



# The Parrot

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

Issue # 103 Spring 2016

## Parrot Sees Humanity in Dr. Lester

**The Parrot:** Hi Prof. Bill Lester, I'm Mohammad from The Parrot. I would like to ask you some questions about yourself and college.

**Bill:** Sounds good.

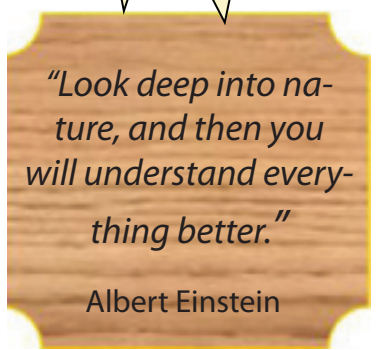
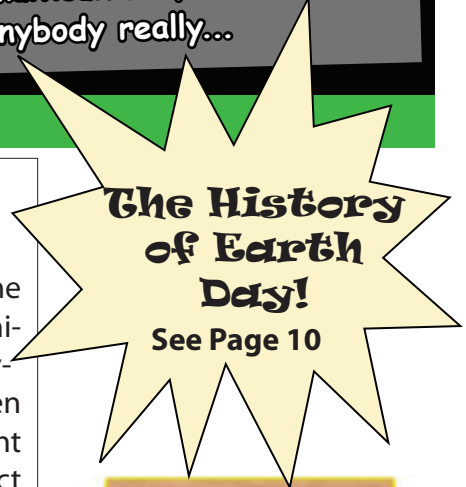
**The Parrot:** Could you introduce yourself please?

**Bill:** My name is Bill and my last name is Zangeneh Lester. This is my philosophy. I'm very happy to be



first year as a full-time instructor of Humanities at American River College. I had been teaching for eight years, but adjunct professor. I taught for Yuba College for quite a bit of time, in Yuba City and Marysville. My very first class I ever taught was world religions, which is also part of my special training. I studied religion and

*Continued on page 19*



## Ten Surprising Expressions in Indian English

Teacher sitting on your head? Friend eating your brain? The British Council's Steven Baker picks out ten expressions you will otherwise only discover by



'My friend is eating my brain.' Photo © Mat Wright

going to India.

Did you know there are more users of English in India than in the United Kingdom, Australia, United

*Continued on page 12*

**Inside this Issue**

- Job Loss..... 2
- Love Loss..... 3
- Success Loss..... 4
- Kid Loss..... 6
- Pakistan Vs US School.. 8
- Bad to Good..... 9



## Student Chirpings

### Let's lose Our Job!

Have you ever thought of losing your job? Do you hate your job? Lose it. Not everyone gets their dream job but why stick at it? Let's get fired! Getting fired is easy. You just have to follow my steps. All that you need to do to get fired is do nothing and do not even try to do anything. You always have heard people say do not give up. the things that are hard but how about if I tell you to give up your job and be the worst employee of the month. There are three major steps in the process for people trying to lose their jobs.

The first major step in the process is always being late. Whenever you are late, it drives the boss crazy. Being late shows your boss that you are not responsible. Next, give nonsense excuses like telling your boss you were hungry and did not feel like going anywhere. After that, take a long time to finish your work and leave some missing stuff in your work. Then just do your job poorly, and it is the easiest thing anyone could do. Being on time is a major problem for the manager because it shows your lack of responsibility and commitment to your job. You can just break those. After that do not show any interest in your job. Skip some work, show up late, sleep on the job, leave early, and take a lot of days off.

The second major step in the process is playing around. Have fun. Mess around. Bother the customers if you work for a company or store, or leave your work. Take a walk around the building. Be rude to your co-workers. Act carelessly like a teenager.

Show them a different side of you. After that go to your manager and waste his time. Find any kind of way to make people complain about you. In the meanwhile, be noisy and make people around you lose their minds. Talk loudly and complain from your office or the area you work in.

The third major step in the process is break-

ing the rules. Stop following the rules! Rules are for those who want to keep their jobs. You do not want to. Act like you do not know anything about the rules. Act like you just got the job and know nothing about it. Next use your phone during your working hours. Make long phone calls. Take lots



I've been fired.  
Now what?

I've been fired.  
So what?

and lots of breaks without even working. Chat with others. Talk about how much you hate your work to your manager. Avoid working. After this you will get fired and you will have the chance to live the way you choose. I really hope you will get fired.

In conclusion, if you want to get fired from your job for any reason, you can follow my steps. I hope it works for you. First, you have to be late for everything, have fun at your work, and do not ever do what they tell you. Be the stubborn kid at your job, and be the worst employee for the month. Make it remarkable. Do badly at everything. Basically be lazy and you will get fired. After that you will have a happy life.

*Betul Yousif*  
*ESLW50*

## How to Break up with Someone

Meeting someone and falling in love with that person is a wonderful thing that most of us have experienced at least once or twice in life. That part seems to be easy. However, breaking up with the person you once fell in love is never easy at all. The reason is because it will hurt the person, and it perhaps hurt you too. You can only try to make it a little easier for the person you want to break up with. The question is how do you do that? Certainly, there are many steps a person should take to break up with someone to minimize hurting the person.

The first step you should take to break up with someone is to give him some hints. It is hard for someone to accept a breakup with the person he loves without a sign or warning. It is cruel to maintain some distance from your partner before you actually break up, but this is the first step that one should take. By doing this, you will

gain some emotional distance to prepare yourself for the next step. On the other hand, your partner will have an idea that something is about to happen and it will emotionally prepare him. So, for whatever reason you decide to break up with your partner, you should immediately stop contacting that person as much as possible. You can start reducing the number of times you usually call or see your partner. Then, whenever that person calls you or comes to see you in person, try to make up some excuses. Do not give too much information. Just say you're busy. Do not try to be as sweet as before, but also not cruel to him. For example, I have a friend who avoided seeing his girlfriend for a few days before breaking up with her because he knew he wanted to end the relationship. He tried not to answer her phone calls,

and made up excuses to talk to her less and always pretended to be so busy. His girlfriend started to realize that he was trying to avoid her.

The second step you should take to break up with someone is to be well-prepared. You have to know what to say in advance. You need to take some time to think about what you are going to say to your partner. You can write it down on a piece of paper, and give it some thought. He will be asking you many questions as to why you want to break up, so be prepared for him. Although it is a personal and sensitive matter, you can talk to someone you trust,

like a best friend for advice. Keep in mind to be confident and honest when answering him, but not be cold. This way your partner might understand and be less angry at you. I remember when I broke up with my ex-boyfriend, I had to think about what to say for days and how to say it. I even talked to my best friend



about it to ask for advice.

A final step you should take to break up with someone is to talk to your partner in person when you are ready to say it. Before you go to see your partner and say the word "break up", make sure you are relaxed and calm. Never use email, text messages, or phone calls. Not being direct and not communicating a face-to-face is tempting because it's much easier for you, but it may create more anger and hatred in your partner. You owe your partner to look him in the eyes when you break up because that's the least you can do. It's easier for the person left behind to face the break up when you tell him personally. Remember, do not dress so fancy that the person might think you are happy to break up. This will

cause more pain. Just dress casually. Then, when you are set to go, call the person to meet you at some place appropriate. Don't meet at places where you two met and spent time together because it might bring up more painful memories. Lastly, when you are face-to-face with the person, say it with sincerity and honesty, but avoid intimate contact when talking. Depending on the personality of your partner and the length of time you and your partner were together, there can be crying, resistance, begging, or even aggressiveness. Try to stay calm, whatever happens.

In conclusion, falling in love is a wonderful thing to do in life, but breaking up with that person

is very difficult and painful. There are many steps one should take to break up with someone to avoid hurting the person, or at least to minimize the pain. Everyone has different ideas and experiences when it comes to relationships, so we might have different ways to break up with someone. The above steps are just from my personal experience and do not represent a method of how to break up with someone. It is merely an opinion of my view of a relationship breakup. The main idea is, hopefully, that everyone would choose the right way to break up with someone peacefully.

Dao "Jenny" Nghiem  
ESLW50

## Failure is a Better Teacher than Success

I am sure that the more people fail in life, the better chances people have to learn from their mistakes and become successful. In fact, the way I see failure is that we are always learning from our mistakes. These mistakes make us stronger and wiser people in this life. Even if people are attending school, they can learn more from their mistakes than their successes. When I was in college in Mexico, my country, I used to make a lot of mistakes in my assignments, on my tests, in everything, but this helped me to learn more. Thanks to my mistakes, I became a successful person. I usually learn more from my failures than my successes. Because of this, I strongly agree with the idea that failure is a better teacher than success because we learn more thanks to our mistakes, we become stronger people thanks to our mistakes, and we become wiser people thanks to our mistakes.

The first reason why failure is a better teacher than success is because we learn from our mistakes. Humans tend to learn from their mistakes. For example, when you get a parking ticket, you are more likely to feed the meter and make sure that you do not get another ticket. In essence, you learn from your mis-

take. That mistake will always remain in your memory, and you will never forget it. This will help you to not make the same mistake again. When I was in college in Mexico, I had a lot of confidence in myself. Unfortunately, this confidence turned into egomania. I started to believe that I could do well in all subjects, and I didn't push myself enough to be successful. A

little time later, I started to fail in my subjects. From this situation, I learned to be more humble about my abilities, and I started to push myself even more than I really needed. In addition, making mistakes is the best way to clarify our doubts. If you do not know what you want to do in your life, you shouldn't be afraid of making mistakes and failing

in your goals. I had a friend who tried three different majors before finding the correct one for himself. Currently he is a successful doctor who works in the biggest hospital in Mexico City. When he tried major and a few time later he decided to try another, I asked him, "Why do you change majors every semester? Aren't you afraid of not being able to finish a career path and not having a good job?" He told me, "I'm not afraid to try again and make a mistake once more. I learn from my mistakes because mistakes always remain in my memory, and I don't want to finish

**FAILURE**  
is  
**SUCCESS**

if we learn  
from it.

*Malcolm Forbes*



that I don't like " He taught me this, and since then, I strongly believe that people learn more from their mistakes.

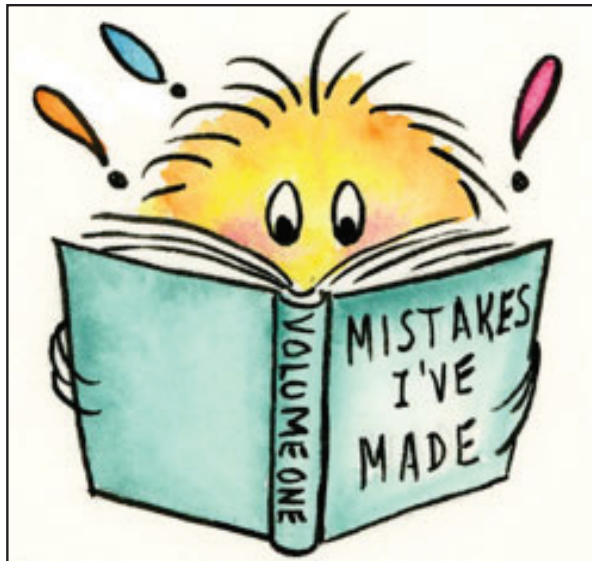
The second reason why failure is a better teacher than success is because we become stronger people thanks to our mistakes. After a mistake, our lives change and our minds as well. My friend taught me this too. His life changed whenever he made a mistake. When he decided that his major wasn't what he was searching for, he didn't even think about it. He just made his decision and started from the beginning. Thanks to this, he became a strong-minded person because he didn't worry about what other people said about him. He told me, "It's for sure that whenever you make a mistake or fail in your goals, people are going to talk about you. But if you pay attention, and you worry more about what they are going to say about you, instead of worrying about what you want to do, then you will be a weak person all your life. If you don't follow your heart, you will then be unhappy for the rest of your life." My dear friend taught

me this, and I learned from him that our strength as human beings increases after we make mistakes. I learned that we should be capable of accepting our mistakes and trying to correct them, and not to live with them to make other people happy. Six years ago, I was attending the first semester of Medicine. After three months from the beginning of the semester I decided to drop the classes because I didn't like them. My relatives and neighbors started to say that I was a loser for giving up my career. I didn't pay them attention. I was just following my friend's example and chasing my dreams. It was then that I decided to study Economics because I love math. I finished my major a year ago, and I am quite happy that I made the mistake, of studying Medicine because thanks to this mistake I was able to find the career that I really like. However, I am even happier for not having heard people's opinion about me and for chasing my

dreams. After making a mistake, it's easier to accept that we are not perfect and that we don't have to be perfect. Accepting this makes us stronger people.

The third and most important reason why failure is a better teacher than success is because we become wiser people thanks to our mistakes. We are capable of thinking and reflecting more about our actions after making mistakes. My friend said to me, "We can make mistakes; that's for sure. But you should be a wise person to know in what kinds of things you can make mistakes, and learn from them. Otherwise, you will prove that you didn't learn from your mistakes." With this advice,

he showed me that failure gives us experience, and this experience makes us capable of giving good advice to other people. He became wiser than he was before making his mistakes. The second time that he changed his major was because his father didn't like his major. He made the mistake of paying attention to his father's opinion, and not paying attention to what he wanted to do. After this he never paid attention again to someone else's opinion about his life and his



decisions. Now he is still making mistakes, but he has enough wisdom to choose in what kind of things he can make mistakes. The real secret is not only making mistakes fortuitously but to learn from them, and use this knowledge to be a better person in this world. Failure is the wisdom source for humans, and success wouldn't exist without failure. They both complement each other.

In conclusion, failure is in some way the same as making mistakes. Humans learn a lot of things from their mistakes. Humans also become stronger thanks to their mistakes. Humans become wiser because they are capable of learning from their mistakes. Because of this, failure is a better teacher than success.

## Unconditional Love

Has your life ever changed because of someone? At that time my husband and I had been married for ten years, and we didn't have kids because it was my idea. I think life is so difficult and complicated even though I have a good family and a good husband. One day, however, a wonderful life came to my life.

Mike was an orphan, a seven-month-old baby boy. He had big dark brown eyes, dark skin, curly hair, and was skinny. I had taken care of him until he was one-year-old at an orphanage, and I took him home with me after I became a foster parent. I was so excited and happy. I was thinking about how I would have fun and have a good time with him.



It wasn't as I thought. Mike cried on the way from the orphanage to our house. When we got to our house, he cried louder and louder. He stood up against the wall, and hit his head, and stared at me. I was shocked even though his teacher already told us that if he hurt himself, it was because he wanted to get attention the wrong way. I had to be at peace, and make sure he wouldn't be in danger. I spoke kindly to him when I sat down on the chair, and waited for him to walk to me. He was a one-year-old boy, but he couldn't speak. It was normal for children growing up at the orphanage to be slow learning to speak. Mike had big dark brown eyes, and he communicated with his eyes to me. I tried to understand him, but I still didn't understand what he wanted from me. I was so

confused. It was a very hard time for me to watch Mike cry and hit his head on the wall, and I still couldn't do anything. He hurt himself two or three hours a day until he fell sleep. I almost gave up and sent him back to the orphanage, but I didn't want to hurt his feelings. My friends and my family said that I was crazy to take care of someone, as he wasn't my child or someone's in my family. I didn't listen to anybody, as usual, and I still took care of him. I asked his teacher what I should do for him,

and she said, "Mike is testing you. He wants to know how much you love him. You don't have to do anything until Mike feels com-

fortable and trusts both of you." I had to be patient, and finally he got better. It was true as the teacher told me that Mike got better after two weeks, and didn't act out again. There were two things that we needed: to train Mike how to use the bathroom instead of using a diaper, and to not drink milk at night time. I failed in both. Maybe we spoiled him or only me! I taught him how to share his snacks and his toys. When I took care of Mike at the orphanage, I couldn't hold or give anything to other children. Mike would cry if he saw it. The teacher said, "It is normal for orphans when they own something to not want to share with anybody because they have a lack of love." When my husband and I took him to the orphanage, we brought a lot of snacks for his friends. The first time Mike cried

and didn't want to share his snacks, but later he picked up his snacks and gave them to his friends by himself. I was so proud of him. Every night before he was asleep, he always wanted me to cuddle with him. Sometimes I wanted to play with him, so I pretended to fall sleep. He tried to get close to me little by little, and he looked closely at me because he wanted to make sure that I fell sleep. When he found out, I pretended to fall sleep. He was smiling with stars in his eyes, and he moved so quickly for me to cuddle with him. He started to speak and call me "Mom." I was surprised. When I talked to him, I called myself auntie, and my husband called himself uncle. We didn't allow him to call us Mom and Dad because Mike would be confused, and he wouldn't understand when he had to move to another family. I tried to get him to call me auntie even if I liked to hear "Mom." When he called me "Mom," I was so proud and happy. My husband warned me to prepare myself for when Mike would go to his adoptive Belgian family. And then, that time came when I wished the world would stop spinning.

Mike had stayed with us for one year and four months when we got a call from the orphanage. We had to take him to the orphanage, so he could go to Belgium the next day. Just like that! The teacher already let me know because it was normal, and it was the best way for the children, and the foster home. My husband and I cried and were speechless when we drove the car back home. I only remember when my husband held him and gave him to the teacher. Mike cried a lot while he stared at me. I had to turn myself the opposite way; I asked myself if I did right or wrong!

There are lots of opinions about the value of foster homes. Some people agree that it will help the children develop their natural abilities, but some people don't agree. It will hurt the children more because they think the children have to adjust themselves every time, moving from one house to another house. However, I think a foster home will help the children develop because humans need someone to take care of them. Humans are different from animals. Children need someone to help them to develop their natural abilities, especially how to love. I learned how to love from Mike.



Since I had Mike, I learned how to appreciate my family and my friends more. I learned to be patient, peaceful, and forgiving. When I took care of Mike, people said that Mike was very lucky to have my husband and me. But for me, I think I was very lucky to have him. I learned a lot of things from Mike. It wasn't easy for a little boy to grow up without his own family, who he could trust. Mike is my hero. When I am disappointed with something, I always think about Mike to

cheer myself up. I remember Mike smiling when he enjoyed my cooking, and how he was so happy when I cuddled with him. It is a special feeling to say how lucky I am to have had unconditional love. Do you think it was my destiny to meet Mike? My husband and I hope we will see Mike again. Even though he won't recognize us, I believe deep in his heart we are there. I know he knew I loved him the same as he knows I knew he loved me. Did you hug your mom and your dad today?

*Pattaraporn Callorina*  
ESLW50

## Difference between Pakistani School and American School

I finished high school 28 years ago in my country Pakistan. I got married after finishing high school. I couldn't start studying again even when I tried several times. In Pakistan, there is a different system for high school. We study from grade 1 to 10 in school and for 11 and 12 grades, we go to college. I also completed my eleventh and twelfth grades at Govt. College Faisal Abad for women. At that time this was the best college of my hometown Faisal Abad. Now many private colleges started there. After coming to the United States, I started studying again in 2013 at ARC. It was unbelievable for me to study after 25 years. There are many differences between ARC and Govt. College in my home town. The campus of Faisal Abad Govt College was also beautiful and large. However, ARC is much bigger than my previous college. I can compare ARC with my previous college by three main differences: time schedule, pattern, and behavior.

The first is schedule. I said it was a long time ago when I studied in my country. I went to college six days a week from 8 am to 3 pm every day. I went to the college by college bus. The day was so long. I was exhausted when I came back. In contrast, at ARC I don't have to come to the college every day. I can make my schedule according to my time. My son takes classes according to his job schedule; my daughter is also studying at ARC. She also takes classes as suits her. Studying at ARC is more convenient than studying in Pakistan.

The second difference between ARC and Govt College Faisal Abad is pattern. When I studied twenty-eight years ago, life was also different in my country. At that time, my classes from grade 11 to 14 were in colleges and post graduate or classes for masters degree were at universities. Colleges were separate for boys and girls. I was studying in college

for women. All my teachers were also female. At my college, no boy was permitted to enter. All the students had to wear uniforms. At ARC not only male and female are studying here; all students are different by color, race, nationalities, or religions. All the teachers are also male and female. Every student can dress by his own choice. I feel more comfortable at ARC.

The third and the most important difference is behavior. In my country at my hometown's college, we behaved differently. Every student respected her teachers. Students had to come in the class before the teacher came. We all stood up when our teacher came. Students never let their teachers clean the board. Nobody could talk to other classmates during the lecture. We never thought about kidding with teachers. In Pakistan, if a teacher was coming, we stood to the side and never walked in front of a teacher. If we ran into our teacher somewhere, we could not walk beside

him. On the other hand, the situation is different in the United States. I was surprised when I first saw nobody cares about teachers. Students laugh and yell while teachers pass by them. Sometimes, I got confused between the teacher and students. There is no identification of students and teachers. The teachers' behavior is also different. They don't order the students to do the assignments. Teachers are friendly and don't fret about the students' careless behavior.

In conclusion, there are many differences between ARC and my college in Pakistan. Some differences are because of culture and some are because of time and religion. Although, there is really no comparison between a Pakistan school and American school, I tried for the sake of my prompt.

*Kishwar Saeeda*  
ESLW50





## Seemed Bad But Turned Out To Be Good

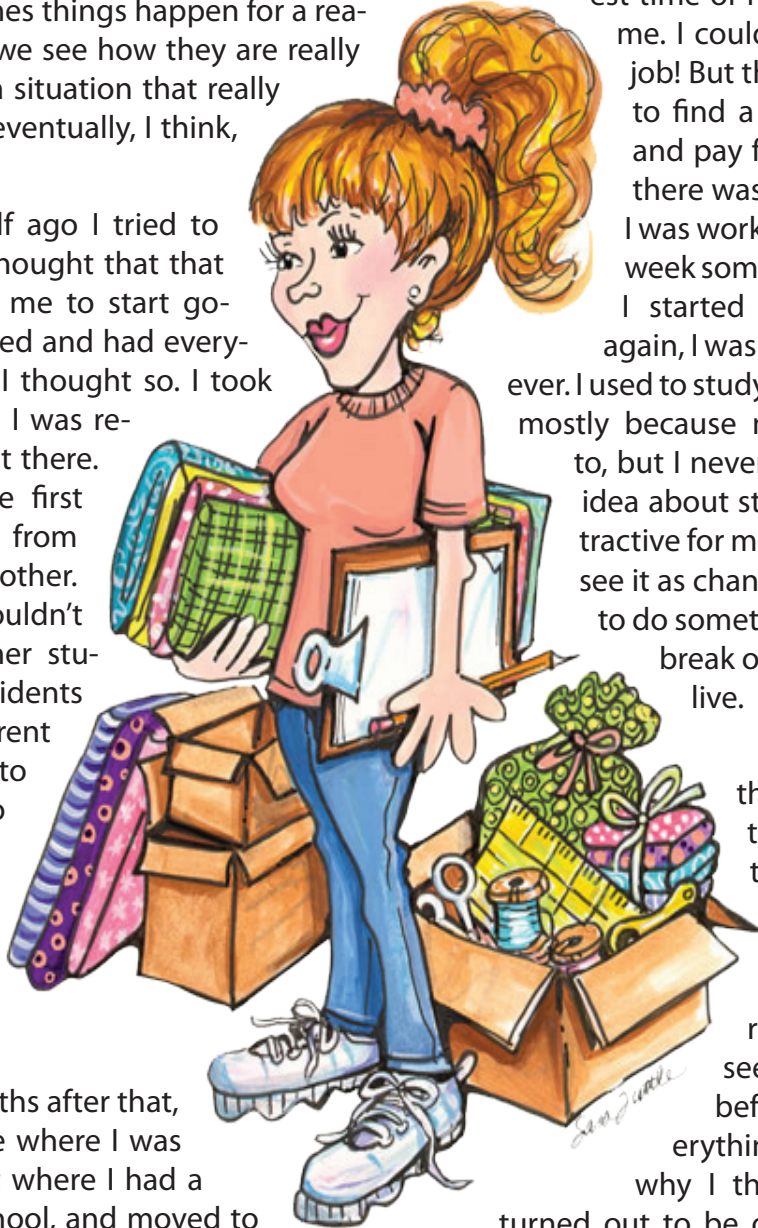
There were many situations in my life when I thought that nothing could be worse than what happened, but sometimes things happen for a reason and only later can we see how they are really supposed to be. I had a situation that really seemed to be bad but eventually, I think, turned out to be good.

A year-and-a-half ago I tried to start attending ARC. I thought that that was a perfect time for me to start going to school. So I applied and had everything ready or at least I thought so. I took a couple of classes and I was really happy to be present there. But by the end of the first week, I was dropped from one class, then from another. As I found out later, I couldn't attend college like other students because non-residents have a completely different procedure. They have to pay for classes. I had no money to pay and I was a non-resident. I was really upset. I felt like the whole world was against me. So, I went back to my routine.

A couple of months after that, I had to leave the place where I was living and working, but where I had a possibility to attend school, and moved to other place. I was living with a nice family but I was busy day and night. I had no free time anymore. I guess at that time that was the only way for me to survive. Now I think if I could have gotten to school back then, I would have had to quit it anyway. I consider that quitting is even worse than never starting.

Sometime later after that, maybe half a year or so, I became a resident of America. That was the happiest time of my life. It meant a lot for me. I could have a job now, a real job! But that also meant that I had to find a place for myself to live and pay for that place. Of course, there was no way for me to study. I was working up to sixty hours per week sometimes. Eventually, when I started thinking about school again, I was ready for that more than ever. I used to study in university before, but mostly because my parents wanted me to, but I never felt self-motivated. The idea about studying never was so attractive for me before. But now I could see it as chance to be something else, to do something that I want to do, to break out of the life that I use to live.

Now I'm sure that if I could have gotten to school at the very first time when I wanted it so badly, I would never have had a chance to collect this experience that helps me to see things differently than before and appreciate everything I'm having now. That's why I think the situation really turned out to be good when I thought it couldn't be worse.



Olena Kovalyova  
ESLW50

## Nestscape -- Articles from The Web

### How the First Earth Day Came About

*By Senator Gaylord Nelson, Founder of Earth Day*



What was the purpose of Earth Day? How did it start? These are the questions I am most frequently asked.

Actually, the idea for Earth Day evolved over a period of seven years starting in 1962. For several years, it had been troubling me that the state of our environment was simply a non-issue in the politics of the country. Finally, in November 1962, an idea occurred to me that was, I thought, a virtual cinch to put the environment into the political "limelight" once and for all. The idea was to persuade President Kennedy to give visibility to this issue by going on a national conservation tour. I flew to Washington to discuss the proposal with Attorney General Robert Kennedy, who liked the idea. So did the President. The Presi-

dent began his five-day, eleven-state conservation tour in September 1963. For many reasons the tour did not succeed in putting the issue onto the national political agenda. However, it was the germ of the idea that ultimately flowered into Earth Day.

I continued to speak on environmental issues to a variety of audiences in some twenty-five states. All across the country, evidence of environmental degradation was appearing everywhere, and everyone noticed except the political establishment. The environmental issue simply was not to be found on the nation's political agenda. The people were concerned, but the politicians were not.

After President Kennedy's tour, I still hoped for some idea that would thrust the environment into the political mainstream. Six years would pass before the idea that became Earth Day occurred to me while on a conservation speaking tour out West in the summer of 1969. At the time, anti-Vietnam War demonstrations, called "teach-ins," had spread to college campuses all across the nation. Suddenly, the idea occurred to me - why not organize a huge grassroots protest over



what was happening to our environment?

I was satisfied that if we could tap into the environmental concerns of the general public and



infuse the student anti-war energy into the environmental cause, we could generate a demonstration that would force this issue onto the political agenda. It was a big gamble, but worth a try.

At a conference in Seattle in September 1969, I announced that in the spring of 1970 there would be a nationwide grassroots demonstration on behalf of the environment and invited everyone to participate. The wire services carried the story from coast to coast. The response was electric. It took off like gangbusters. Telegrams, letters, and telephone inquiries poured in from all across the country. The American people finally had a forum to express its concern about what was happening to the land, rivers, lakes, and air - and they did so with spectacular exuberance. For the next four months, two members of my Senate staff, Linda Billings and John Heritage, managed Earth Day affairs out of

my Senate office.

Five months before Earth Day, on Sunday, November 30, 1969, The New York Times carried a lengthy article by Gladwin Hill reporting on the astonishing proliferation of environmental events:

“Rising concern about the environmental crisis is sweeping the nation’s campuses with an intensity that may be on its way to eclipsing student discontent over the war in Vietnam...a national day of observance of environmental problems...is being planned for next spring...when a nationwide environmental ‘teach-in’...coordinated from the office of Senator Gaylord Nelson is planned...”

It was obvious that we were headed for a spectacular success on Earth Day. It was also obvious that grassroots activities had ballooned beyond the capacity of my U.S. Senate office staff to keep up with the telephone calls, paper work, inquiries, etc. In mid-January, three months before Earth Day, John Gardner, Founder of Common Cause, provided temporary space for a Washington, D.C. headquarters. I staffed the office with college students and selected Denis Hayes as coordinator of activities.

Earth Day worked because of the spontaneous response at the grassroots level. We had neither the time nor resources to organize 20 million demonstrators and the thousands of schools and local communities that participated. That was the remarkable thing about Earth Day. It organized itself.



<http://earthday.envirolink.org/history.html>

## Ten Surprising Expressions in Indian English

*Continued from page 1*

States, New Zealand and South Africa combined? Not only that, but the colourful Hindi-to-English translations, and use of what would be considered archaic vocabulary elsewhere, mean that Indian Eng-



lish is like no other variety on earth. Here are a few examples:

### **1. 'I am doing my graduation in London'**

We often think of our graduation as the ceremony where you dress up in a gown and cap to collect your degree certificate after three years of early-morning lectures and late-night studying. Not in India. Here, your graduation isn't about that one special day, but refers to the full undergraduate course. 'I did my graduation at the University of London' is the equivalent of saying 'I studied for my degree at the University of London'.

### **2. 'I passed out of college'**

When someone passes out, your first response may be to loosen their collar and get a cold towel. Fear not, in India, passing out has little to do with fainting or falling unconscious. It actually links to number one on the list. 'I passed out' from this college or that university is the Indian-English way of saying 'I graduated'.

### **3. 'My neighbour is foreign-returned'**

Studying abroad is a popular option for Indian students. Being 'foreign-returned' – i.e., returning to India after living in another country – is seen as a good way to improve one's chances of landing a job. It is also an asset in the matrimonial adverts you find in Indian newspapers every Sunday.

### **4. 'My daughter is convent-educated'**

A further expression found in matrimonial ads. To be 'convent-educated' is another way of saying that you studied in a school where the medium of instruction was English. The expression dates back to a time when teaching in India was often delivered by members of the clergy.

### **5. 'I belong to Delhi'**

Ask the question 'Where are you from?' in the UK, and you will get a response such as 'I'm from London' or 'I'm from Manchester'. In India, you are more likely to hear allegiance to a city: 'I belong to Delhi' or 'I belong to Mumbai'.

### **6. 'Where's the nearest departmental store?'**

When Bollywood actors visit the UK, shopping is often at the top of their list of things to do. Department stores like Selfridges and Harrods are especially popular. If a Hindi film star ever stops you in the street and asks for directions to the nearest 'departmental store', you now know where to direct them.

### **7. 'My teacher is sitting on my head'**

'Tell your teacher to get down' might sound like the correct response. The expression, however, is a direct translation of the Hindi statement 'Mera teacher mere sir pe betha hai' – a colloquial way of complaining 'My teacher is stressing me out'.

### **8. 'My friend is eating my brain'**

Don't worry, you won't need to pass the salt. A similar Hindi-to-English translation to number seven, 'My friend is eating my brain' ('Mera friend mera dimag kha raha hai') is a somewhat informal way of saying that your friend won't stop talking.

### **9. 'Monkey cap'**

We often think of India as being extremely hot, but in the north of the country, the winters can get surprisingly chilly. Head to five-degree Delhi in December and you will see lots of people in 'monkey caps' – a descriptive Indian-English name for the good old balaclava.

### 10. 'Why This Kolaveri Di?'

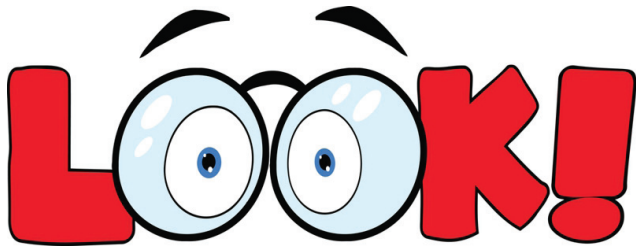
Which foreign language pop song has had 98,439,949 views on YouTube (last time I checked)? Gangnam

Style by Korean pop star Psy may seem like the obvious answer – but you would be wrong. It's actually the Tamil film track *Why This Kolaveri Di?*, which went viral in 2011. With Tamil and English, or 'Tanglish' lyrics, actor-singer Dhanush provides vocals on this down-tempo, acoustic folk tune. For such a sweetly sung song, the title actually translates as 'Why This Murderous Rage, Girl?'

By Steven Baker, 26 October 2015

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/ten-surprising-expressions-indian-english>

## Three Surprising Ways to Use Technology to Learn a Language



The global economy has created such demand for cross-cultural communication that people can't help but pay more attention to language learning, both as a problem to solve and as a business opportunity to explore. The oft-cited observation that there are more people in China learning English than there are people living in the United States is not only accurate, but it offers a glimpse at the truly staggering demand for language learning around the world today.

But there is a major problem of scale: There are nowhere near enough qualified language teachers to meet this increasing demand. And so everyone, from educational institutions to new businesses, is grasping at technology to bridge the gap. The challenge, of course, is that after decades of research, we know that learning a language requires a significant investment of time and effort, an investment that most people are not willing to make unless what they're learning is relevant to their everyday life.

One simple way to do this is by taking

advantage of everyday technologies that are not necessarily intended to teach language but can nevertheless be harnessed to provide instruction when we are most likely to benefit from it. There are, in fact, many ways to use technological applications for language learning. Here are three particularly useful places to begin:



**Watch movies with foreign subtitles.** It is no surprise that watching movies and TV shows in a language you are learning is a great way to get the authentic listening practice you need to improve your proficiency. Indeed, many people believe that watching foreign films in their target language—but with subtitles in their native language—will improve their second language skills. However, the minute you start watching with subtitles in your native language, you are dooming yourself to failure. That's because reading takes over from listening, and you don't pay

attention to the speech; after a few moments of growing accustomed to the subtitles, you won't even notice that you are reading. The good news, though, is that if you watch a movie with subtitles in the language you are learning, rather than English, you are more likely to understand the video and learn from it.



**Listen to directions.** The GPS in your car might seem an unlikely place to improve your foreign language skills, but if you can change the settings to the language you are studying, you will get authentic, real-world practice following directions in a new language. Research has shown that task-based learning—essentially, learning a language by way of tasks relevant to your daily life—is very effective. This GPS technique, therefore, works well for a couple of reasons. First, you get listening practice with very real consequences: If you don't follow the directions, you don't arrive at your destination. Second, you have some context and background information to help you understand the language. If you begin by using the GPS on a route that you know well, you can simply use it to learn new words for the directions you are already following. And as a more advanced learner you can use the GPS on unfamiliar routes, which offers some high-stakes pressure, something else which has been shown to help adults learn new skills.

**Change your settings.** Changing the language settings on your phone, computer, or tablet can be

an exercise in frustration. But if you are actively trying to learn a language, changing your settings gives you the opportunity to use a new language to complete tasks that you are already doing anyway. You can sort and filter emails, search for apps, and browse the web, all in the language you are learning. And, as with the GPS recommendation, you have some context for the new vocabulary words you are learning, and some sense of how to complete these tasks, all of which will help you. In addition, you will have frequent opportunities to work on your reading skills, since every time you want to open an app, check your email, or find a document, you'll be forced to practice in the language you are learning. When you're feeling especially daring, try this at the ATM!

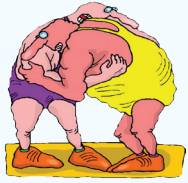


These three tips offer chances to practice using a new language in a realistic, authentic setting, because we know that people learn languages best when real-life stakes are involved. So whether it's the movies you watch, the directions you follow, or the applications you use, if you're willing to try them in your new language, you may be surprised at how quickly you make noticeable progress.

This article is by Katharine B. Nielson, the chief education officer at Voxy, a language-learning company based in New York City.

*<http://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesleadershipforum/2014/05/08/three-surprising-ways-to-use-technology-to-learn-a-language/#29200b756f78>*

# Parrot Warbling



## Grappling with Grammar

### Use Of Quotation Marks

“ ”

**Quotation marks** are used to identify certain words as being the ones a person said. Quotation marks are used to separate the quote from the rest of the sentence or text which is not quoted.

He said, “I’m off to the store. Need anything?”  
Written on the wall was the quip, “Petrus hic erat.”  
“A lazy oaf”: that’s what Mom said you were.  
No matter what her professor said, Anna didn’t think she was “over-exuberant.”

**Quotation marks** always come in pairs; we say the first set “opens” the quote, and the second set “closes” the quote. Make sure the quotes are opened and closed.

They shouted, \_The British are coming!”  
*This sentence is missing the opening quotation marks.*  
They shouted, “The British are coming!”

As anything within the **quotation marks** is separate from the text you’ve written, the capitals and punctuation must be those of the quote, not those of your text. For instance, no matter where it is in your sentence, the beginning of a quoted sentence should be capitalized.

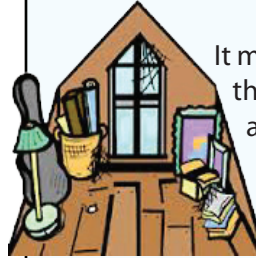
The little boy said, “No matter what, I’m not cleaning my room!”

The capital N needs to be there because it belongs to the quote. The exclamation mark goes inside the quotation marks because it belongs to the quote.

[http://www.edufind.com/english/grammar/pre\\_determiners.php](http://www.edufind.com/english/grammar/pre_determiners.php)

### Idiom--Attic

#### (To) Face the music



It means to “face reality” or to deal with the reality of the situation and accept all the consequences good or bad (but mostly bad).

Ex: When the missing money was noticed, he chose to disappear rather than face the music.

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

### Beak Speak

#### Consonant Sound K

This sound can be produced from the letters **k**, **c**, and **qu**.

Words beginning with a ‘c’ are pronounced with a ‘k’ sound, unless the letter after the ‘c’ is e, i, or y. In these words the word is pronounced with an ‘s’ sound.



Words beginning with ‘qu’ are pronounced with a ‘k’ sound if the letter before the ‘qu’ is a or i. All other words are pronounced with a ‘q’ sound.

Kill	kangaroo	silk	wink
flock	Cat	tic	concave
baccarat	cocoon	liquor	lacquer

<http://pronunciationtips.com/sound-changes/sound-reductions/>



# Some More Parrot Fun Stuff

## Public Library

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message - a Henry Ward Beecher quotation.

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

APPLIED SCIENCE  
ARTS  
BIOGRAPHY  
BOOKS  
BORROW  
BRANCH  
CATALOG  
CHAIRS  
CHECKOUT  
COMPUTERS  
DICTIONARY  
DUE DATE

ENCYCLOPEDIA  
FICTION  
FINES  
GEOGRAPHY  
HARDCOVER  
HISTORY  
INFORMATION  
INTERNET  
LANGUAGES  
LIBRARIAN  
LIBRARY CARD  
LITERATURE

MAGAZINES  
MATHEMATICS  
MOVIES  
MUSIC  
NEWSPAPERS  
NOVELS  
OVERDUE  
PAPERBACK  
PERIODICALS  
PHILOSOPHY  
PHOTOCOPIER  
PSYCHOLOGY

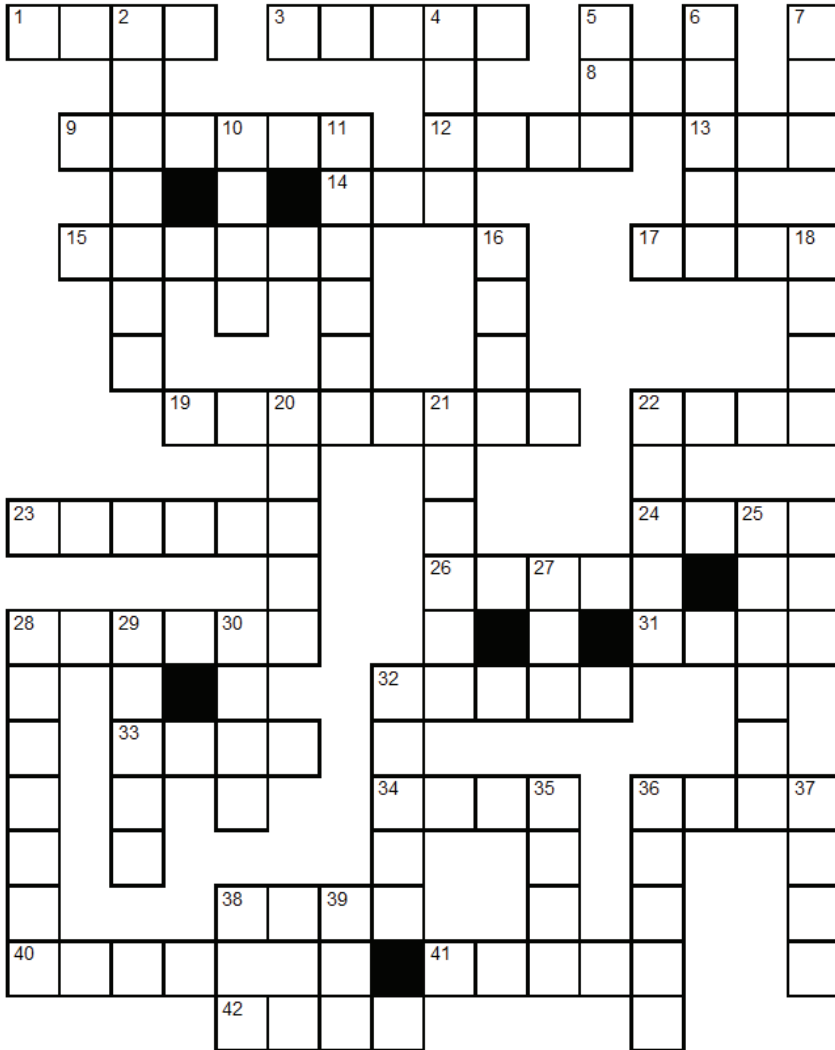
QUIET  
READ  
RECREATION  
RELIGION  
RENEW  
RESEARCH  
RESERVE  
SHELVES  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
TABLES  
TECHNOLOGY







# Word Skill



**Across**

- 1 Another way to say 'very big.'
- 3 Another word for kid.
- 8 The opposite of in.
- 9 A kind of fruit that begins with G.
- 12 The antonym of fast.
- 13 The opposite of young.
- 14 A pet that rhymes with hat.
- 15 A kind of fruit that begins with B.
- 17 Another word for jump.
- 19 A kind of fish that begins with G.
- 22 Another word for speak.
- 23 A season that rhymes with king.
- 24 A food that rhymes with dice.
- 26 A kind of fruit that begins with A.
- 28 Another way to say 'run fast.'
- 31 A forest animal that rhymes with here.
- 32 Another word for big.
- 33 A farm animal that rhymes with boat.
- 34 A drink that rhymes with silk.
- 36 The opposite of soft.
- 38 The antonym of thick.
- 40 The opposite of east.
- 41 A farm animal that rhymes with sleep.
- 42 The opposite of push.

**Down**

- 2 A synonym for trash.
- 4 The opposite of first.
- 5 A farm animal that rhymes with wow.
- 6 Another word for rock.
- 7 The antonym of good.
- 10 A fruit that rhymes with hair.
- 11 A synonym of afraid.
- 16 Another word for throw.
- 18 A place that rhymes with dark.
- 20 The opposite of heavy.
- 21 A type of lizard that begins with L.
- 22 A synonym of sleepy.
- 25 Another word for smart.
- 27 A farm animal that rhymes with wig.
- 28 The opposite of deep.
- 29 The opposite of wrong.
- 30 The opposite of far.
- 32 A kind of fruit that begins with L.
- 35 A toy that rhymes with bite.
- 36 Another word for glad.
- 37 The opposite of up.
- 39 Another word for sick.

### A Dream Within A Dream

Take this kiss upon the brow!  
 And, in parting from you now,  
 Thus much let me avow--  
 You are not wrong, who deem  
 That my days have been a dream;  
 Yet if hope has flown away  
 In a night, or in a day,  
 In a vision, or in none,  
 Is it therefore the less gone?  
 All that we see or seem  
 Is but a dream within a dream.

I stand amid the roar  
 Of a surf-tormented shore,  
 And I hold within my hand  
 Grains of the golden sand--  
 How few! yet how they creep  
 Through my fingers to the deep,  
 While I weep--while I weep!  
 O God! can I not grasp  
 Them with a tighter clasp?  
 O God! can I not save  
 One from the pitiless wave?  
 Is all that we see or seem  
 But a dream within a dream?

by Edgar Allan Poe

### Rigoberto's Riddles

Which word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?



*Incorrectly* •

### Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber



Two factory workers are talking.

The woman says, "I can make the boss give me the day off."

The man replies, "And how would you do that?"

The woman says, "Just wait and see." She then hangs upside-down from the ceiling.

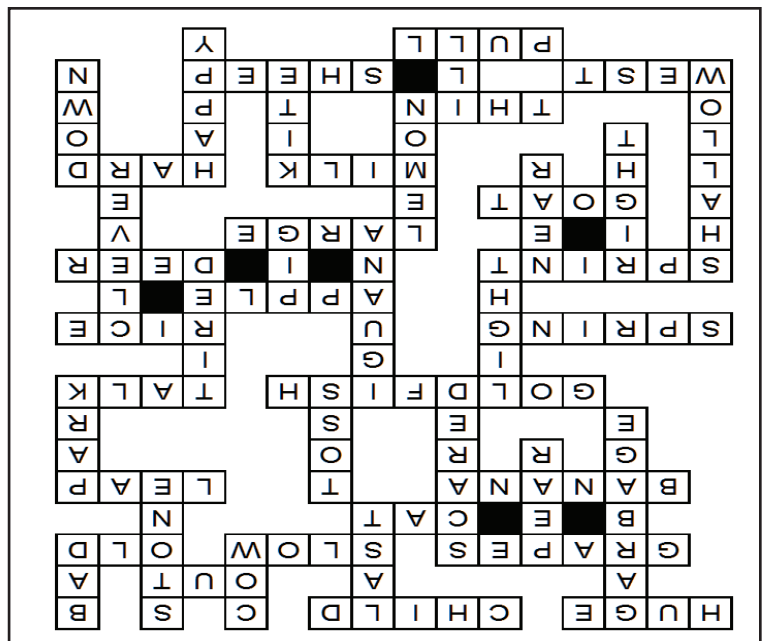
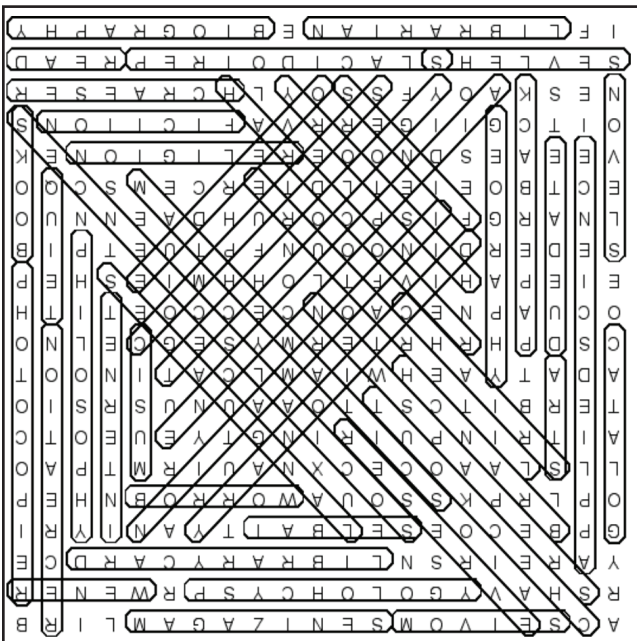
The boss comes in and says, "What are you doing?"

The woman replies, "I'm a light bulb."

The boss then says, "You've been working so much that you've gone crazy. I think you need to take the day off."

The man starts to follow her and the boss says, "Where are you going?"

The man says, "I'm going home, too. I can't work in the dark."



## Granny Noetal

Dear Granny,

I've heard from a few professors that even though you are old, you are actually kind of spry. I didn't know what "spry" meant but now I do. I think that's cool. What's your secret then?

Ponce

-----

Dear Ponce,

Have you heard of that expression, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away"? Actually I do eat an apple a day and I do eat an onion a day. I don't know if that has contributed to my feeling pretty good but it seems like wise advice. The point is eating right helps you maintain good health. Your grandmother and mother prob-



ably told you to eat your peas and drink your milk. They didn't say it to be mean. In addition to eating healthy food, I try to stay active. I try to walk everywhere when my feet aren't tired, I ride my bike a couple of days a week, and I wrestle with my German shepherd. To keep the brain cells intact, I read and every year or so I try to take a course in a different subject, either in my community or here at ARC. You're never too old to learn, right? In The Parrot last semester there was an article about a 115-year-old Italian woman who swore by six raw eggs every morning and no husband since 1938. Everybody's different. If I were you, I would consider my advice. It might be easier to handle. While I like husbands, I'm not particularly fond of eggs.

Granny

### Interview with Bill

*Continued from page 1.*

here now.

**The Parrot:** How did you get here?

**Bill:** I was at Beale Air Force Base and Yuba College for eight years. There wasn't a lot of teaching work available. The economy collapsed in 2008, in such a big way. I finished my degree in 2009, and when I came on to the job market, there weren't teaching opportunities, but after teaching for about two years, I started my doctoral's degree. My PHD was at GTV Berkeley with a focus on pedagogy. I continued my work in philosophy and religion, but also at the doctor level started focusing on education. Monday I would teach three classes at Yuba City and Marysville Tuesday, I would work at home, and on Wednesday go back to Yuba City to teach. Thursday go to Berkeley to do my work and come home. Friday crash and sleep. So when I finished my studies in Berkeley, I wanted to get more teaching opportunities. I applied to American River College, and I taught ethics for the philosophy class. That was in spring 2014. I

taught for one year here at American River College and then I was hired full-time at Humanities which is where we talk about religion as well as things like philosophy and literature. This past summer I also got married. This is my first semester as a full-time teacher.

**The Parrot:** Very nice. I notice you have a lot of experience in studying and also in teaching. Do you enjoy your job?

**Bill:** I love it. You don't teach for the money because you don't get paid very much money. But I love it, quite a bit.

**The Parrot:** So you studied philosophy and religion. You said you are teaching philosophy. Do you have any religion classes?

**Bill:** Well, in Humanities classes we cover a lot of religion. In Humanities 300 and Humanities 310 we talk a lot about religion. World Religion is also in Humanities, and I've been teaching Middle Eastern Humanities this spring. My interest in teaching religion and philosophy came from when I was a student at com-

munity college. I was a student at Sierra College, and Sierra College is not very diverse, socially, ethnically, and religiously, but the instructor who was teaching philosophy was an Iranian, and he was an amazing teacher. I took many classes from him and then 9/11 happened. After 9/11, students in class began to see him as an Iranian, as a Muslim. The students said he was a friend of Osama Bin Laden, a terrorist, all of these concepts. So, I was very angry because I liked him very much as an instructor. The students were very disrespectful, but instead of being angry at the students, he did something very different which changed my life and my ways. He invited all of the students to his home, people who didn't know his home with his family, and his brothers, and his sister, and their children, and his parents, and they made Jooje kabob, Kobideh, and rice and Tah-dig, all traditional Iranian food, and then they played music, Daf, Tumbak, all traditional beautiful Persian. It was a lovely night. So, good food and good music. The next Monday we came back. All the students were like why was this such a beautiful experience because nobody knew anything before 9/11 at Sierra College. Honestly, in the United States no one knew about Islam or Iranian culture pre 9/11. So, then the rest of semester we begin to talk about this.... learn about Islam, learn about Iranian culture, learn about music, and for me this was a very eye opening experience because I had known nothing about it. So, I really found a love of for learning about each other, learning about different cultures, learning about different religions. Ignorance of our neighbors is dangerous, which is what we learned from 9/11. It led the students to harass the Iranian professor because they don't know anything about Islam or anything else like that. So, this class really influenced my studies. I wanted to be a teacher. I want to do the same things my teacher did for me, which was introduce students to different ideas, different ways of thinking, so that we can get along better in our community. This is really what I liked about teaching: discovering, learning. I like learning, but I think learning also has an important social function, meaning that if you learn about different religions, and different cultures, then as a democracy we can get along in a better way.

**The Parrot:** It's a very interesting story. As you mentioned, a lot of students don't have enough information either about Islam or the Middle East. What is your suggestion for this kind of students?

**Bill:** A couple of things. One, take my classes because I have a Middle Eastern Humanities class. That class hadn't been offered at ARC in over ten years. I said to myself, "This is a class I want to teach." Because we need to have more information. I also have a club that we started in Humanities. It is a philosophy club. We meet on Fridays and it is all about exploring different cultures, religions, and traditions.

**The Parrot:** Where is this club?

**Bill:** The club is in Davis 201, and we meet every Friday at 1:30 p.m.

**The Parrot:** Which kind of student should take your classes?

**Bill:** Students who really want to be exposed to the skills that they need to transfer. We focus a lot on essay writing with transfer standards in mind. So, if you want a taste of what you are going to have to do in transferring, come take my classes. I try to keep regular conversations with Sac-State and UC-Davis as well as Berkeley about what they want their students to be able to do when they enter the classroom. I'm trying to make sure this is what I am offering students. So they learn here what they need to do for the transfer. Students who have questions. I ask a lot of questions in class. Sometimes I ask a lot of questions, and I even give the answers! So students who have curiosity for learning, and who want to talk and engage should take my classes. Students who just need to feel free of requirements and who just come and leave and don't want to talk should not take my classes, because we have a lot of conversation. We talk about uncomfortable subjects like culture and religion and we talk about very heavy subjects in a respectful way. So, if we have people who don't have time to read they don't have time to talk about very big ideas, they should not take my classes, but students who really want to know how the world got the way that it is what is the history of religions, what is the history of cultures, what is the

history of art, philosophy, and literature, the history of these subjects, should take my classes.

**The Parrot:** To be successful in your class, what should a student do?

**Bill:** That is a really good question. They choose their essay topics. So, if you have no curiosity or questions, you will have a very difficult time because you have to choose your own topics for the essays. So, curiosity, the ability to be open-minded and learn new things like format and history at the same time. Time management is very important. They have all of these assignments on the first day of class for the whole semester. They know all the deadlines and they know what they have to figure out. Being able to manage your time well outside the classroom is another really important thing. Finally the most important skill in my class and I tell the students this all the time is critical thinking. You have to be willing to think critically. It's in all conversations, it's in all assignments. It's all the materials, and I'm constantly testing my students' critical thinking through conversations with them. So, if I had to say one thing, the most important factor is to be prepared to think critically.

**The Parrot:** What is your suggestion to improve ARC?

**Bill:** We have at ARC an inventive program called the New Faculty Academy. It is all the new hires at American River College. We meet on Fridays from 8 to noon, and this is done by the college, where we learn about how to be teachers, how to be good teachers. Often times you only hang out with teachers of your own department. So, if you are an art teacher, you hang out with art teachers. You're philosophy, you'll hang out with philosophy, and maybe you don't know the history of other teachers. So, the new faculty academy has been a group which has been building community. All the different people are there. We are all getting to know each other. And this is been a very powerful experience for me as an instructor to get and talk to talk to history to get to talk to welding to get to talk to technical, because they have different buildings than Davies Hall, so maybe I don't see them unless they get to the Fac-

ulty Academy. This I think is the future of success at American River College. Having professors working with each other, having students work with each other in different interesting ways. Having clubs. Having extra credit activities at ARC. Getting to know people a little more personally at ARC. At ARC, you don't really stay to talk to people. You need to continue getting to hear people with stories like what The Parrot does. You need to have more distribution like of the Parrot and of the Current, and to develop a campus life, a campus community. The more we can develop a campus community, the more I think students will feel like they have people listening to them. The students will feel they have a place to go. The more people who have spent time at ARC, the more improvement at ARC.

**The Parrot:** What advice you think is important for all students in general?

**Bill:** Most important, I would say, is not to lose your hope. Find hope. Classes are overwhelming. Finals are overwhelming. Midterms are overwhelming. Learning itself can be a very overwhelming process. Don't be afraid to make new friends in your classes. Don't be afraid to make new friends with your professors. Don't be too afraid that you can't. That other people can learn but not you. Because I think a lot of students feel like everyone can learn but maybe I'm an immigrant or maybe I don't speak English very well or maybe my high school wasn't very good or maybe I don't come from well-off family. Maybe I'm not good enough for school and then you lose hope. If you lose hope, you can't do anything. So my advice is to have hope, and you can find that here on campus by getting to know other people who are in same struggle as you, including your professors. So, get to know your classmates, get to know your professors, find hope.

**The Parrot:** Thank you, Professor Lester. I learned a lot of things from you. I hope you will be successful in your teaching and life.

**Bill:** Thank you, Mohammad. Nice to meet you.

## Would you Prefer a Human Teacher or a Robot Teacher?



*A robot certainly, I would prefer the teacher to be a human because a human can understand if we were in special circumstances and could help us if we need to. A robot will not understand any special situation because simply they don't have feeling. Anyway I can't even think about having a robot as a teacher that could burn me with a laser if I get D on a test :)*  
*Zainab Alaameri*

*We prefer robot teachers because human teachers sometimes make mistakes, but robot teachers don't make mistakes, especially in grading.*

*Aya Basim and Olena Kasianova*



*I prefer human teachers because it's more comfortable and easier to talk to a human teacher than robot teachers. Besides, we can have some fun with human teachers.*

*Huyen Vu*

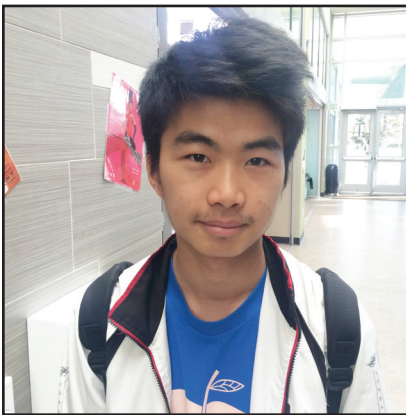
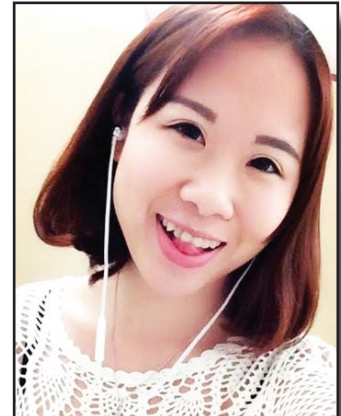
*I would say better for me to have a human teacher than a robot because the robot will be set for answering specific questions and nothing more than that. I need a teacher who listens to my concerns and helps me with them.*

*Halah Ali*



*I think a teacher is not only teaching, but also inspiring and exploring students' abilities, disabilities, and problems. If the robot can do so, I prefer the robot since a human has limitations. One teacher cannot notice and take care of 100 students in a classroom. A robot with a large memory and advanced processor must be able to process everything.*

*Van Ho*

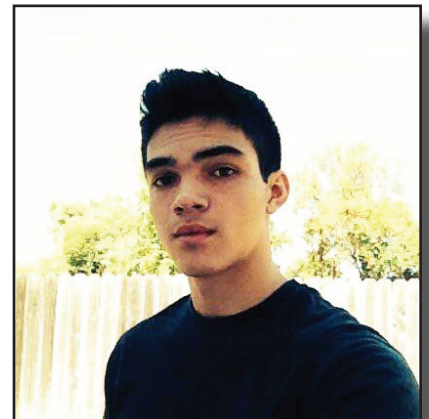


*I like a human teacher because a human has the emotions so I can get an "A" easier by sitting in the first row of the class, doing all of the homework, and chatting with the professors, asking questions so they would get to know me and it helps me to get higher grades.*

*Johnny Wang*

*I would prefer a robot teacher because a real teacher tends to bring their home problems into the classroom. Sometimes, it's really cool when they are happy, everything is chill. Sometimes, they are really cracked down and give you an extra test.*

*Jim Suani*



*I think I would prefer a robot teacher because unlike a human, robots don't make a lot of mistakes and you can't bribe them. And also robots don't forget things.*

*Jc Garcia*

## Out of the Cage

### American River Review Presents Word Soup

Tuesday, April.26, 2016  
12:15pm – 1:15pm

American River Review, American River College's nationally recognized and awarded student literary and art journal, is pleased to present Word Soup, the annual creative writing faculty reading. We are particularly excited as this year's faculty readers have a special connection to the review. Instructor Danny Dyer, who holds an MA in Literature and an MFA in Poetry Writing from University of Alaska, Fairbanks, is a former American River College student, a former ARC English Department Student of the Year, and the Editor-in-Chief of the 2012 American River Review, an issue that won the Associated Collegiate Press National Pacemaker Award and Community College Humanities Association Best in Nation Award. Professor Christian Kiefer, who holds a Ph.D. in literature from UC Davis and who teaches composition, literature, and creative writing at American River College, is the 2016 American River Review Distinguished Author. The author of novels *The Infinite Tides* and *The Animals* as well as the novella *One Day Soon Time Will Have No Place Left to Hide*, Dr. Kiefer was the winner of a 2015 Pushcart Prize and was a 2015 Sewanee Fellow. His stories and poems have appeared in many notable journals, including *Santa Monica Review*, *Catamaran Literary Reader*, and *Zyzyva*. Joining our faculty authors will be Patti Santucci, a student author whose work appears in the 2016 American River Review.

**Location:** Raef Hall 160

### Managing Stress & Finding Balance With Mindfulness

Wednesday, April 27, 2016  
3:00pm – 4:30pm

Stressed out? Overwhelmed by the demands of school, work and home? You are not alone! Research shows stress to be a major factor contributing to physical and mental health issues. In this 4-week series you will learn mindfulness practices based on the internationally recognized Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Program developed at U. Mass. by Dr. Jon Kabat-Zinn. Practicing mindfulness can help counteract the effects of stress and bring greater health and well-being into your life. This workshop is presented by a Career Counselor.

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

**Location:** DSPS Conference Room

### Capital City AIDS Fund

Thursday, May.5, 2016  
12:15pm – 1:15pm

The Capital City AIDS Fund (CCAF) is a non-profit organization, founded in 1995 to support HIV/AIDS services in the Sacramento area. CCAF operates two important programs: Helen Veress-Mitchell Scholarship Fund and the CCAF Prevention and Education Program. CCAF has raised and donated over \$3 million for Sacramento area HIV/AIDS services. Since its inception, CCAF has successfully staged many events including the Capital City AIDS Dance-O-Rama, the Boo Bash, the Sacramento Valley AIDS Run Walk, and the high profile event Smash Hits with Elton John and Billie Jean King which raised over \$500,000. Come learn how this organization helps keep Sacramento safe and how you can help!

**Location:** Raef Hall 160



### Questions/Comments?

Student Editors: **Elaf Khafaja and Ngoc Truong**

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](mailto: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](http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Programs_of_Study/Humanities/ESL/The_Parrot.htm)