounts, free hotel rooms, etc. If you're interested in finding a job that has fun benefits, check out these jobs.

### #1: Fast Food

Fast food is the perfect summer job for college students. Fast food restaurants not only give college student flexible hours, but fast food restaurants also give their employees free meals while they're on duty. Once you clock out, you'll still receive discounts when you come in on your days off.

### #2: Retail Cashier

Working at a place like Walmart only makes sense for college students. After all, don't you spend most of your money there anyways? Well why not get a discount when you shop there? Walmart is always looking to hire college students for summer jobs. Not only will college students enjoy the fun benefit of getting 10% off their purchases, but it's also fun to work in the department of your choice. Spending your time working in electronics will allow you to grab games and movies as soon as they are released.

### #3: Video Store Clerk

What college student doesn't love movies? If you love movies more than the average person, why not work in a video store? Not only will you get to enjoy movies while you

work, but this summer job has several other fun benefits as well, such as taking movies home for free. You also be able to grab new releases before everyone else does.

### #4: Theme Park Ride Operator

Theme parks are the ultimate summer destination. They're also the ultimate summer job for college students. Let's face it, theme parks are fun. Working in a theme park, obviously won't be as fun as just visiting a theme park, but this job does come with fun benefits. You'll be able to bring your friends for free and theme parks often offer free tickets to other theme parks in the area. You'll also be able to enjoy all your theme park food at a discount.

### #5: Movie Theater Attendant

Want to see new movies as soon as they hit the theater? Then why not work at a movie theater? If you're a movie attendant, you'll be to watch movies while making sure people keep quiet and behave. This is a summer job that will be hard for college students to give up.

### #6: Hotel Desk Clerk

Working in a hotel has one fun benefit and that's discounts at hotels in other locations. You'll be able to pick your destination and then receive a huge discount off your room. Also, many hotels offer their employees free vacations as a reward for hard work. You may want to hold on to this job longer than the summer so that you can get a great deal during Spring Break.

<http://www.associatedcontent.com>

## LSSU's Banished Words of the Year

Every year since 1976, Lake Superior State University has released a "List of Words Banished from the Queen's English for Mis-Use, Over-Use and General Uselessness" on New Year's Day. While the school cheerfully admits that the tongue-in-cheek tradition is meant to draw publicity to Michigan's smallest public university, the list is widely enjoyed, and hundreds of nominations are received every year.

### LSSU's Banished Words: 2010

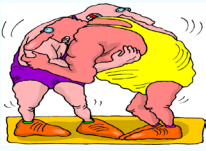
- Shovel-ready – ready to implement or begin
- Transparent/transparency
- Czar
- Tweet
- App

- Sexting
- Friend as a verb
- Teachable moment
- In these economic times...
- Stimulus
- Toxic Assets
- Too big to fail
- Bromance – a friendly relationship between two men
- Chillaxin'
- Obama as prefix– Obamanation, Obamacare

<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0934859.html>



# Parrot Warbling



## Grappling with Grammar

### A, An or The?

When do we say “the dog” and when do we say “a dog”? (On this page we talk only about singular, countable nouns.)

The and a/an are called “articles”. We divide them into “definite” and “indefinite” like this:

Articles	
Definite	Indefinite
the	a, an

We use “definite” to mean sure, certain. “Definite” is particular.

We use “indefinite” to mean not sure, not certain. “Indefinite” is general.

When we are talking about one thing in particular, we use the. When we are talking about one thing in general, we use a or an.

Think of the sky at night. In the sky we see 1 moon and millions of stars. So normally we would say:

- I saw the moon last night.
- I saw a star last night.

the	a, an
<b>The</b> capital of France is Paris.	I was born in <b>a</b> town.
I have found <b>the</b> book that I lost.	John had <b>an</b> omelette for lunch.
Have you cleaned <b>the</b> car?	James Bond ordered <b>a</b> drink.
There are six eggs in <b>the</b> fridge.	We want to buy <b>an</b> umbrella.
Please switch off <b>the</b> TV when	Have you got <b>a</b> pen?

Of course, often we can use the or a/an for the same word. It depends on the situation, not the word. Look at these examples:

- We want to buy an umbrella. (Any umbrella, not a particular umbrella.)
- Where is the umbrella? (We already have an umbrella. We are looking for our umbrella, a particular umbrella.)

## Idiom-Attic



### Smell a Rat

How come the front door is open? Didn't you close it before we went shopping?

I'm sure I did. I can't understand it. Frankly, **I smell a rat.**

Me, too. **I'm convinced that something is definitely wrong here.** We'd better call the police.

<http://www.englishdaily626.com/idioms.php>

### Beak Speak

- Dermatoglyphics, mis-conjugatedly, and un-copyrightable, each fifteen letters long, are the longest English words in which no letter appears more than once. Fourteen letter words with this property are ambidextrously, benzhydroxamic, hydromagnetics, hydropneumatic, pseudomythical, schizotrypanum, sulphogermanic, troublemakings, undiscoverably, and vesiculography
- Facetiously, eleven letters long, is the shortest word in the English language that contains all six vowels in alphabetical order. A twelve letter word with this property is abstemiously. The fourteen letter words adventitiously and sacrilegiously have this property but also have repeated vowels.
- You and ewe are pronounced the same but share no letters in common. Eye and I is another such pair. Oh and eau is yet another.
- Few words (excluding four letter words) start with the same four letters they end with. These include uricosuric and the nonsense word abracadabra. As a special case, eight letter words with this property are beriberi, caracara, chowchow, couscous, froufrou, greegree, guitguit, hotshots, kavakava, lavalava, mahimahi, and matamata.



<http://www.rinkworks.com/words/oddities.shtml>



## Some More Parrot Fun Stuff



### Dogs Wordsearch

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an Ogden Nash quotation. Answers on page...

D	E	I	L	L	O	C	B	A	S	S	E	T	H	O	U	N	D	Y
R	R	A	P	E	K	I	N	G	E	S	E	D	G	R	E	O	O	K
E	R	E	D	N	U	O	H	Y	E	R	G	N	D	E	T	I	S	S
I	D	W	H	H	L	B	R	A	T	A	I	R	B	Z	U	D	O	U
R	G	N	I	P	E	H	I	E	R	D	A	S	O	U	M	P	L	H
R	P	E	U	A	E	E	A	E	T	N	R	R	X	A	A	D	E	B
E	P	O	G	O	P	H	V	S	R	N	O	E	E	N	L	A	I	L
T	T	L	M	R	H	E	S	E	A	T	I	C	R	H	A	C	N	C
S	E	U	A	E	I	R	B	N	T	A	H	O	B	C	M	H	A	C
F	H	H	E	R	R	T	E	W	A	I	P	U	P	S	A	S	P	C
F	S	E	T	N	N	A	E	E	H	M	L	S	E	T	R	H	S	H
I	Z	E	E	I	A	I	N	U	D	L	R	T	O	E	S	U	R	C
T	R	T	A	P	L	D	A	I	D	L	T	E	H	P	A	N	E	U
S	L	S	I	E	D	H	T	O	A	E	Y	C	G	P	M	D	K	N
A	O	N	R	P	U	O	G	A	R	N	S	O	P	I	O	T	C	C
M	H	E	W	A	S	R	G	O	E	N	N	R	U	H	Y	G	O	S
N	A	I	T	A	M	L	A	D	I	R	I	G	G	W	E	D	C	E
C	H	O	W	C	H	O	W	P	O	F	G	I	E	L	D	O	O	P

BASSET HOUND  
BEAGLE  
BLOODHOUND  
BOXER  
BULLDOG  
CHIHUAHUA  
CHOW CHOW  
COCKER SPANIEL  
COLLIE  
CORGI

DACHSHUND  
DALMATIAN  
DEERHOUND  
DINGO  
GERMAN SHEPHERD  
GREAT DANE  
GREYHOUND  
HUSKY  
LHASA APSO  
MALAMUTE

MASTIFF  
PEKINGESE  
PINSCHER  
POINTER  
POMERANIAN  
POODLE  
PUG  
RETRIEVER  
ROTTWEILER  
SAINT BERNARD

SAMOYED  
SCHNAUZER  
SETTER  
SHAR PEI  
SHEEPDOG  
SPITZ  
TERRIER  
WHIPPET

## Friendship

Why have so many people in your life when  
You already have the few good ones.

Be thankful for the few friends that you have,

Because there are a few people who see others  
as part of the world they live in.

If one person can't live up to your standard,  
then how can a hundred?

Who are we to judge anyway?

People won't always live up to your expectations

But friends would care about what you think,  
life is good.

People misunderstand you.

The real question is, how many understand  
you in the first place?

Relationship takes practice, only time buys  
that understanding.

Not trusting anybody asks the question if you  
are worth trusting.

Why criticize what you have no idea of?

Because you are one of those who think you  
know.

A smile is worth always having on, it never gets  
old.

Find those who make your smile expand; they  
are the ones who care.

Bisi Obateru

## Fun Puns

- Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
- Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.
- The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it. ...
- Every calendar's days are numbered.

## Rigoberto's Riddles

What's as big as you are yet doesn't weigh an ounce?

*A shadow*

How is it possible to shave three times  
a day and still grow a beard?

*If you were a barber you could shave other men three times a day and still grow your own beard.*



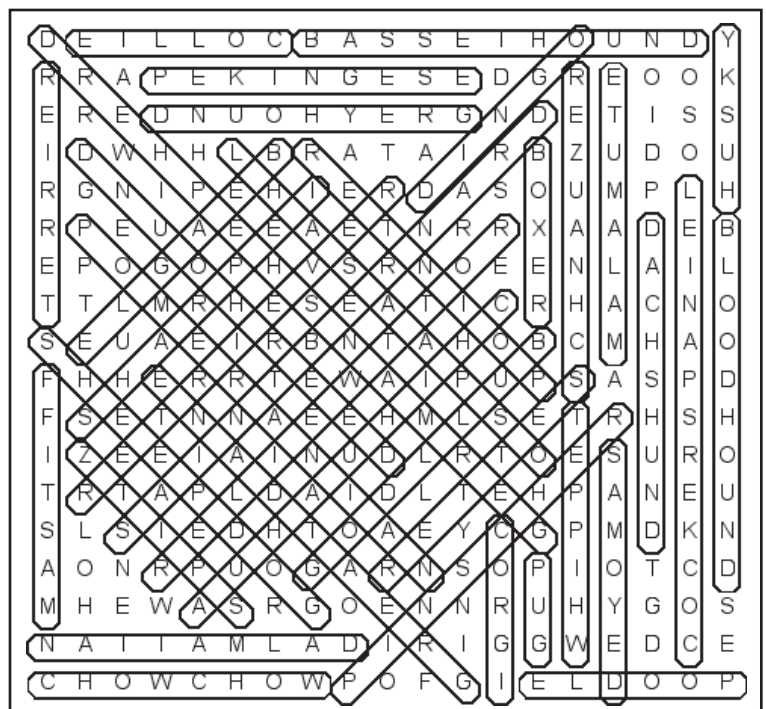
## Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber



A guy shows up late for work. The boss yells, "You should've been here at 8:30!" The guy replies, "Why? What happened at 8:30?"

A young man called directory assistance. "Hello, operator, I would like the telephone number for Mary Jones in Phoenix, Arizona." "There are multiple listings for Mary Jones in Phoenix," the operator replied. "Do you have a street name?" The young man hesitated, and then said, "Well, most people call me Ice Man."

## Solutions for Puzzle on Page





## The Three Sisters: Rada, Ella, Inga (Counselors on Courting)

Dear Sisters,

I like a boy who doesn't speak my language and isn't from my country. He likes me too. A lot. I'd like to introduce him to my family but I know my parents won't like him because he's not from our country. Do you have any advice? Did you ever have this problem?

**Juana Ragazo**

Dear Juana,

Don't do the same mistake as I did. Last year I invited my boyfriend for dinner to meet my parents. While eating the dinner my boyfriend was nervous and confused because he spoke the other language and he could not respond in the native language we speak at our house. In my opinion you should go shopping with your boyfriend and your family together. In this case your boyfriend will have a chance to show his kindness and love. You should tell him to buy at least something for each person in your family and that he should always give you many compliments and sometimes ask your parents if they need some help. I promise after that day they will like him more. If your boyfriend don't have enough money to buy the presents for your family you should think about your relationship. If he doesn't have it now how can you be sure that he will have it later for your own family? Think about your future!!!

**Rada**

Dear Juana,

The most perfect moment when you can introduce your boyfriend to your parents is New Year's or at your birthday party. If I were you, I would make a fancy-dress ball. Then I would send post cards

to all my family members and friends, and of course to my lovely boyfriend. The post cards will have some words...At first, it will say that everybody who will come to the party has to wear fairy-tale dresses.

Secondly, in the beginning of this party there will be a competition in which everybody will introduce their costumes. I know everyone who's from my family will wear their movie hero costumes. However, my boyfriend will wear his costume of "Prince of America". That's how he will be able to speak English. It will be interesting and nice, because it seems like he is keeping his image. After the fancy dress-ball is over, they will see him in his "Prince of America" costume and they will accept him as being American. They will all understand not only his language but what he represents. Everyone would accept him as a person and his language would be understood by everyone. Have fun!

**Inga**

Dear Juana,

Invite your boyfriend over to your house for afternoon cake. Before he comes over prepare him by teaching him a few polite phrases in your language and the answers to 3 or 4 questions that you think your parents will ask him. Before the big day remind him to bring a small token, like flowers or some fruit, to give to your parents. Also, the most important thing he should bring is his smile. If he smiles, that will go a long way in helping your parents accept him. Let us know how it turns out!

**Ella's Mom**

(Because Ella's been grounded)



Ella, Rada, Inga

## Granny Noetal

Dear Granny,

Our teacher – we love her – but we sometimes can not understand her. She writes on the board and talk to us at same time but she is facing the chalk board. Also her writing is hard to read. Students complain among ourselves but no one wants to tell her because we don't want to hurt her feelings. What should we do?

**Anonymous**

Dear Anonymous,

You are very kind to think about your teacher's feelings. You also have touched on something that probably happens a lot in life – turning our backs when talking to other people. Perhaps it's because we are so often in a rush. People living together sometimes do this – they even try to talk to each other through doors and walls! In a classroom, teachers might do it because they're trying to communicate with you in two ways – verbally and visually. When



learning another language, it can be hard for students to both listen and read at the same time. Teachers sometimes forget because they get so excited about what they're doing.

I might suggest that you can point to this column and ask your teacher if she thinks that teachers do this a lot. Maybe she'll be reflective and wonder if she does it. A second, easier, solution would be for students to simply ask the teacher to repeat what she said – raise your hand! If it's the handwriting, ask the teacher to write a bit larger. You won't hurt the teacher's feelings if you ask politely. If you are really concerned about the teacher's feelings, one of you might ask to speak to her after class. Granny did this once in a class many, many years ago and the teacher was happy that I was so interested in what he had to say. I really wasn't, but I didn't want him to turn his back on the class because there was a rude boy pulling my ponytail. I finally had to straighten that boy out on the playground.

**Granny**

# Parenting the Parrot Way!

## Positive Guidance



Prof. Moon's kids

Parents are often trying to find the right balance to providing positive guidance for their children. However, we don't always succeed. Sometimes we may be a kind of ogre (think Shrek) that threatens or creates fear in our child, and other times we allow our child to be the ruler, without concern for others.

However Carol Gestwicki in the Growing Child newsletter provides a third alternative: The kind of adult who helps children slowly learn how to live within the parameters of acceptable and respectful behavior, without fear or the absence of self-control. This is setting positive boundaries for a child's behavior.

She suggests the following guidelines for helping our children live successfully and respectfully in their world.

1. Parents offer two choices that are acceptable to both child and adult. Choices support children's need to be independent, as well as define the limit and acceptable behavior. This gives children some control over what is happening.

"Do you want to walk to the car by yourself, or do you want me to carry you?"

This is an example of positive guidance. Either way, the child is getting to the car, but the parent is allowing the child a measure of control.

2. Another positive guidance strategy is to provide alternatives to the unacceptable direction of behavior.

In early childhood-speak, we call this "redirection", which is simply offering an acceptable alternative to an unacceptable behavior.

It is completely unacceptable to kick little sister or the dining room table leg. Providing a big Nerf ball allows the child to redirect the kicking impulse and energy to the backyard where it belongs.

"Those are Daddy's books," Mom says to the toddler, "Here, let's find your books to look at instead."

3. Help children understand "when"... "then." This kind of statement helps children know the next appropriate step or behavior, and places the child firmly responsible for what happens next.

"When you put on your jacket, then you may go outside."  
"When you stop screaming, then you may come back and join us in the family room."

4. Tell children how you feel and why. "I statements" (like "I feel scared when you climb on the shelf, because you could fall and get hurt," or "I feel angry when you yell names at your brother, because that hurts his feelings.") describe what is going on, your feelings, and the reason for your feelings.

Such communication teaches children that their actions affect others, giving them a reason to modify their behavior.

After all, the relationship you have with your child means that your child is happier knowing his/her behavior has been pleasing to you, so your less positive feelings become motivations to change.

5. The last strategy is being quite specific in your comments when you see your children behaving appropriately.

Explaining exactly what it is that children are doing appropriately, and why, means you will see that behavior repeated.

"You are picking up the baby's toy for her. That makes her happy, because she couldn't reach it herself."

There is power in positive guidance, the power of helping your children learn appropriate behaviors, and the power of helping you become an authoritative, effective parent.

*Carol Gestwicki wrote this article for growingchild.com. I rewrote and added to the article.*

## Artie's Easel

Dear Artie,

What's coming up in the art exhibit and tour areas? 'm planning to take a day off and explore some special art shows. Can you give me some ideas for new events?

### Always On The Move

Dear On The Move,

Here is what is on my planner for the next couple of months: April 1st-May 15th: Visit the wonderful ceramic sculpture show with works by Lee Kavaljian and Tony Natsoulas. Look for "Lee counts his snails under the Bodhi Tree" and "Spiral Spirit House" when you visit this show. You can find works by these two artists at the Solomon Dubnick Gallery located at 1017 25th Street in Sacramento. Hours are 11 AM to 6 PM Tuesday through Saturday and from 2 PM to 9 PM on the second Saturday of the month.



Prof White -- Artie's Mentor

Thursday, June 28, 2010: Creative Arts League Tour to the de Young Museum and The Conservatory of Flowers in San Francisco. Visit the "Birth of Impressionism" exhibit which puts forth nearly 100 works by the famous masters who called France their home during the mid-19th Century and from whose midst arose one of the most original and recognizable of all artistic styles, "Impressionism." This show begins with paintings by naturalist artists such as Bougereau and Courbet and presents American expatriate James McNeil Whistler's "Arrangement in Gray and Black", known to many as "Whistler's Mother." Early work by Manet, Monet, Renoir and Sisley are also on view along with a selection of Degas' paintings that depict images of the ballet, the racetrack and life in "la

Belle Epoque."

In conjunction with the Impressionism exhibit the CALS' tour will visit The Conservatory of Flowers which features four permanent galleries, each of which is painstakingly cared for by nursery specialists. Plants are rotated into the galleries as they bloom so visitors can always expect to see the plants in the collection at their peak. Whether you are a native San Franciscan, a visitor from the other side of the world, or a budding botanist, The Conservatory of Flowers offers an up-close experience with rare and endangered plants like any other.

This wonderful tour includes a specially prepared video tape on the Masterpieces from the Musee D'Orsay, your transportation, all entrance fees to the de Young Museum and The Conservatory of Flowers, knowledgeable tour guides, bottled water, juice and a pastry to enjoy on your way to San Francisco as well as an afternoon snack with drinks before departing for Sacramento. Tour participants are expected to either bring or purchase their lunches once

they arrive in San Francisco. The de Young Museum has an excellent cafe on site. The tour will depart at 8:30 /dAM and return to Sacramento at about 7:30 PM. Cost per person is \$74.00 for the day. Call 916 721-1668 to reserve a space on the bus. ( My opinion is that this is going to be a great art tour! )

I hope that these shows will keep all art lovers busy for the next couple of months. See you next month, and don't forget to keep making art.

Artie

To contact Artie: braccop@arc.losrios.edu

## Planning to Visit the De Young Museum?

### Hours

#### Permanent collections:

Tuesday through Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Fridays until 8:45 p.m. mid-January through November The museum closes at 3:30 p.m. on December 24 and 31

### General Admission

Adults \$10, Seniors 65 and over \$7, Youths 13-17 \$6, College Students with ID \$6, Children 12 and under FREE. Extra fees may apply for special exhibitions.

Admission tickets to the de Young include same-day gener-

al admission to the Legion of Honor (special exhibition fees not included).

First Tuesday of each month is FREE. Special exhibition fees still apply.

Muni riders with Fast Pass or transfer receive a \$2 discount.

FAMSF Members receive FREE admission to the permanent collection and most special exhibitions

### Contact

Tel: 415.750.3600

Email: [contact@famsf.org](mailto:contact@famsf.org)

## Mim's Cafe

Below is a Pillsbury's cookie recipe I often make. If you like pumpkin, this would be a good recipe to try. I enjoy eating pumpkin cookies, especially these because they are not too sweet. Actually, the original recipe included a frosting recipe to top the cookies, but I lost it. I suppose any frosting can be used on these cookies if you like them sweeter. I love these pumpkin cookies plain. Maybe it's psychological, but the idea of layering sweets gives me goose bumps.



Prof. Montgomery with happy eater.

### Pillsbury Pumpkin Cookies

#### Ingredients

- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup firmly pack brown sugar
- 1 cup margarine, soften
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 egg
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup chopped walnuts



#### Mixing and Baking Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a big bowl, beat egg and margarine until light and fluffy.
3. Add sugar and brown sugar and beat until evenly mixed.
4. Add vanilla and pumpkin puree and mix.
5. In another bowl, mix dry ingredients: flour, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, and salt.
6. Add dry ingredient mixture to wet ingredient mixture and mix.
7. Add chopped walnuts.
8. Make into 1 inch balls and bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes.

## Food for Thought! (A Tidbit From Our Nutrition Dept.)



### What Can Breakfast Do For You Today

Breaking an overnight fast fuels the body and mind for optimal performance during the day. The following were observations from studies about breakfast:

- Women-but not men-who ate breakfast had lower body-mass index measurements (BMIs) than those who didn't
- People who ate breakfasts with foods that had lots of fat and sugar and little fiber and water (high energy dense foods), tended to continue eating high energy dense foods throughout the day. They also tended to take in fewer vitamins & minerals (micronutrients) and tended not to eat from all five food groups - grains, fruits, vegetables, dairy, meat/meat alternates.
- People who ate breakfast ate foods with more fiber and water and less fat and sugar (low energy dense foods) and tended to eat these types of foods throughout the day compared with those who didn't eat breakfast
- Students who ate breakfast showed greater concentration

and discipline at school.

Keep easy to fix foods in your kitchen so you're less likely to skip eating breakfast. For starters, stock your kitchen with the following:

- Instant oatmeal, ready-to-eat cereals
- Peanut butter
- Whole-grain frozen waffles, whole-grain bread, bagels, pita bread, tortillas
- Hummus
- Apples, bananas, pears
- 100 % fruit juice
- Milk, yogurt
- Cheese, cottage cheese, ricotta cheese, cream cheese
- Hard boiled eggs
- Your preferences

Becky Alejandre  
Nutrition Professor

## Boots on the Ground: Get Slick with Trail Mick

### Walk Off a piece of Tahoe Rim Trail: Lower Echo Lake to Tamarack Lake

**Editor's Note:** This is a reprint from last fall because summer season starts soon

On this hike, if you get hot and tired you can catch a cool, breezy boat taxi ride back to the trailhead. Read on!

The Tahoe Rim Trail, or TRT, winds along the high ridges of the mountains surrounding Lake Tahoe. The 165 miles long trail encircling Tahoe is made up of eight sections. Each section starts at a trailhead and parking lot to accommodate trail users' cars. Any one of these starting points will serve for a nice in-and-back day hike of desired duration. The (Section 7) trailhead at Lower Echo Lake is as good a starting place as any. The hiking trail described here is either 2.5 miles each way to upper Echo Lake, or 3.6 miles for those want to continue on to Tamarack Lake. During the summer, hikers can opt for a boat taxi to take them 2.5 miles from Lower Echo to Upper Echo Lake and back.

To get to Echo Lakes from the Sacramento area, drive east on Highway 50 for about 90 minutes to a turnoff located just one mile before Echo Summit. At the Johnson's Pass Road sign turn left and go 0.6 miles to a junction. Turn left there on Echo Lakes Road. After 0.9 more miles you will come to a large parking lot above the lake. Park here and walk down to the Echo Chalet store and boat ramp area.

If you're interested, you might want to stop in at the store to find out when the boat taxi is available and how much they charge. (Cost was \$10 one way per person as of Summer 2009.) You enter the trail by crossing the dam at Lower Echo Lake. Then the trail takes you up a few switchbacks to a point above the narrow lake. From here you will have a nice view and a chance to get your bearings. Much of the lower lake is visible, dotted with cabins along the shore. Though the route generally follows the lakeshore, the trail stays high above the lake. As granite cliffs tower above, you will pass through extensive brushy areas with boulders and shady wooded glens containing tiny streams. Near the far

end of the lake the trail starts to curve around toward the south, traversing upward through an open, rocky area that offers nice views. Soon after, the trail enters the woods between Lower and Upper Echo. Upper Echo is a smaller lake than the first one, and you will soon arrive at a trail junction on your left. This short trail leads down the boat taxi dock (which you can see through the trees). If this is as far as you are going, the dock area provides a nice place for a picnic. If you have had enough hiking, there is a phone in the little boat-house to call for the taxi. If you're going on to Tamarack Lake, continue uphill on the main trail for another 1.1 mile. The trail passes through an open granite area with great views in all directions. A bit further on you'll see a sign and short trail leading off to your left to Tamarack Lake. There are some nice granite slabs along Tamarack Lake's shoreline, providing pretty spots for a picnic and a rest before the walk back down the trail.



Trail Mick on the Move

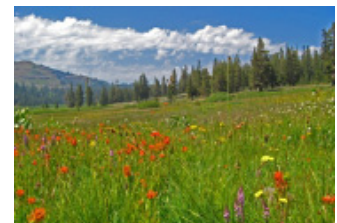
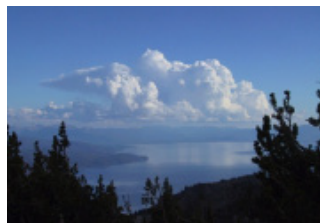
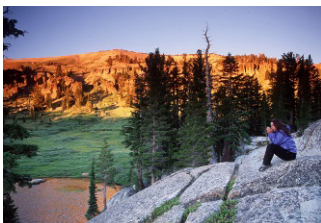
There are a few things you should be aware of. If you travel as far as Tamarack Lake, you will enter the Desolation Wilderness. A Wilderness Permit is needed there. No bicycles are permitted and dogs must be leashed. Wilderness permits can be picked up for no cost at the trailhead kiosk. No permit is needed for the Echo Lakes

area, however. Finally, keep in mind the entire hike is above 7,000 feet. Though sunny afternoons can get quite warm, you might want to bring a sweater. Bring lots of water and sunscreen as well! Early in the season mosquitoes can be numerous, so you might want to pack some bug repellent.

If you are interested in learning more about the TRT, you might want to go to the Tahoe Rim Trail Association's website at [www.tahoerimtrail.org](http://www.tahoerimtrail.org).

**See you on the trail!**

To contact Mick: [braccop@arc.losrios.edu](mailto:braccop@arc.losrios.edu)





*Continued from page 1*

way from Nebraska to here. That's the story.

**Parrot 1:** How long have you been teaching at ARC?

**Cecilia:** It is going to be twelve years.

**Parrot 1:** Wow. That is long.

**Cecilia:** Yes, it is.

**Parrot 1:** What was your inspiration to become a teacher?

**Cecilia:** To become a teacher?

**Parrot 1:** The reason?

**Cecilia:** I liked teaching since the first time I tried it, and it was a big surprise. I was a senior undergraduate and needed money. I asked the department chair if he would consider letting me teach a class. They usually only let the graduate students teach. I was surprised that he was surprised that I asked and even more that he was very happy to let me try. I was in a panic, of course, the first day. But I just did it and I loved it, and it was a turning point. I just said Ok, I guess I am going to be a teacher.

**Parrot 1:** That is interesting. Yeah. I kind of want to do teaching in ESL, but something...I am kind of a shy person.

**Cecilia:** That was my problem, I was extremely shy, and the thought of having people look at me and stare at me, and having to stand there and talk was scary. I thought there was no way I could do it.

**Everyone:** ( laugh )

**Parrot 1:** How did you convince yourself not to be shy?

**Cecilia:** At that point I didn't have any options. I had taken the job, I had to do it. I think I am still very shy.

**Parrot 1:** Do you like your job?

**Cecilia:** I love my job.

**Parrot 1:** In what ways?

**Cecilia:** I like the interaction with all the students, with people of all ways of life and with my colleagues. It is a comfortable job and it has a flexible schedule.

**Parrot 2:** Have you ever had ESL students?

**Cecilia:** I do sometimes.

**Parrot 1:** Are they successful in your class?

**Cecilia:** Yes. I guess it depends on how much effort they put in to succeed. That is the same for everybody.

**Parrot 1:** If so, do you see any differences between ESL students and the native speakers of English?

**Cecilia:** Yes, I do. Sometimes I do notice that students who still haven't mastered their English do struggle a lot more in the class. We have to read a lot, understand the word-problems and there is a lot of new vocabulary that everybody in the class is learning and on top of that you have to learn the new concepts.

**Cecilia:** Where are you guys from?

**Parrot 2:** I actually, I was born here, but at age 6 I left the country and went to Mexico. So my first language is Spanish.

**Cecilia:** That is very nice. So now you are learning English

**Parrot 2:** Yeah. I learned a little bit there. Now I am learning English as my second language.

**Cecilia:** Where are you from?

**Parrot 1:** I am from Romania.

**Cecilia:** Romania, very nice.

**Parrot 1:** Some of the words are the same as in English. It is not that hard.

**Cecilia:** Romanian and Spanish probably look more similar than English.

**Parrot 1:** Italian is much more like my language.

**Cecilia:** Yes, the same with Spanish.

**Parrot 1:** Do you have any special hobbies?

**Cecilia:** Only that I write.

**Parrot 1:** What do you write about?

**Cecilia:** Fiction. I don't have much time to do it anymore

**Parrot 2:** What kind of fiction? Like science fiction?

**Cecilia:** No, just general fiction, for fun.

**Parrot 1:** Did you like to write fiction as a child or did you write later?

**Cecilia:** I started writing when I was in middle school and high school. I was writing silly stuff...like short stories and silly love stories.

**Parrot 2:** Did you like to write when you were in middle

school?

**Cecilia:** Yes. I used to have notebooks where I invented stories, and built and built on them, and never ended the stories; they just got longer and longer.

**Parrot 2:** When you were writing those stories did you have any inspiration to write?

**Cecilia:** I used to base most of everything on the things that I used to do with my friends and on things I would observe in school.

**Parrot 1:** Have you ever wanted to publish your fiction? Sometimes in the future would be... I mean why not?

**Cecilia:** I have published short stories and a novel.

**Parrot 1:** Is that one yours?

**Cecilia:** Yes.

**Parrot 1:** This is nice!

**Parrot 2:** What is the name of the book?

**Cecilia:** This book's name is *Campiña Dorada*. It is in Spanish.

**Parrot 1:** I thought it was in English.

**Cecilia:** No, I do all my writing in Spanish.

**Parrot 1:** Have you ever wanted to publish something in English?

**Cecilia:** Not really.

**Parrot 1:** Why not?

**Cecilia:** I cannot write fiction in English. I just can't. It does not come naturally as Spanish does.

**Parrot 1:** You don't have inspiration for that?

**Cecilia:** I just don't think I have enough vocabulary or words to do it. I have tried, but then I find myself struggling on how to say things. So all my fiction writing is in Spanish.

**Parrot 2:** So English is your second language?

**Cecilia:** Yes. I was an ESL student.

**Parrot 2:** At what age did you start to study English?

**Cecilia:** In school when we were kids.

**Parrot 1:** Were you born in the United States?

**Cecilia:** No. I was born in Chile.

**Parrot 2:** What is the book about?

**Cecilia:** The book? It is completely fiction. It is about a girl who has special powers. She can see the future. She has a vision of what she thinks is her own death. She recognizes the place where it is going to happen and she is at the place at the moment. She thinks she has seven days to go, and the book tells the adventures of what happens during those days.

**Parrot 1:** What is the name of the girl?

**Cecilia:** Enid.

**Parrot 2:** Did you base her on somebody?

**Cecilia:** No. I completely made her up. It is not based on anybody.

**Parrot 1:** From where did you have the inspiration to write fiction?

**Cecilia:** It just comes to me to invent stuff. I invent stuff and write about it.

**Parrot 1:** How long does it take you to write fiction?

**Cecilia:** It takes forever. I wrote that book a long time ago, when I was in college.

**Parrot 1:** How many books have you published?

**Cecilia:** This is the first one that I have published as a full novel. What I have published before are short stories in magazines.

**Parrot 1:** Where did you publish the other stories? What magazines?

**Cecilia:** All my publishing has been in Puerto Rico, in local magazines there, but not in the US.

**Parrot 1:** What advice would you give to ESL students to understand fiction?

**Cecilia:** When I was learning English, I used to read books in English. I would have a dictionary with me. I would take phrases that I did not understand and make notes of them. Take one by one to figure out what they were. I guess the more you see them again the more you start to recognize them. Eventually the meaning becomes natural and you know what it is. So I guess the advice is to read, read more, and keep reading. I also think it helps sometimes if you know somebody who is reading the same book to talk about it, to tell each other what you think is going on.

**Parrot 1:** What should they do to enjoy reading fiction?

**Cecilia:** Read a lot I guess, and start to figure out what you like and you don't like. That is basically what everybody does, try to read bit of every kind of stuff and there would be things that you don't like, and things that you like. Some people like poetry, some people like stories, historical, novels, others prefer non-fiction. You have to find what you like.

**Parrot 2:** Do you read the stories of other authors?

**Cecilia:** Yes, I read a lot.

**Parrot:** Do you have any favorites?

**Cecilia:** I have many favorites.

**Parrot 2:** In English or Spanish?

**Cecilia:** In both. My favorite book I read when I was a kid. I read it in Spanish. In English it is called "Watership Down". It was a really cute book about rabbits. I remember that I loved it when I read it way back when. I read a translation; I read it in Spanish. I always think of that one as a favorite because of how much I loved it when I read it for the first time. It is hard to pick one to be my favorite right now. There are too many good ones.

**Parrot 1:** Is there a connection between fiction and physics?

**Cecilia:** Oh, yes, there can be.

**Parrot 1:** Really? How?

**Cecilia:** Well, there is the whole science fiction genre. They are based on physics or intended to be based on physics, mostly. If you are writing science fiction you have to know physics to get it to look right.

**Parrot 2:** Have you ever written a science fiction novel?

**Cecilia:** Most of what I have done is short stories that have physics students as main characters, or something related with physics one way or another. Normally I prefer to write fiction about the supernatural. The things you cannot explain with physics.

**Parrot 1:** Would you like some day that teachers from regular English or ESL use your fiction in their classes?

**Cecilia:** Sure, of course. I would love that, but that one is in Spanish.

**Parrot 2:** Maybe if you translate it.

**Cecilia:** I think I couldn't translate it into English because it is very hard to do. My English is not at the same level.

**Parrot 1:** Maybe could you get a translator.

**Cecilia:** Yes. That would be fun. I would be really curious to see how it would sound in English.

**Parrot 2:** What would you like to do when you are retired?

**Cecilia:** To sleep. Get some sleep. That sounds so far away. I think I am never going to retire. I guess... I have a three year old child. I have to keep working. But I would like to travel, visit different places.

**Parrot 1:** Would you like to continue writing fiction when you are retired?

**Cecilia:** Oh yeah, then I probably will have time to finish all the stories that are not done.

**Parrot 1:** You would come with all the stuff you didn't finish.

**Parrot 2:** Maybe you could do the translation of your novels.

**Cecilia:** Yeah, that would be nice.

**Parrot 2:** Maybe you will start with the English fiction.

**Parrot 1:** We will start to read it then.

**Parrot 2:** Ligia will have to learn Spanish.

**Parrot 1:** Yeah. After I leran English pretty well, I will start to learn some Spanish, Italian because they are similar to my language.

**Cecilia:** They are all the Latin languages. What are your majors?

**Parrot 1:** Mine is fashion design, but I'll see if I continue or change it.

**Cecilia:** And yours?

**Parrot 2:** Accounting, but I think I might change it for something in business.

**Cecilia:** No writing, or being reporters?

**Parrot 1:** Who knows in the future? Thank you! Those were all our questions.

**Cecilia:** Okay. Thanks to you.

**Parrot 1:** Ligia Goga

**Parrot 2:** Steven Vaquez

## Out of the Cage

### The Philadelphia Story

Sunday, April 25 at 2:00p.m.  
Saturday, May 1 at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, May 2 at 2:00 p.m.

By Phillip Barry, Directed by Pamela Downs.



This Broadway hit and popular film starred Katherine Hepburn as Tracy Lord, a spoiled daughter of a privileged family. Engaged to be married, she becomes interested in a magazine reporter writing about her upcoming nuptials. When her ex-husband appears before the wedding, comedic complications ensue. A witty script gives this classic 1940's comedy-of-manners ageless appeal.

Location: ARC Theatre

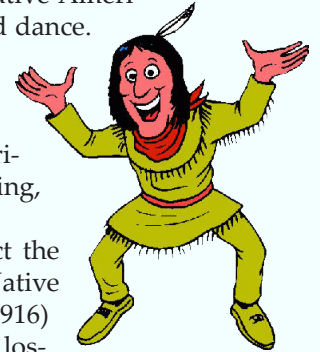
### Native American Pow-Wow

Saturday, May 1  
10:00 am - 10:00 pm

Highlighting and honoring Native Americans--their music, art, food and dance.

Location: Near ARC Soccer Field (take Stadium Entrance). Activities include contest dancing, Native American food and crafts, drumming, and more.

For more information, contact the American River College Native American Resource Center at (916) 484-8987, e-mail [horser@arc.losrios.edu](mailto:horser@arc.losrios.edu).



### Fad, Fashion, and Function: So Why Did They Dress That Way?

Tuesday, April 27  
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Have you ever wondered why women in the 19th century wore long skirts, layers of petticoats, and (horror of horrors!) corsets? The answer lies not in fashion, but in functionality. This talk explores the practicality of 19th century women's clothing and helps explain why women's clothing changed so dramatically in the 20th century.



Location: Raef Hall 160

### FAFSA workshop and Online Student Loan Entrance/Exit counseling

Monday, May 3  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

This workshop will assist students in completing their 2009-2010 and/or 2010-2011 FAFSA applications online. Students should bring their Social Security Card (SSN), Parent's Social Security Card if dependent, 2008/2009 Federal Tax return or estimated taxes for 2009, personal income information, asset information, and any investments and/or other financial information available. The workshop will be located in the Assessment Lab in the Student Services building on a first-come-first-serve basis with limited space. Students must arrive before 6:30 p.m. Due to limited seating, if there is not room for the student at 6:30 p.m., the student will need to return to a different workshop. Students who are not able to complete the FAFSA by the end of the workshop



### Questions/Comments?



Please let us know what we can do to improve "The Parrot." We appreciate any and all feedback you are willing to give us. Send us an e-mail, call, or just drop by Professor Bracco's office D387 (Davies Hall), or call (916) 484-8988, [braccop@arc.losrios.edu](mailto:braccop@arc.losrios.edu)

Senior Editor: Christian Valenzuela, [parrot-arc@live.com](mailto:parrot-arc@live.com)

## East Meets West in the Land of the Rising Sun

Tuesday, May 4, 2010  
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

In June 2009, Keith Atwater, Professor of Humanities and Religions, and his 17 year old son Paul toured Japan for 11 days. They found and photographed places and people that showcase the remarkable culture of this land, from the world's largest Buddha statue to Elvis Presley impersonators in a downtown Tokyo park, from Anime shops to Shinto shrines. Come take a closer look at this significant culture from the slopes of Mount Fuji to the heart of Japan's electronics empire via this narrated slide show.



**Location:** Raef Hall 160

## Artist Lecture Series: Clayton Bailey

Wednesday, May 5  
7:00 pm



In a statement about his work, Clayton Bailey says that he "would like his artwork to be entertaining and educational", and in fact he has been entertaining and educating audiences with his ceramic sculptures, and with his metal robots, for nearly fifty years. Born in Antigo Wisconsin in 1939, he earned an M.S. Degree in Art and Art Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and later taught at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. He was inspired to move to the Bay Area permanently after being hired at the University of California Davis as a substitute instructor for the respected ceramic professor Robert Arneson. Bailey went on to become a tenured faculty member at Cal State Hayward where he taught from 1968 to 1996. He has an extensive exhibition record which includes participating in solo and group exhibitions at major museums throughout the United States, including California, Washington D.C., and New York. He has also participated in exhibits internationally including the prestigious Bienal de Sao Paulo (Sao Paulo Biennial) in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 1986. Bailey received a National Endowment for the Arts Artist Grant in 1979, and again in 1990, and was most recently honored with a "Golden Bear Artist of the Year" Award from the California Arts Council in 2009. A solo exhibition of his work entitled A World of Wonders will be held at the Crocker Art Museum from October 22, 2011 through January 15, 2012. For more information on the artist visit his fantastical website at Community Relations Office

**Location:** Room 512 Music Building

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