



The Parrot

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

Issue # 83 Fall 2014

Opening Doors with ARC Alum Yevgeny Komlyk and Elina Kolbach

Parrot: Hi, I am happy to see both of you here. Could you please introduce yourself?

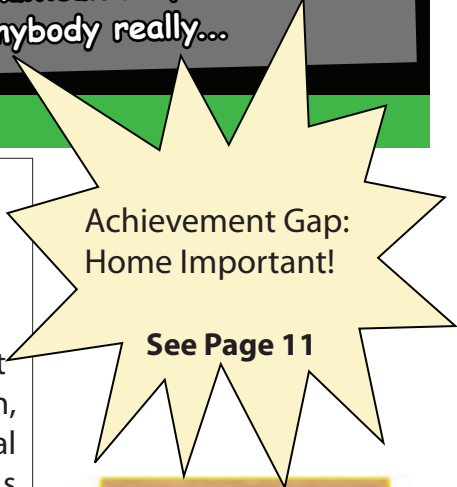
Elina: Hello, I am Elina Kolbach. I am working for Opening Doors, Inc.,



Fariba(Parrot), Elina, Yevgeny

a non-profit organization, as a bilingual business specialist. We help refugees to start their businesses and create jobs for themselves. I came to the United

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The difference between the almost-right word & the right word is really a large matter--it's the difference between the lightning-bug & the lightning.
Mark Twain

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Sinkhole Beneath National Corvette Museum Devours 8 Cars

A huge sinkhole opened up early Wednesday at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Ky., swallowing eight rare and notable versions of the Chevrolet



A sinkhole at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Ky., damaged 8 vintage Corvettes. Credit National Corvette Museum

sports car.

Alerted to the collapse by motion sensors in a structure called the Skydome, which is separate from the main

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mountains that represent Armenia. Pop music is also the love songs in Armenia. Young couples sing these songs to their lovers. Great Armenian musicians like Aram Kachatryan and Arno Babajanyan also wrote a lot of pop music in their time. They wrote many movie soundtracks too. Those songs are old already, but we still listen to that music and love those songs.

To conclude, music is very different in many coun-

tries and Armenian music can be divided into three groups. One group is folk music, another group is Rabiz music, and the final group is pop music. These three groups have their own place for people. People listen to and understand them differently. However, it doesn't matter what type of music you like. It is part of our lives, and we can't live without music.

Ani Margaryan
ESLW 50

Stressful Night in My Life

We have many moments in our lives when we are so stressed out. There can be problems in a family or difficult situations at work. People have many stressful days when they move to other places or other countries. My life time had sad days in this country because I needed to adapt to a new environment. However, only one day was particularly stressful and unforgettable.

It happened a few months after I arrived in the United States. I usually called my mother in Russia once a week and talked with her about my kids, my new country, my new life, people, etc. I missed her and worried about her health. My mother was interested in my life in the new country.

One day I called my mother and was surprised and worried at the same time. She was crying and she asked me why I hadn't called her for so long. "I waited for you to call me, but I couldn't do anything!" she said. She asked me about my kids and husband, so I tried to tell her funny stories from my life. I told her about my children's school days and weekends. I asked her about her cat, work, and health. We had a conversation for more than one hour, so my mom felt better.

After the conversation I couldn't sleep all night and

I thought about my mom. What had happened to her? Was she lonely? What made her cry? I was unhappy and disappointed, so I decided to call my mom the next day. "How are you? Are you feeling better? Did you cry anymore?" I asked. My mother was surprised by such questions. "Why are you asking? You know I never cry," my mom replied. "Why didn't you call me yesterday?" At that moment I realized that I had spoken with another woman! She had a similar family and she'd been waiting for a call from her daughter.



Sometimes we have situations when we cannot do anything. We are under stress. When I heard the phone, I was under stress, so I couldn't think clearly. It was a very stressful night in my life. I worried about my mom because she had never cried before, but at that moment I thought she was

crying. That woman and I were both under stress, and we both heard what we wanted to hear. I keep this conversation in mind, so when I'm calling my mom, I always ask her, "Mom, is that you?"

Victoria Arakelyan
ESLW50

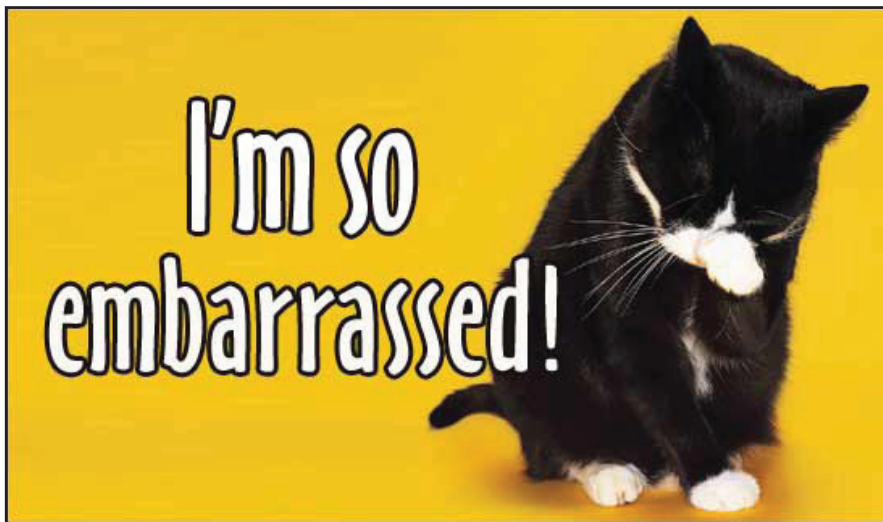
The Embarrassing Moment

Have you ever been in an embarrassing situation? Christian Bale in an interview with Esquire magazine in response to a question of whether it was embarrassing to be an actor replied, "I learned that there's a certain character that can be built from embarrassing yourself endlessly. If you can sit happily with embarrassment, there's not much else that can really get to you." Although we try to avoid an embarrassing situation, sometimes we find ourselves there. I also have been in embarrassing situations. Most of them happen to me in the US because I am a new resident and don't understand much. I will never forget one of my most embarrassing moments.

We had just come from Russia to the US. Our relatives and our old friends that we knew from Russia were welcoming us. We also made some new friends in the US. Everybody gave us a lot of help. Because we didn't know English, they helped us to fill out applications, and they read our mail for us. They also helped us to find our apartment. They gave us some furniture, clothes and food. They gave us rides to places we needed to go to because we didn't have a car. They also gave us a lot of emotional support that we really needed at that time. They invited us to their houses, encouraged us and explained many things to us. We were so thankful to them and one day invited them to our home. We needed to buy supplies for our party, so we went to the store.

At that time we didn't have much money, so every penny counted. We didn't know enough English to read the tags. We just knew only one tag that our friends taught us: "Buy one, get one free". We needed to buy plastic spoons and forks and there was a

tag that said something different than the phrase that we already knew. We didn't want to take a chance and overpay. We needed to make sure what this tag meant. "We need to ask somebody", I said to my husband. "OK", he replied, "there is supposed to be a person who works here. You could ask him. He will have a logo on his shirt." I didn't have any idea what the logo was supposed to look like. In Russia at that time employees didn't wear T-shirts with logos. I decided to search anyway. I finally



found a man with a logo on his shirt. He was around fifty years old. He was about two aisles away from where I started. I asked the man for help. He graciously let me drag him to that place, and nicely explained everything to us. We said thanks to

him. He smiled and said, "You're welcome!" Then he left.

After he had left, my husband asked me, "Why did you bring this man to us? He isn't an employee of this store." "Because he has a logo on his shirt," I answered. "But, this is not the store logo!" At that moment, I understood what I had just done. I was embarrassed. I was glad that this man had already left, or I would had to explain everything to him. However, it seemed hard to me because of my poor English.

Embarrassment is the part of our life that could make us stronger. It gives us a long lasting lesson. It also helps us to learn how to laugh at our mistakes.

Nadia Mavrin
ESLW50

The Difference In My Thoughts

“Home is a place that we love; it is the place that may be left by our feet but our hearts remain there”. Most of us believe in this saying because it’s a fact we are sometimes forced to leave our homes due to particular circumstances, which doesn’t mean that we dislike our countries. Moving to a new country is a very big challenge that, if we have to do it, we should be prepared for mentally and emotionally. Based on personal experience, I discovered many differences between my old thoughts about the U.S and my current thoughts.

Before I came to the U.S, I had many negative thoughts. I was so worried and my feelings were mixed. Sometimes I felt happy, while other days I felt worried, terrified, and had lots of doubts

and suspicions about the kind of life I was going to live here. All of those doubts were based on other people’s opinions and point of views. Waiting for the unknown was a terrifying feeling, especially if you had a family. The idea of starting a new life from scratch depressed me. We had to move from my country Iraq to the U.S, where everything we were raised on was different, such as tradition, culture, and religion, in a new environment and society. My greatest concern was about my children because they were teenagers. I was afraid I might not have the ability to control them and would lose them. I was also afraid that I would miss all my friends and relatives, who I was going to leave behind and that I couldn’t cope without their existence and support.

After I arrived in the U.S, I found out that all my current thoughts were opposite of my old thoughts. Whereas I was so worried before, all my fears and worries vanished as soon as I arrived in the

U.S. I realized that the people here are as respectful and friendly as in my country. The idea of starting a new life from nothing disappointed me in my old thoughts but now I see everything as easy and possible. I was also terrified about moving from my country to the U.S, because everything we were raised on was different, for instance, our tradition, culture, and religion. I then found out that all people, in spite of their religion, gender, culture or backgrounds, are treated equally. My greatest concern was about



my children because they were teenagers, but now I think my kids have a bright future, due to the brilliant level of standards at schools. Unlike what I thought before, that I would feel exhausted and sad, I feel very relaxed and happy

that I made the right choice for my kids. In my old thoughts, I was afraid that I would miss all my friends and relatives. However I found out that I could see them often enough through new technology, by the Internet.

Moving to a new country is a big step and challenge which we have to consider very well before taking. There will be lots of thoughts before and after making the decision. The thoughts that are made before taking the step are usually based on other people’s opinions and views, while the thoughts that are made after taking the step are based on facts and realities. So, as a result we found out that there are differences in thoughts before and after moving to a new country.

*Sawsan Hameed
ESLW50*

Classify Teachers in a Realistic Way

In my whole life, I have met about one hundred teachers and I'll keep meeting approximately fifty more of them. It is hard to remember all the teachers that we have had, but everyone may be able to classify them into several groups with their own criteria because the teachers act mostly the same as other teachers. I want to classify them in a realistic way based on my own experiences. Here are the most realistic three stereotypes of teachers in the world.

The first types of teachers are the teachers whom students don't respect. If a teacher is too kind unnecessarily, students mostly would look down on them because they think the teachers would be never mad at them. A teacher who has a small voice, has little confidence, and teaches yawnfully could be also placed into this category of teachers. In my high school in Korea, I remember some teachers of this category. One of them, who was my Korean teacher, was afraid of students. Her voice was always smaller than students' voices so it was hard to pay attention in her class. Students gradually started to not listen attentively. However, she didn't say anything such as, "Listen carefully!", or "Go out if you keep not paying attention." Another teacher was my English teacher and he was the one of the teachers who taught the most boringly in the world. Students always kept yawning in class. Whenever he came to the class, students had to choose: yawning or doing other homework. We students slept, did other homework for the next class, or chatted with our friends. We were so bad but we couldn't help ourselves because we already looked down on him.

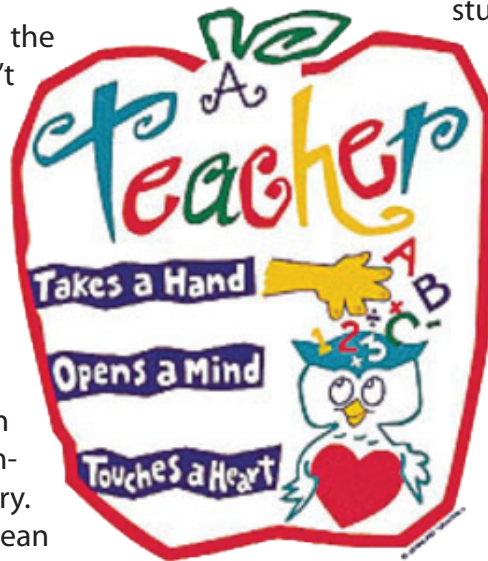
The second types of teachers are the teachers whom students are cautious of. These types of teachers are mostly very scary. It doesn't mean that they always shout at the students, have long wooden sticks, etc. They always act with confidence and they are

not afraid of students. They hate students being rude so they teach rude students a lesson firmly to make them better students. Usually, these types of teachers are in charge of some position which is important in the school so they have to be strict. I remember my high school math teacher who always carried a thick wooden stick. He used it on boys but not on girls (Thank God). He was also in charge of an important position in school so he had to make

students follow school rules and punish those who didn't. However, he was a good teacher as well. He always tried his best to make all students go in the right way. There is a special common feeling that everyone probably has about these types of teachers. We were scared of them and hated them when we were in school and when they punished us, but after graduation, we begin to miss them very much because we then realized that the reason the teachers were scary and punished us was not because they hated us, but because they wanted to

make us better people and cared about us. For this reason, I miss my math teacher more than any other teacher in my high school.

The last types of teachers are the teachers whom students can play with. These types of teachers are mostly friendly, close to students, care for them and make some jokes with them. They aren't scary but it doesn't mean they act like the first types of teachers above. They are moderately scary so students can't be rude to them easily. One of the best teachers in my life was my first year homeroom teacher in middle school. She is probably the perfect example of this type of teacher. Although she was a rather scary teacher, she taught and cared as if she were our friend. She was excellent at teaching, fun, kind (sometimes), thoughtful, and tried to be close to us so she could know when we were having a hard time or needed to tell somebody something. My friends and I and the teacher still keep in touch with each



other. She is always happy to hear from us and wonder how we are doing these days.

I classify teachers into three groups in a realistic way; teachers that students can look down on, teachers whom students cannot look down on, and teachers whom students can play with. However, whichever types of teachers there are, students have to respect them whether the teachers are too kind or whether

the teachers always punish them. The common characteristic among these types of teachers is they care, worry about, and love students.

Seojin Tak
ESLW50

Find Your Present: Hide-and-Seek!

One year I decided to give my parents their birthday present in a very unique way. Both of their birthdays are in October, and I was going to China as an exchange student in September. I felt bad. I really wanted to celebrate their birthdays with them. Instead, I figured out how to give them surprising gifts even though I was in a different place.

My plan was like this: buy the presents, hide them somewhere in my parents' house, and make them find the presents on their birthdays. To do that, I first had to buy presents that they would like. My dad was complaining the climate was too dry for him, and it was making his skin uncomfortable. So, I decided to buy a moisturizer massage cream for him. My mom told me she was out of one of her cosmetics. I prepared that one for her.

After wrapping the presents nice and pretty, I had to figure out where to hide them. I had to put those in a place where my parents wouldn't go or look regularly but still be easy to explain so that they could find them without me being there. I hid each present in a different place in my room and flew off to China. Of course, my parents had no idea what was in their house. I was so tempted to reveal this plan to my grandparents who live close to them, but I waited until their birthdays came.

My Dad's birthday is a week earlier than my mom's. On that day, I gave him a call and chit-chatted about my normal routine and asked him to find one of my belongings for me as if I had forgotten his birthday. My dad became a little grouchy since I didn't even say "Happy Birthday" to him, but I pretended not to notice. I described where my belonging was and my

dad went into my room to find it. When he found it, I said, "Surprise! Happy Birthday, Pappy! This is your present!" and sang the birthday song for him. He told me he was so touched. He liked my present, of course. On mom's birthday, I did the same. The difference was, since my mom already knew what was going to happen, she was ready to enjoy her hide-and-seek with me.

Later, my grandma told me both of my parents loved my plan and told it to the other families and friends proudly. I was happy not only because I successfully delivered the presents to my parents, but I had also made a fun and memorable story for them.

Soohyun Jeong
ESLW50



My Unusual Neighbor

I recently moved to a new place, and the first thing I noticed wasn't our new house or even the street; it was our new neighbor. He's not a particular person that people usually see on the streets. He's not even just an unusual person that people can rarely meet. Because of his appearance and his way of life, it evokes mixed feelings, such as fun, embarrassment, confusion, or perplexity. My neighbor is the person who makes you think about how boring your life is.

My neighbor's manner of dress is what people first can notice unusual in him. His clothes are not just strange. It's even hard to call them clothes. He wears a big, wide hat with a belt around it, which is bigger than my neighbor's actual pants belt. By the way, on his actual belt there are four knives of different style, shapes, and length, that he probably doesn't use or uses for unknown reasons. These knives don't bother him when he walks because his long, tight pants do. Every step that he makes is not as easy as it seems, although at first sight you can think that he was always paralyzed and just learned to walk. However, he could walk a little bit easier if he didn't wear deep, black leather, heavy boots with shiny steel buckles that make more noise than the railroad station we live near.

A not-less-shocking attribute of my neighbor's style is his hobby. There's actually nothing wrong with it because there are a lot of miners here in Sacramento, but my neighbor is so crazy about gold mining. I'm afraid about my front yard, because I might wake up one morning and find that he com-

pletely dug it up in order to find some gold... (but, in fact, that gold is mine!) He even looks at the sand at Home Depot pretty suspiciously.



He has a big red truck that he drives to go mining, and on the car's hood he has a pretty metal miner guy with a silver shovel, who is so big and realistic that he probably helps my neighbor to dig. The love of mining and the strange manner of dress makes me see my neighbor as an alien from the past. The dirty shirt that holds all the secrets of his gold searching, the dark-brown leather coat with lots of holes in it, the long red beard he always caresses when he is looking at my front yard - all of these attributes make him look like an old, experienced voyager or sea dog. My imagination works at the highest level when he's passing by. If he had only one leg and one eye, he would look like a real pirate.

I think that my neighbor has a remarkable and decidedly not boring life. People like him help you realize that you can always change your life to an interesting and unforgettable adventure. I won't be so surprised if he, when home alone, draws the curtains, locks the door, goes down to his cellar, takes out his parrot which says "Piastres!", and counts all his gold.

Andrey Arakelyan
ESLW50

A Romantic Evening

"Love is like a flower; it needs to be refreshed every time," is a common saying that many people use when they talk about love. However, refreshing a love is not as easy as refreshing a flower. There are a lot of methods that can flourish a love, and a mistake, even one, can change the result. Preparing a romantic evening is one of these methods. There are many ways to make a fantastic evening. People have different styles in gathering; some prefer a private hangout with their beloved, and some prefer gathering in a restaurant, theater, park, or other public place. However, if you prefer to stay at home, follow these three major steps to create a romantic evening at home.

The first step to have a romantic evening involves planning. You and your partner will have a good evening if you think about the dinner and entertainment in advance. So, first of all, order some delicious take-out food. Think about your partner's tastes and favorites at that time. After that, buy or rent some romantic DVDs. Watching a movie after dinner and discussing it is a good way to spend time and exchange thoughts. Meanwhile, try to learn and remember some romantic sentences, poems, stories, and jokes. When you use them, your dialog will be more sentimental.

The second step to create fantastic evening deals with your home atmosphere. A cozy and lovely place makes you and your sweetheart relax and be comfortable. Having a fantastic dinner in a warm and lively home is easy. At first, put some fresh flowers on the dinner table and other places in your home. After that, dim the lights; it is more

fascinating and romantic. Then light some sweet and scented candles. Finally, turn on soft music, especially classical music or love songs. They have a magical power to fill you with love, and change your excited and worried mood to a relaxing and lovely one.

The last step toward a romantic evening involves you. Making yourself attractive and beautiful is really easy. First of all, buy new clothes or select one of the most chic outfits from your closet. At this

time, looking at your beloved's style can lead you to the best selection. Then, go to a hairdresser and make some changes in your ordinary face and hair style. It will surprise your partner and you will look more attractive. In the end, put on your most beautiful and shiniest jewelry. Gemstones

have a weird power, and you will be warmer and magnificent.

In conclusion, when you decide to refresh your love, preparing a romantic evening with your loved one is a great idea. It is very easy if you follow these three major steps: making a romantic plan, making a warm and cozy place, and making yourself more attractive. However, you have to keep a very important point in your mind. Though these steps are easy, to have a sustained love you still need to learn many other arts. Think about them to create a fantastic evening forever.



Fariba Darvishi
ESLW50

Grade "D"

Education is one of the most important aspects of our lives. Everyone can remember some interesting, difficult, important and horrible incidents during their studying at school, college, or university. We can remember when we were winners or losers or when we had success or endured failure. And of course, everyone was excited getting an "A" and disappointed when grades are "D" or "F" on tests. All these things have happened to me too. I'll never forget the time I received "D" on my English test.

I was thirteen years old when I started to study English at my school in Russia. I wasn't good in English and I didn't understand it. It was so difficult for me to make sentences, translate, and read. Actually, I was good in other subjects, but not in English. So, my father decided to get an English tutor for me. She was a really nice slender woman with a short, dark-color haircut who worked at a pedagogical institute. She started to work with me and my knowledge improved very fast. I started to get "A" on tests, and it was so exciting! I became an "A" student soon and the best student in my English class. That moment I really enjoyed it. But one day, I didn't study new words for the test because I worked on other homework and didn't have enough time for it.

English was my first class of the day, occurring after morning roll call, which was not actually roll call but a series of announcements that took place in an enormous room with twenty-foot-high windows, and rows of desk with hinged tops that you lifted to store your books inside. When I came to the class, I very quickly prepared a "cheat sheet" and put it on my lap. At that moment, I couldn't relax and felt so horrible. When the test began, my teacher started to dictate the words. Of course she spotted my "cheat sheet" and shouted out angrily, "Don't even give me your test!"



My teacher was in her late fifties, a tall, thin woman with a bony nose. I could feel all my classmates staring at me with growing interest. At that moment, I blushed and left so ashamed. I wished that I could be invisible or far away. She gave me a "D". The worst of this situation was that my final grade was affected. I thought, "What do I say to my parents and tutor?" I felt sick inside and I couldn't even listen to the lesson after the test.

The next day I went to my English tutor and she asked me, "What grade did you receive on your test?" I told

her my entire story, and she was disappointed. My tutor advised me to apologize and ask my teacher if I could retake the test. I decided to do that and learned all the words. At the next English lesson, I was wondering the whole time if my teacher would give me an opportunity to retake the test. I approached the teacher and apologized. I was really surprised, but she

allowed me to retest. I felt like a winner myself because I received an "A". Moreover, my final grade was "A", too.

Sometimes, students have a lot of reasons why they are unprepared for their important tests, but only they are responsible for how they spend their time. Maybe it's better to set aside some other matters and do them later because you feel so bad when you are unprepared. It turned out to be a good experience for me. Now I can say with confidence that cheating is stupid! If you cheat on a test or a quiz, you can get a failing grade. Moreover, you don't develop yourself when you cheat. Consequently, if you don't develop, you degenerate. So, now I always try to be prepared because I want to feel relaxed on tests.

Olga Strizheus
ESLW50

Nestscape -- Articles from The Web

Efforts To Close The Achievement Gap In Kids Start At Home

When Andrea Riquetti taught kindergarten in Providence, R.I., the disparity between more affluent students and those from poor families was painfully clear.

"We would read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*," she says, "and I would ask them, 'What is this fruit?' And they would call all the fruits just 'fruits,' because they didn't have the specific name."

Two-thirds of Providence children entering kindergarten already fall short on state literacy tests. Riquetti says this disadvantage in her students would compound over time because so much of learning depends on basic vocabulary.

"It was very hard for them to comprehend stories or to write stories, to share or to ask questions," she says.

Riquetti now helps run, the city's ambitious effort to change this so-called word gap. They found that professional parents tend to chat away to their children, using sophisticated language even before kids are old enough to understand, while low-income parents tend to speak far less and use more directives: "Do this, don't do that."

On average, by the time they are 3 years old, children in professional families have heard about 30 million more words than children from lower-income households. Through a yearlong series of home visits, Providence Talks aims to coach low-income parents to speak more, and differently, to their children.

Developing Conversations

On a recent morning, Julia Alfaro welcomes Step-

hanie Taveras, a home visitor from the program, into her small living room with a kiss on the cheek. Alfaro's 3-year-old daughter, Ayleen, bounds in, showing off her new sneakers with red lights.

Alfaro, 27, is a stay-at-home mom from Guatemala; her husband puts in long hours packing shellfish.

Like much of Providence's lower-income population, the family speaks Spanish, though officials point out that is not the cause of the word gap.

Taveras brings a book to each visit. She settles on the couch next to Ayleen and her mother, and starts reading in Spanish. Then she points to the pictures and asks Ayleen questions.



Stephanie Taveras (left) visits Julia Alfaro and her 3-year-old daughter, Ayleen, to read and discuss her vocabulary progress

"What color is that?" Ayleen taps a finger to her chin and ponders. "Yellow!"

To help parents measure progress, the city collects hard data. In fact, it's happening as they look at the book. Little Ayleen is wearing a recorder hidden inside a bright red vest specially designed for it.

The recorder logs every word spoken, all day long, and can distinguish different voices. It also distinguishes a TV, computer or radio that may be blaring in the background — words from those don't count when it comes to building a child's vocabulary, and in fact too much screen time may hurt, researchers say.

During the next visit, Taveras will bring a report that graphs the word count, hour by hour. Parents keep a

log to know what they were doing at the time.

Another graph tracks conversational turns, when parent and child speak back and forth. Riquetti says these are incredibly important for language development.

“Even with babies,” she says, “we see that [a parent] will coo or babble, and they will babble back, and we can measure that.”

Alfaro says having all this data has changed how she talks with her daughter.

“Sometimes I was just talk, talk, talking,” she says, “and not letting her express herself. Now I give her a turn.”

Alfaro also turns off the TV. “Before, I’d put her in front of the TV when I was busy with housework,” she says. “Now I’ll include her. She’ll help me wash the dishes, and we’ll talk about what we’re doing.”

Privacy And Willingness

The first phase of the program includes 75 families, all of whom were enrolled in Early Head Start. Providence hopes to expand its effort to 2,000 low-income families and counsel them from the time their child is born. But the program is voluntary, and Alfaro says a lot of her friends are suspicious, fearful that someone is listening to the recordings.

City officials stress there’s no transcript. A computer counts words only, then erases the recording.

Still, there are other concerns. Kyle Gorman, who studies language acquisition at Oregon Health and Science University, says the families who volunteer might already be more engaged with their children, “as opposed to parents of children who are most at risk.”

He also worries about single parents and those juggling multiple jobs who are strapped for time. “And just as there’s a word gap, there may be a parental involvement gap as well,” he says. “What we’re intervening to solve may not be so easily solved.”

Providence Mayor Angel Taveras — no relation to the Providence Talks home visitor — pushed hard

for the program, and says he’s confident it will have an impact. He points out that he himself was raised by a single mother, an immigrant from the Dominican Republic who did not go to high school and did not speak English.

“I’m a Head Start baby,” he says. “Several of my classmates at Harvard were Head Start babies. I think the best investment we can make is in the early years of a child’s life. The returns are great. They’re long-term returns.”

It’s not clear how long term this experiment will be. Providence won \$5 million in startup funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies, and that money runs out in 2016. By then, Taveras hopes the results are so promising that other foundations will step up to keep it going.

30 Million Words

Providence Talks draws inspiration from the work of Dana Suskind, a pediatric surgeon at the University of Chicago. She helps children who are born deaf hear with cochlear implants. But as she followed up on her patients’ progress, she was confused and frustrated that some were not able to build their vocabulary like others.

Through her research, Suskind discovered that babies and toddlers in low-income families heard far fewer words than their more affluent peers, and that that early disadvantage affected IQ and school achievement. In 2010, she founded the Thirty Million Words Initiative, which uses recorders developed by the Lena Foundation to help low-income parents in Chicago track and improve how they speak to their children.

Suskind and others are working to expand public understanding of the word gap. California just launched a media campaign urging parents to talk, read and sing to their babies.

<http://www.npr.org/2014/03/17/289799002/efforts-to-close-the-achievement-gap-in-kids-start-at-home>



International Day of Peace



Quick Facts

The United Nations' (UN) International Day of Peace is celebrated on **September 21** each year to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace. The International Day of Peace is also a day of ceasefire – personal or political.

What do people do?

On the International Day of Peace, also known as Peace Day, people around the world take part in various activities and organize events centered on the theme "peace". Events vary from private gatherings to public concerts and forums involving large audiences. Activities include:

- Interfaith peace ceremonies.
- A toast for peace.
- A peace choir.
- Lighting candles.
- Peace prayers.
- A peace convoy of vehicles.
- Tree planting for peace.
- Art exhibitions promoting peace.
- Picnics for peace.
- Peace walks.



Background

A UN resolution established the International Day of Peace in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the UN General Assembly. The first Peace Day was celebrated in 1982 and was held on the third Tuesday of September each year until 2002, when September 21 became the permanent date for the International Day of Peace. The assembly decided in 2001 that the International Day of Peace should

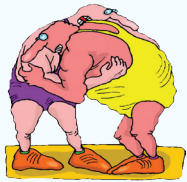
be annually observed on September 21 starting from 2002. By setting a fixed date for the International Day of Peace, the assembly declared that the day should be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence.

By creating the International Day of Peace, the UN

devoted itself to worldwide peace and encouraged people to work in cooperation for this goal. Since its inception, Peace Day has marked personal and planetary progress toward peace. It has grown to include millions of people worldwide and many events are organized each year to commemorate and celebrate this day.

<http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/international-peace-day>

Parrot Warbling



Grappling with Grammar

Using Adjective Clauses

Adjective clauses (relative clauses) are like "*sentences inside sentences.*" The "*job*" of adjective clauses is to modify (describe, identify, make specific) the noun phrases that they follow. In their full forms, adjective clauses have several parts: a relative pronoun (or, in some cases, another kind of connecting word), a subject, and a predicate (a verb and, often, other types of words which follow it).

In adjective clauses, the relative pronoun is a kind of connecting word: it joins the information in the clause to the noun phrase that it follows. Without the adjective clause, the meaning of the modified noun phrase (and of the sentence) is unclear and incomplete.

Examples (full forms):

I know a person who / that can help you.
I know a person who(m) / that you can help.
I know a person whose advice I can trust.
I know a person to whom I can refer you. /
I know a person who(m) / that I can refer you to.

I want a car that / which gets good gas mileage.
I can't afford the car that / which I really want.

Continued in Parrot 84

<http://www.eslcafe.com>



Idiom--Attic

Idioms In the Arts

There are many idioms in the field of music:

- If you "*fine tune*" something, you make small improvements to it.
- "*Changing your tune*" means changing your mind.
- If you are "*whistling Dixie*" or "*whistling in the dark*" you are overly positive about something.
- If you try and make a decision too early without knowing all the facts, people may tell you that "*it's not over 'till the fat lady sings.*"

<http://examples.yourdictionary.com/idiom.html>

Beak Speak

English Pronunciation Facts

L – This sound is generally made the same way as in other languages, but in American English it is spoken *quickly and lightly*, especially when it is the last letter.

R – This sound is trilled in many languages. It is also silent in the middle and at the end of words in some languages, like British. The American R is *not trilled* and it is *always pronounced*.

T – The T sound often becomes a *light "d"* sound when it is between vowels and a *light, stopped* sound at the end of words. It can also be *left out entirely*. So *water* sounds like "*wader*," hot sounds like "*ho(t)*" and interview sounds like "*innerview*."

Th – This sound is not in every language. Americans have 2 sounds for Th: *a soft, vibrating* sound as in "the" and a more *forceful, popped* sound as in "think."

V and W – Some languages have one or the other, but not both. In American English, these are two distinct sounds. Practice with *the 500 Word lists, V and W sounds*.

A – Americans have different sounds for A, the sound in "*cat*," the sound in "*late*" and the sound in "*all*" and more. See *A Sounds*. Practice with *the 500 Word lists: short vowels and long vowels*.

I – In other languages, it is often pronounced like the American *long e*, as in "*see*." In American English, I has two sounds: the I in "*sit*" and the I in "*kite*."

O – Many people only learn one sound for this vowel, but there are three. For instance, O is different each time in "*cost*," "*cold*" and "*cover*."

<http://www.speakmethod.com/eslpronunciation.html>



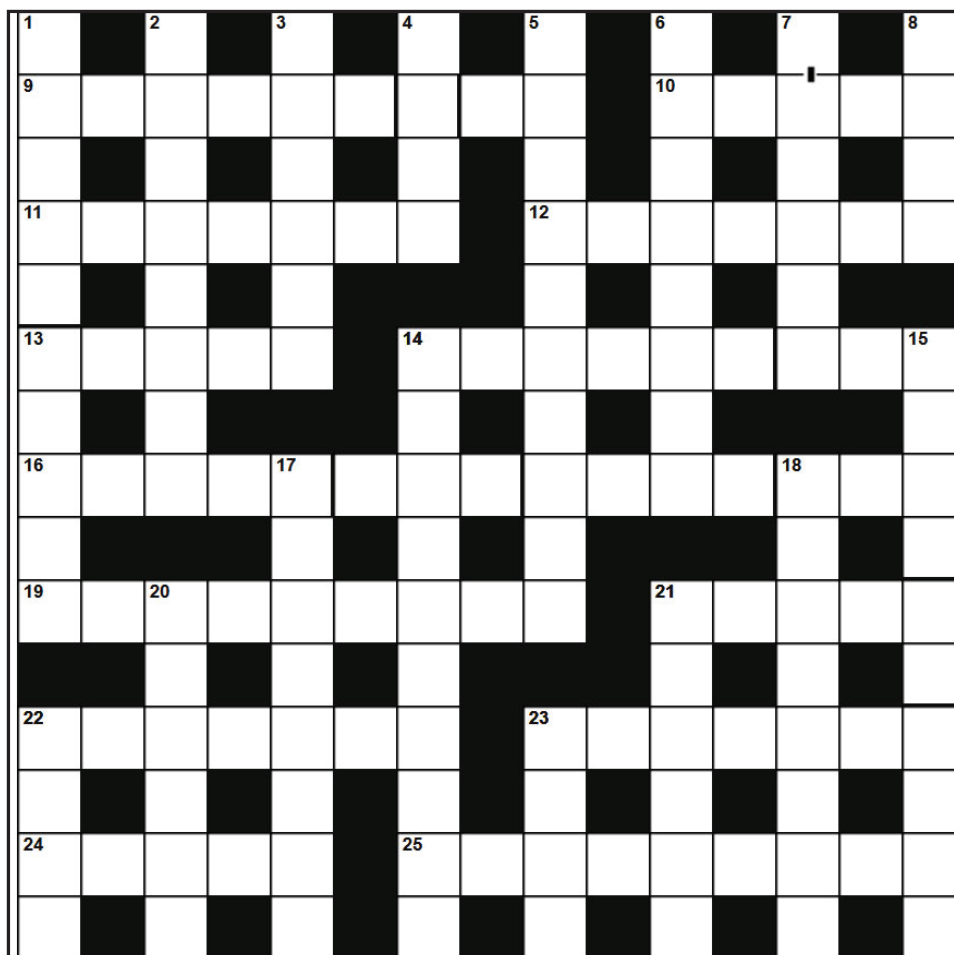
Some More Parrot Fun Stuff

More 80's Songs Wordsearch

Find and circle all of the 1980's song titles that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the title of an Elton John song.



AFRICA	GLORIA	spacer NEVER	SUSSUDIO
ALWAYS	GUILTY	NOTORIOUS	THE FLAME
AMERICA	HEARTBREAKER	OUR HOUSE	THE LOOK
BEAT IT	HEAVEN	PASSION	THE ROSE
BROKEN WINGS	HOLD ME	PATIENCE	TIME
CALL ME	HUMAN	PINK HOUSES	TOO SHY
CONTROL	HUNGRY HEART	PURPLE RAIN	TRUE
CRUISIN'	INFATUATION	ROCK ON	TRULY
DOWN UNDER	KOKOMO	SAILING	TWO HEARTS
ENDLESS LOVE	LA BAMBA	SARA	VACATION
FAITHFULLY	LET'S DANCE	SATISFIED	VOICES CARRY
FAME	MAGIC	SHOUT	WE BELONG
FAST CAR	MANIC MONDAY	SONGBIRD	WHIP IT
FREEDOM	MONY MONY	SUKIYAKI	YOUR LOVE



Across

- 9** Describe my role in 21 down 23 down (6,1,2)
10 13's hero trained for European opera opening (5)
11 Jones the singer drank gin cocktail and dressed (7)
12 Banjo banned? Dubious remedy (7)
13 Composer's good fortune (5)
14 Antiquated, say, in goods, hence this fabled downfall? (6,3)
16 Musical New Guinean guy, tenor (5,3,4,3)
19 Saw screen medley performed outside (9)
21 Trumpet and bass only remaining (5)
22 Main bulk of sound enveloping The Trout? (7)
23 Barman's small tie hides one (7)
24 Famous college backed Delius' overture (5)
25 Make a mess of Aida descant but not as examinee (9)

Down

- 1** Recycled waste for space in the country, it transpires (5,5)
2 Shambolic Act 1 performance withdrawn (8)
3 He devised a constant sounding board (6)
4 It could be the clarinets' turn (4)
5 Underrated director admitted penning drama (10)
6 Artist's model clears bottom drawer (8)
7 What on earth's the attraction for entering exam? (1-5)
8 See 22
14 Campaigners' naive composition broadcast (10)
15 Tragically, one does get shot in bed (4,2,4)
17 Stones' leaders regrouped, including motormouth (8)
18 Like lunar fragments in paper mounting? (8)
20 Music out of season at Aldeburgh (6)
21 He scored for City (6)
22,8 Twosome open Othello, some flipping piece! (4,4)
23 Lay German numbers up (4)

God's Money

On Al-Hamra'a street
 The religious man passes with his prayer beads
 The pauper passes with his barefoot dreams
 The politician passes, full of schemes
 The intellectual passes, lost in thought
 Everyone passes in a rush, and pays no mind
 To the beggar on the sidewalk, poor and blind
 Only the rain is dropping in his palm
 To God outstretched.

By Adnan Al-Sayegh

Rigoberto's Riddles

You can have me but cannot hold me;
 Gain me and quickly lose me.
 If treated with care I can be great,
 And if betrayed I will break.
 What am I?

Trust •



Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber

Russian Courtesy



An American tourist in Moscow found himself needing to get rid of a large supply of garbage from his recent stay at an apartment. After a long search, he just couldn't find any place to discard of it. So, he just went down one of the side streets to dump it there.

Yet, he was stopped by a Moscow police officer, who said, "Hey you, what are you doing?"

"I have to throw this away," replied the tourist.

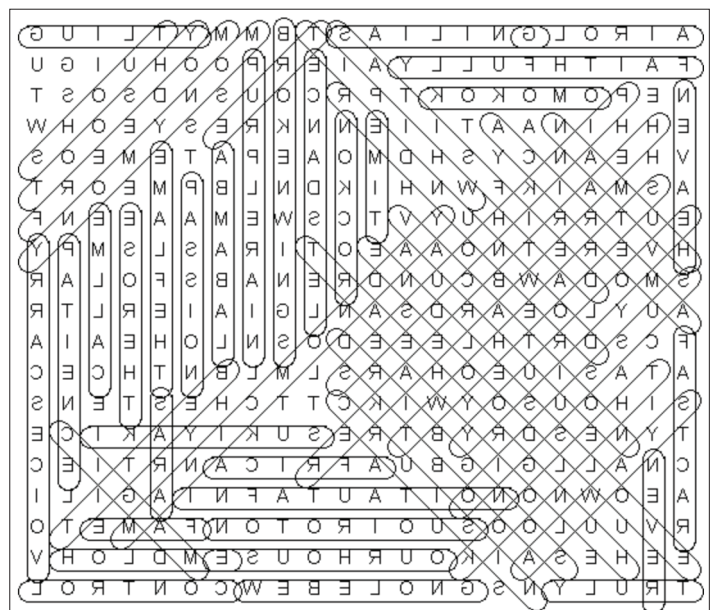
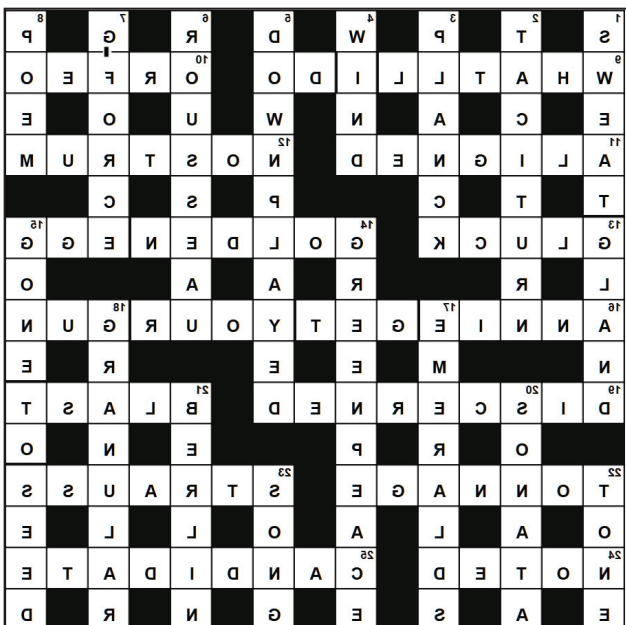
"You can't throw it away here. Look, follow me," the policeman offered.

The police officer led him to a beautiful garden with lots of grass, pretty flowers, and manicured hedges. "Here," said the cop, "dump all the garbage you want."

The American shrugs, opens up the large bags of garbage, and dumps them right on the flowers.

"Thanks for giving me a place to dump this stuff. This is very nice of you. Is this Russian courtesy?" asked the tourist.

"No. This is the American Embassy."



Granny Noetal

Dear Granny Noetal,

I'm a student at ARC, 35 year old, been a student for a while, live not too far from school with my dear parents and my older brother. My parents think it's time for me to graduate, get a job, and have my own place. I don't think I'm ready yet. This topic comes up often at the dinner table. What do you think?

Respectfully,

Sue Frieda

Dear Sue Frieda,

Giving you a good answer might depend on a few factors. I'd probably want to know what your cultural background is. If you are American, well, living at home until you're thirty-five is generally considered unusual. However, in today's economy, a scarcity of jobs and money sometimes means students are liv-



Granny

ing at home with parents for longer than usual. Sounds like your case. However, if Mom and Pop say it's time to spread your wings, fly, my child, like a Parrot! Perhaps you can take fewer classes and find a part-time job. That's a good start, and it will show your parents that you are listening to them. Simply put, it may buy you time. Coughing up a few coins toward room and board may smooth their feathers, too.

Now, if you are from another culture, it is often quite normal to live at home until you marry or even after you marry, with your new spouse. If Mom and Pop want you to move on, don't be surprised if they try to find you a husband or wife if you aren't married. Then again, perhaps your new spouse will enjoy living with your parents, too. They sound like wonderful people!

Sinkhole Beneath National Corvette Museum Devours 8 Cars

Continued from page 1

building, staff members arrived at the museum to find that a sinkhole had formed at 5:39 a.m., collapsing the floor and ingesting eight of the cars on display. The fire department cordoned off the building, and a structural engineer was called in to determine the extent of the damage.

The sinkhole was estimated to be 40 feet across and nearly 30 feet deep. The Skydome structure did not have a basement.

Museum officials said that other than its floor, the Skydome was undamaged, but that the condition of the cars that fell into the pit had not been determined. Six of the cars belong to the museum, but two – a 1993 ZR-1 Spyder and a 2009 ZR1 "Blue Devil" – are on loan from General Motors.

"We're just tickled that no one was hurt; that thing was deep," Greg Wallace, manager of the General Motors Heritage Center in Sterling Heights, Mich., said in a telephone interview. "We really don't know yet what the value of the cars is, but we'll fix them up and you'll never know they were damaged."

The other cars that fell into the sinkhole were a one-owner 1962 Corvette; the 1984 Corvette PPG Pace Par; the one-millionth Corvette, a 1992 model; a 1993 40th Anniversary Corvette; a 2001 Mallett Hammer Z06 Corvette; and the 1.5-millionth Corvette, from the 2009 model year.

The Tennessean newspaper reported that emergency personnel had allowed the staff to remove one irreplaceable car nearby that had not fallen into the sinkhole: the only surviving 1983 Corvette, a prototype from a model year when no Corvettes were produced for sale because of quality problems.

Katie Frassinelli, a spokeswoman for the museum,

said in an email that insurance would cover the cars. She added that aside from the Skydome, the museum would be open on Thursday.

The National Corvette Museum, which opened 20 years ago, is about a mile from the assembly plant where all Corvettes are built.

James Currens, a hydrologist with the Kentucky Geological Survey, said in a telephone interview that because of the area's distinctive geology, sinkholes form there from time to time. The ground beneath Bowling Green and the surrounding region is permeated by caves, sinking streams and springs he said, alluding to a report his office published on the subject more than a decade ago.

"There's a good chance that there's a cave that the soil below the building was eroding into," he said, explaining that looser soils can be carried away by precipitation into caves, leaving a void where once there was

solid ground.

In a telephone interview, a geologist with the United States Geological Survey, Randall Orndorff, said most states had areas that were susceptible to sinkholes. They are a possibility, he said, in any area where dissolvable minerals — like limestone, dolomite and gypsum — lie underground.

"I was in a meeting on sinkholes today in Pennsylvania, where we were talking about the amount of property damage caused yearly," he said, adding that although an exact number would be hard to calculate, it would probably run into billions of dollars. "I told the folks in the meeting that we could add several hundred thousand dollars of Corvettes to that figure."

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/13/automobiles/sinkhole-beneath-national-corvette-museum-devours-8-cars.html?_r=1

Interview

Continued from page 1

States about 10 years ago from Belarus. I started with a class in high school. Then I was accepted at UC Davis, and I majored in International Relations in political science. From there I worked at the Russian Department in UC Davis as a supervisor helping students with their schedules, Russian grammar, and Russian classes.

Parrot: How did you start your job in Opening Doors?

Elina: I started as a volunteer, then I started my internship at Opening Doors, and about a year later, in 2011, I started working there.

Parrot: And Yevgeny, can you please introduce yourself and give some information about your background to Parrot readers?

Yevgeny: My Name is Yevgeny Komlyk. I have been here, in the USA, about six years. I am a former ARC student. I started ESL classes in Ameri-

can River College, and then in 2012 I transferred to Sacramento State University, majoring in Business Administration and Accounting. Besides being a student, I worked in different areas before. I was a driver, and then I worked at Panda Express as a cook. That was hard work! After that, I applied for an internship at Opening Doors, but instead of that they offered me a job. Now, I am working for Opening Doors as a business consultant, and Elina is my supervisor.

Parrot: Could you give us some insight about what your duties there are?

Yevgeny: Absolutely, I am working there as a consultant to perform an outreach in the Slavic Community of Sacramento. One of my duties is to write educational business articles for local Russian newspapers. In addition, Elina and I conduct bi-weekly radio shows in Russian. We are concentrating on different kinds of business topics as well as financial stability and availability of small loans.

Parrot: When you were in your home countries, what did you do there, and what was your education-

al background? Actually, I want to ask if ARC was your first college or not.

Yevgeny: As a high school teenager, I could not go to college when I was in Russia because of my religion. As you know, my country was communist and prevented me from going to college, but I wanted to study and my dreams were completed here, in the USA.

Parrot: So, you achieved your dreams!

Yevgeny: Yes, I like to study.

Parrot: And, immigration has had positive effects on your life!

Yevgeny: Yes, it has.

Parrot: What about you, Eliena? You came here when you were a teenager, and you went to high school, correct?

Elina: Yes, I went right away to summer school. It was after 9th grade, and in 10th grade I was in two ESL classes, when I was 16, in the summer. Then I started the school year, which was very stressful for me. I was not in Sacramento. I lived in Riverside County in Southern California, and there were not any Russian speakers there. There were 360 students in the school and I think I was the only one there who spoke Russian. It was not easy, but I liked it a lot. I made lots of friends. People were friendly, actually. It sped up my English learning. It helped me. I did not know English; I just went to school and built sentences in my head. After I came home from school, I studied for 6 hours. Then after a year, we moved to Sacramento, and it was a little bit different.

Parrot: Yes, there are many Russian people here in Sacramento.

Elina: It was different, and actually, I was happy there. I improved my English faster than when I was in Southern California because I did not have any interruption, just in family. The school, the whole day, was just in English. It was not comfort-

able at the beginning, but I finished high school and I was accepted at UC Davis.

Parrot: Was it hard to go directly from high school to UC Davis?

Elina: It was very hard. I applied to a few universities. I was not sure how I got in UC Davis because of the competition, but I was very determined to get in. So, it was the happiest day in my life at that time. I actually wanted to major in biological science there, but I ended up in International Relations. It was super hard. In high school and in college, it's supposed to be even more demanding, I just had to keep up the GPA with everything, but I really liked the university. Now, I really found out that it was very hard and required a lot of work.

Parrot: So, you worked very hard, and you have achieved what you wanted?

Elina: Yes, I had to work hard. I had to study for hours and hours, but I am really happy.

Parrot: I want to ask both of you to explain if you had any difficulty when you started living in the US.

Elina: We moved to Southern California because my uncle lived there, and we moved to Sacramento when my dad found a permanent job here. So, yes, of course, because English is the only obstacle to find a job. I was a teenager and did not work. I was just studying, but for my parents' ages and old people it is hard to find a job if you do not have English skills.

Parrot: How about you, Yevgeny? Were you married when you came here, and did you have any children?

Yevgeny: I had children. They have finished ARC, too.

Parrot: When you came to the US, did you have any relatives or family that helped you to get established?

Yevgeny: My parents came here first, and they were old. They did not help me a lot because of their ages, but in some ways I have to say yes.

Parrot: I am asking this question because when I think of my Iranian friends who came here as immigrants, most of the time they had many difficulties. Some of them are here as refugees. They came here after they spent some months or years in refugees camps in other countries such as Belgium or Turkey. For example, I met a friend who came here about three months ago. He is 27, and he had been in a refugee camp in Turkey for four years.

Elina: Wow! A long time!

Parrot: Yes, he did not know anything about living here, and he had no plan for his future. I know your organization has some plans to help immigrants, so, can you explain what my friend has to do to connect to your organization and get help.

Elina: It depends on what kind of help he is seeking, and what kind of information he is seeking.

Parrot: Let's talk about my friend. He cannot speak English. He came here after a hard time in the refugee camp without any life experience. Now, he needs to at first learn English and find a job, and then learn the US rules.

Elina: Yes, rules. It is a different thing.

Parrot: So I want to know, as an example, what can you do for this young man?

Yevgeny: First of all, we have interpreters, for example, in Arabic.

Elina: We have some people who speak Arabic, but if needed, we can invite interpreters. I, basically, can talk overall about the program that I am in. The organization was created as a refugee resettlement organization about twenty years ago. We have different people that are working with refugees who are coming to the country and helping them to find an apartment, find schools for their

kids, or find colleges they need to go to, find medical, going to welfare, and to find human assistance. So, if somebody does not have English skills we would invite interpreters, and we have a program if they call us. We will figure out how to help them definitely. We have departments and people who work with refugees. So we are explaining to them where they need to go, what they need to do, how to get licenses. For all of these we have programs in our system.

Parrot: What about the other programs?

Elina: We also have a program that I am working in. We are helping refugees to start their own businesses. So, if they were businessmen in their home countries, we will give them a loan. A lot of these people cannot get loans from the bank because they do not have credit histories. They do not know even what credit history is. Some people also have bad credit histories because they did not know how to deal with it. So, in this program our goal is not just giving money to these people, but sitting down with them, consulting them, and we give them advice about what kind of business they want to open. Sometimes we just drive them in another direction. Maybe they need to think about something else. So, it is just consultation that helps people to figure out what they need to do when they open their businesses. Some people have the skills, but they do not know how to operate in this country.

Yevgeny: We also have another program that helps people to understand how finance works in America. How to pay their bills? How to open a checking account? Because in each country it works differently, and even some people in America do not know how it works.

Elina: The program is called "Money Works", a financial capability program. Money Works used to be in English and Spanish, and it might be developed in other languages. In any case, if the refugees come in, they do not need to be involved in that program. We figure out what they need to do.

Parrot: Are these services free of charge?

Elina: Yes, if a refugee comes in here and talks with us, all of these services are free for them. They can also call us if they have any questions.

Yevgeny: We have some other programs too.

Elina: Yes, we have immigration services programs that help people with domestic violence. The Immigration Legal Services Program specializes in working with victims of crime including victims of domestic abuse, human trafficking, and other violent crimes. Special visas have been established to help free victims from dependency on their perpetrators and to enable them to stay in the US to assist law enforcement in investigating and prosecuting these crimes. Often times victims do not know where to turn and think that there is no help available out there for them. Fortunately, there are specially designed programs that become their last resort and we are happy to help as many people as we can.

Parrot: So, you work in human trafficking, too?

Elina: We have another program for people who have been trafficked. If they call us, we have a special program for these kind of people also.

Parrot: Can you please explain a little more about this program. It is very interesting for me. I read in the newspaper about women who are trafficked. How do you help them?

Elina: Basically Sacramento is a highly trafficked area.

Parrot: Why?

Elina: Many come from Spanish-speaking countries and lots of these people come from Asian countries. Human trafficking is modern slavery around the world. Moreover, this is an ongoing problem in the Sacramento region due to a high immigrant population susceptible to exploitation. Through force, fraud, or coercion victims are manipulated into the commercial sex industry, invol-

untary servitude, debt bondage or slavery. They think they come here to be a student, or they think they come in as workers here, but in reality, it is a lie. They are working in closed massage places. They are working there but not getting paid. They cannot get out because they are without documentation. They think they come here to be students, or to be maids, or working in cleaning services, but in the end they do not have documentation, they do not have anything. They do not speak about their situations with anybody. They do not know there an organization is that can help to get a special visa for them. These kinds of people can call our office numbers if they need help.

Parrot: Can you explain all the programs of Opening Doors in short?

Elina: Yes, Opening Door has five programs. The Microenterprise Loan Program. The Personal Financial Assistance Program (Money Works) which is created for those who are struggling with their day-to-day personal finances and are ready to make changes. The Refugee Resettlement Program, which assists clients with all aspects of resettlement and assimilation to a new country and way of life. The Immigration Legal Services Program specializes in working with victims of crime including victims of domestic abuse, human trafficking, and other violent crimes, and the fifth is the Survivors of Human Trafficking Program.

Parrot: Does Opening Door have any new program?

Yevgeny: Yes, it has. We have a new child care program. It is a new program that is going to help refugees who want to open a day care business. It is a good, new program for women to have their own business.

Elina: It has not started yet, but it will start in a couple of months .

Parrot: I have another question. People who immigrate to the US with a lottery visa, Diversity Visa, have a kind of similarity with refugees because

they are newcomers, too. Has your organization any programs for such people?

Elina: Yes, if they want to open a business, consulting, or want a loan, we can help them. This is the program that I am working in, and they can apply.

Parrot: So, it is not important if they are not refugees; you can help all immigrants, yes?

Elina: Our organization basically works with refugees, but if they are not refugees there are other financial programs that help people to start their own businesses.

Yevgeny: It is a little bit different from refugee programs, but we still have them.

Parrot: As my last question, please explain how other people can help your organization, for example give a donation or some services?

Elina: We have an internship program; we also look for volunteers. We have some people who want to donate for some specific refugee programs. They

help with furniture and clothing. Especially for women trafficked, we need women's clothing, and shampoo and other health-care stuff. We collect them and give them to victims.

Parrot: How about donating money? Do you have any special system?

Elina: Yes, if someone desires to donate, he can call our administrative assistant. She takes care of all of these transactions.

Parrot: So, can you please give our Parrot readers your contact information?

Elina: For any information we are happy to assist you in English, Russian, Spanish or Arabic. Our phone number is 916-492-2591, and our address is 1111 Howe Ave. #125, Sacramento, CA 95825.

Parrot: I appreciate your effort to help immigrants in the United States, and thank you for your time.

Fariba Darvishi
ESLL320

Opening Doors, Inc.



Opening Door's mission is to empower refugees, immigrants, human trafficking survivors, and underserved Sacramento area residents to achieve self-sufficiency by accessing opportunities to mainstream economic and social systems. We do this by providing safe places, skills development, business loans, and connections to community resources, assisting our clients to build financial and personal assets while maintaining their cultural identity and individual goals.

Location:

1111 Howe Ave
Ste. 125
Sacramento, CA 95825

Website: <http://www.openingdoorsinc.org>

Email: info@openingdoorsinc.org

Phone: (916) 492-2591

Services Provided:

* Areas of immigration legal assistance: Adjustment of Status, Consular Processing, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Employment authorization, Family-based petitions, Naturalization/Citizenship, T visas, U visas, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) petitions

* Types of immigration legal services provided: Help completing forms, Filings with USCIS

* Non-legal services: Legal Orientation Programs (LOP) / Know Your Rights Presentations (KYR), Office Of Refugee Resettlement

(ORR)-funded services for trafficking victims, Referrals to other services

* Populations served: Domestic Violence Victims, Farm workers, Human Trafficking Survivors, Individuals who are not in legal immigration status

* Languages spoken: Arabic, Chinese, English, Farsi, French, German, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Portuguese, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Swahili, Vietnamese, Bulgarian, Bosnian

* Access to a commercial interpreting service or language bank:

Yes

* Nominal fee charged? Yes

http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/legaldirectory/organization.393875-Opening_Doors_Inc

Out of the Cage

Interview Success Workshop

Tuesday, September 9, 2014
10:00 am - 11:00 am
Wednesday, September 17, 2014
11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday, September 23, 2014
10:00 am - 11:00 am

This workshop includes information on researching the organization, reviewing anticipated questions, specific strategies, assessing your skills, making a professional presentation, and body language and presentation.

Please call the Career Center and register for this workshop. **916-484-8492**

Location: Career Center in Portable Village 605 B

Resume Development Workshop

Wednesday, September 10, 2014
Tuesday, September 16, 2014
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Thursday, September 25, 2014
Monday, September 29, 2014
11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Your résumé reflects your uniqueness. This workshop focuses on the physical appearance of a résumé, including different types of formats and the kinds of information that should be included. Tips on writing an effective cover letter to send with your résumé will be discussed.

Please call the Career Center to register for this workshop.

916-484-8492

Location: Career Center in Portables 605-B

Roving Vagrant—California's Capitol

Thursday, September 18, 2014
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

It has now been over 150 years since construction began on California's State Capitol. The Capitol building in Sacramento has seen many changes over the last century and a half. It has also been the scene of many important developments in the Golden State's history. The lack of any permanent "seat of government" reflected the chaotic political situation of the new state; for instance, California has had four different capitols: San Jose, Vallejo, Benicia, and Sacramento. The Capitol will always remain an iconic symbol and a great source of civic pride for the people of Sacramento and California.

Location: Raef Hall 160

Ready or Not

Thursday, September 11, 2014
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Fires. Floods. Earthquakes. California, and specifically the Sacramento Valley, is ravaged by these natural disasters regularly. But these are not the only emergencies we face: our homes and workplaces are prime locations for a variety of emergencies, from someone having a heart attack to an active shooter, from grease fires to asthma attacks. Are you ready for "it"? LRCCD Police Chief Cheryl Sears shares *emergency preparedness tips* for the home and workplace so that you can be better prepared prior to, during, and after "it" happens.

Location: Raef Hall 160

Life Cycles: Issues with Your Aging Parent

Monday, September 29, 2014
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Join this on-going discussion series by Barbara Gillogly. These discussions focus on how to balance your own life and remain supportive to your parents' aging process. Additionally, Life Cycles provides guidance towards understanding your role as a caregiver, insight into the stages your parents might experience, how to evaluate proper care for these stages, and how not to lose yourself in the process. Life Cycles discussions are held on the last Monday of the month for this semester.

Location: CTL Conference Room



Questions/Comments?

Student Editors: Olga Cuzeac and Emma Jacques.

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 D337 (Davies Hall), call (916) 484-8988, or e-mail Braccop@arc.losrios.edu. To see The Parrot in color go to http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Programs_of_Study/Humanities/ESL/The_Parrot.htm