



The Parrot

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

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Professor Weissbart: Chem's "Un-Mad" Scientist

Parrot: Hi, my name is Mohammad, and this is my partner Anastasiia. We are from "The Parrot" Newsletter. We'd like to ask you a couple of questions. At what point did you know you wanted to study chemistry?

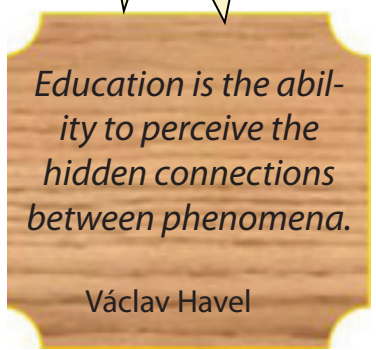
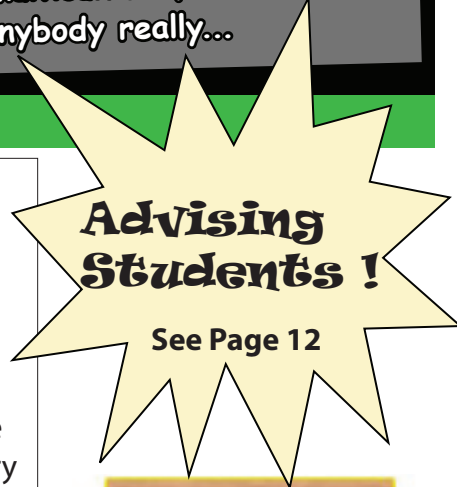


Brian: I started out college as a science major. I did not know which science. I thought maybe pre-med

because my dad was a doctor. So, I thought maybe pre-med. All science majors take general chemistry first. So, I took general chemistry once like everybody else, and I had a fantastic chemistry teacher that did lots of classroom demonstrations.

It really was unique because I was always someone interested in

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When Tipping Was Considered Deeply Un-American

Today's restaurants abandoning the tipping system are part of a long heritage of people — including Emerson and Twain — raging against the gratuity system.



With New York restaurateur Danny Meyer banning tips in his restaurants and

Berkeley restaurateurs Andrew Hoffman and John Paluska joining the no-tip bandwagon, the tipping debate has clinked back into the headlines of late. Except it never really went away

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Student Chirpings

Home Alone

Funny experiences make our lives more colorful and interesting even if at that moment we don't think that they are funny. When I was twelve years old, I was at home alone for a week. My grandmother had died, so everybody in my family went to Cantemir, the town where she had lived. You might think, "What can be funny in this situation?" However, it can be very funny if a child, like me remains at home by herself.

The experience of being home alone began when my parents and two older sisters started preparing to leave our home. It was fall. At that moment my oldest sisters were in the capital city, Chisinau, at their universities. My parents called to tell them the sad news and asked them to go with them to the funeral ceremony. They bought some items to take

with them, and my mom cooked food for me for a week. She prepared a pot of soup, rice, and half a chicken. She told me not to cook anything because she was afraid that I might burn our whole apartment building down. Our house was in a five-story building, and we lived on the third floor. She was thinking not only about my safety, but also about all our neighbors. My grandparents' house was far away from our city, so it was impossible for them to come home every day. Everything was ready. After they gave me all the instructions, they left.

I felt sad and angry because I was the only one who had to stay home. My family owned a small farm. Thus, I had to take care of twenty hens, one pig, six ducks, and ten rabbits. However, not everything was so terrible. I had freedom. The whole house was all mine. I could watch TV when I wanted and for how long I wanted. However, I was alone and a little

afraid. In the day time, I had to go to school. Moldovian schools are different from U. S. schools because in the fall, students help their town or small cities with gathering apples and grapes from the fields. Even though I had to help, I could skip some days. On the first night, I remembered that my father had gotten a white rabbit with black spots as a gift from his old friend. Because we didn't have a cage for it, we kept it in a wooden box in our bathroom. I took

it everywhere I went in our three-room apartment. I even watched TV with it till my eyes got sleepy. Every day and night were the same until my parents came home.

They arrived in the afternoon. It was Friday. I didn't know when they would come, so I didn't clean our apartment. When they opened the door, an unpleasant smell came from our apartment. Everybody was wondering why

our apartment looked so messy and dirty. Throughout it, on the carpet, on the sofa, even in the bed, was rabbit feces. Everywhere on the floor there were piles of clothing. When they entered the bathroom, they saw a lot of dirty clothing in the bathtub, and understood that the rabbit had lived freely wherever it wanted. They looked at me, smiled, and said, "Well, well, we see what a fun week you had. Starting now, we will have a fun week of cleaning."

My parents didn't punish me then, but a whole week of cleaning was like punishment for me. Every time I think about that experience of being alone at home, it makes me laugh. Even my family remembers that fun time with enjoyment.

Silvia Tacu
W310



A Small Kindness

The people who live in this world must help each other because life is sometimes good and sometimes hard. These two things happen to all of us.

A long time ago, in 1993, I was working in the General Hospital in Assela, Ethiopia. At that time, this hospital was helping one six-month-old baby who was retarded and sick. The baby was found on the street, and had no family. All of the staff were helping him in the incubator. One day, the political party Ethiopia People's Revolutionary Party (EPPA) won, and came to take over the government. At this time, some horrible solution happened. There was looting and gun shots everywhere. All of the staff felt afraid of this scary condition, so they ran away from the hospital to their homes. The staff left the hospital patients and their family members behind to fend for themselves.

I remembered this baby, and I took him to my home to stay with my four-month-old baby. I took good care of both of them for five days. Then the fighting stopped. All of the staff went back to work at the hospital. Everyone just assumed that the baby must have died. When I brought the baby back, everybody became happy. All the staff hugged and kissed me. I felt really good then, and even now, I feel happy when I



think about it.

A small kindness saved this small baby's life. Always positive thinking is a good idea. It can be hard and uncomfortable, but a good thing done is the best.



Yetmwork Bedane
W30





No Grades Ever

Do you have any idea why students in school become much sadder than when younger? The biggest reason is because their grades influence their mood, even their lives. For example, one child doesn't get a good grade on the final exam. His parents tell him to continue studies during the vacation. He must feel it is unfair because his classmates who have good grades don't need to study during vacation. In this situation, students will start to hate studying. I strongly believe that no schools should have grades for students.

First, if the school doesn't have grades anymore, students will not compare themselves to others. When I was in high school in China, my teachers always gave us a list that had all the classmates' grades on it. With every test, all of us could see everyone's grades. An example was my mid-term test. When the grade list came out, one of my friends compared his grades to mine. He got a better grade than me but he started to talk with me about how many mistakes he made and how bad he was. I felt very angry because he was very mean to me. After that, the relationship between us was over. Last year, I was in a program called the English Language Institution at Sacramento State University. I got a bad grade in the reading class. One of my classmates compared his grade to mine and laughed at me. I started to think about how bad it is for student to have grades in classes.

Second, if schools don't have grades anymore, students will not feel embarrassed when they get lower grades. When I was 16 years old, I hated to go to school because I couldn't stand my classmates who had better grades than me and talked with others

about how smart they were and how bad I was. Once, my "enemy" talked with his friends about the high grades he got and how low my grades were in front of the class. I felt very embarrassed because I got a worse grade than him and he talked about it very loudly. Another time, two of my classmates fought with each other because one of them laughed at the other one about grades and swore at him. Finally,

both of them were asked to stay at home and think about themselves. At that moment, I wondered if we didn't have grades in our classes, would we have happier memories.

Last, if schools don't have grades anymore, students will not feel stressed out by grades. For example, a friend of mine named Hei Kang always studied very hard, but he wasn't a good test-taker. On every test his grade was pretty low. That made him feel very stressed by every test. If students take tests in a stressful situation, they will frequently not get a good grade. I remember that when I was in

primary school, I had the same problem. When I got a bad grade, I even started being scared of going back home, because my parents would be very mad at me if I didn't get good grades.

Schools which have grades for students are very bad for students. Students will focus on their grades more than anything while learning. I strongly suggest that schools should never have grades and only letting students know if they pass or not is better than everyone having grades in every class.

Danyang Lin
W50



A New Me

Speaking English is really challenging, especially for many non-native speakers. When we speak English, we use brain areas different from areas when we speak our native languages, so many people have a different personality when they speak English than when they speak their native languages. When I speak English, I become a completely different person than when I speak Japanese. When speaking, my English personality and Japanese personality are very similar, but they still differ in terms of activeness, thankfulness, and attitudes.

One of the most important differences about my personality is activeness. When I speak English, I am so active and outgoing. I want to try and know many things, such as talking to new people, going to a new restaurant, traveling somewhere I have never been to, and so on. If I have chances, I want to try new things as much as I can. I am not afraid of anything. Sometimes I do not even think about what would happen next if I do some activities. I just do it without any careful thinking. However, when I speak Japanese, I am so shy and lethargic. I do not want to try exotic things because I am so afraid if something happens. In addition, I always think carefully and make plans before I do something in order to make sure that everything is fine. Speaking English makes me more energetic and outgoing.

Another different personal quality I have when I speak English rather than Japanese is thankfulness. When I speak English, I am very thankful for

everything. At the beginning of my American life, I could not speak English well or I could not do anything without help because I could not understand what Americans were talking about and I did not have any friends who I knew, so I needed to do many things with someone's help. Fortunately, after some time, I met many friends who helped me whenever I needed help. If they had not helped me,

I could not have survived in the U.S. I might have gone back to my country. Thus, every time people help me with something, I am always thankful and I do not forget it. In contrast, when I speak Japanese, I am not appreciative. I can talk and understand Japanese, so I can do whatever I want without any support. Even though I might need help for something, I do not want to ask someone to help me because it is so shameful for me. In addition, after a few days, I might forget that someone helped me. Speak-

ing English causes me many more difficulties than speaking my native language. That is the reason why my sense of gratitude is different when I speak English from when I speak Japanese.

Finally, my attitudes are totally different when I speak English and when I speak Japanese. When I speak English, I am really easygoing and talkative. I do not care what other people think about me because everyone is allowed to show their own identities in the U.S. I am so positive thinking. I just want to enjoy being in the U.S. In addition, I am not afraid to talk to someone in English. Even though my English is not so good and I am not confident, I want to talk to many people and I want to make





new friends. When I speak English, I do not need to be perfect. I can make mistakes. On the other hand, when I speak Japanese, I am very strict and silent. I really care about what other people think about me and I compare other people to myself to other people all the time. I am so negative about everything. Furthermore, I do not want to talk to many people. I prefer to stay calm and quiet instead of talking because Japanese has many different ways to speak to people, and to speak correct Japanese is really tough and so complicated. When I speak Japanese, I need to be perfect with everything; otherwise, Japanese people may think that I

am not normal. Thus, I cannot make any mistakes. I should be perfect.

I am Hitomi Atsumi whatever I speak. However, when I speak English and when I speak Japanese, I have truly dissimilar personalities with my activeness, thankfulness, and attitudes. When I speak English, I become a “new person”. This change is making my life wonderful and marvelous. My world is changing because of speaking English. Speaking a new language may give you a new life.

Hitomi Atsumi
W310

Short Stuff

During my life I have always heard the jokes about being short, like “not enough cereal you ate in childhood; that’s why you’re so short.” These words often offended me. I was embarrassed about my height, and even felt uncomfortable among tall people. Furthermore, all of my friends were much taller than I was. However, as time goes by, I realize that it is not so bad to be small in stature. At the moment, I can say with confidence that there are several advantages to being short: looking younger than you are, easily finding the right clothes and shoes, or always having enough room to feel comfortable.

The first advantage of being short is looking younger than you are. Usually people with below average height look younger than their peers. Sometimes they can even use it to their advantage. For instance, it’s easy to buy a children’s ticket to an amusement park and save some money for something else. Moreover, it’s always nice to hear from surrounding people that you look so young and pretty. Even yesterday my classmate

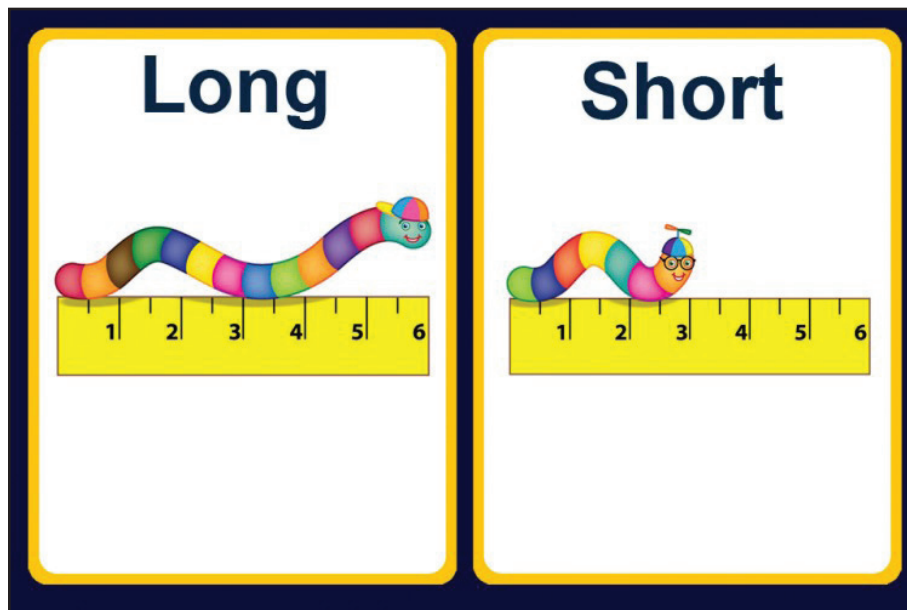
didn’t believe me when I told her that I’m 23, not about nineteen as she thought. Additionally, until now, I’m regularly mistaken for a teenager. This is not bad since I still want to be an 18-year-old girl without problems and obligations, and it’s like a compliment for me. Furthermore, my mom is almost 50 years old, but due to the fact she is short in stature, she looks very young. No one wants to believe that she is much older than she seems. Last week I was with her in a grocery store; there we met my acquaintance. She was so surprised when I introduced my mom to her! She said that she thought that my mom was my friend, not my mother. In turn, my mom says she was always happy with her height and never wanted to be tall.

The second advantage of being short is finding easily the right clothes and shoes. Of course, there are some inconveniences, like making long pants shorter. However, although I have to shorten them, I don’t complain at all because, overall, it’s much better than wearing too short clothes. For example, when you’re petite, it’s interesting and cheaper to buy clothes in the children’s store or department. Besides, as opposed to tall people with large shoe sizes, I can easily find a suitable pair of shoes. In fact, several of my



friends hate buying new shoes. Because of their big feet, it's extremely difficult for them to find suitable shoes. Moreover, in contrast to the tall girls, who don't want to stand higher than their boyfriends, short women or girls almost every day can afford to wear shoes with high heels. It doesn't matter how high the heels are; I will always be shorter than my husband is.

The third advantage of being short is always having enough room to feel comfortable. No matter where I am, on a plane, on a train, in a car, I feel absolutely at ease and comfortable. Leg-room in public transport is never an issue for me. However, this cannot be said about my husband and brother. They are both very tall. Quite often they are faced with the inconvenience connected to the lack of legroom in the vehicle, on the airplane, or in a movie theater. For instance, during my childhood, whenever my family was visiting relatives or friends, I had to sleep on the couch and gave my place in the bed to my brother. Sometimes I even



envied him. In the meanwhile, the last time we flew back to California from Moldova, it was very hard for my husband to endure such a long flight. Just imagine a 12-hour flight. It is extremely hard to stay in an uncomfortable position for such a long time. We were sitting in the middle of the row, and he didn't have any chance to stretch his legs. I felt so sorry for him because all this time he suffered.

To sum up, overall, it's not bad to be small in stature. There are several advantages to being short: looking younger than you are, easily finding the right clothes and shoes, or always having enough room to feel comfortable. Furthermore, it's very important to accept and love yourself as you are. In fact, many tall people dream to be shorter. That's why a person should not rush to be concerned about her short height. As you can see, it can

be very useful in your life.

*Arina Romanciuc
W50*

The Story of a Late-Talking Kid

Do you talk too much or do you like to listen? Being able to speak and listen are equal parts of human communication. Do you agree? I could not find any statistics about the percentage of people who prefer talking rather than listening, but I would like to believe these parts are equal. This might

seem silly but the more we are talking the less we are listening.

My story began in 1979, in Ukraine, part of the former Soviet Union at that time. The hot summer day, the noise of the big city, the busy people on the streets and even monuments that were treated



kindly by pigeons were disturbed by my scream. I was born! Wait a second; that actually happened at 11:30 PM, at night. The streets were empty and the buildings looked lonely with their dark windows, but there, happy-go-lucky, I came.

I had a great childhood, but there was a problem. By the age of four, I was still speechless. Basically, I was using syllables like "ma", "pa" and "na" to communicate. I don't quite remember what I was up to at that time but I'm sure I did that on purpose, probably to get an extra cuddle. I had to visit a dozen doctors, but all of them kept saying that there was nothing physiologically wrong with me. My parents didn't know what to do and when they got a job transfer to Siberia, they left me with one of my grandmas for a year.

My grandma lived in a small town with her son and his young pregnant wife. My uncle had a three-year-old daughter, my cousin, Maryana. She was a smart kid. She knew a dozen long poems and songs by heart and could count up to twenty and was just starting to read books. Meanwhile, I kept silent. I spent most of my time there with my grandma. I think she really liked that because of the unlimited access to my ears and the enormous amount of information she wanted to share with me. I suffered for six months. Winter came. The landscape became white, and leafless trees looked lonely, so we spent more time indoors. One day, everyone was in the warm house. I was playing cards with my uncle. Of course, I had a

poker face and my uncle put cards on the table and named them: King of Hearts, Jack of Clubs, Queen of Diamonds. Suddenly, I started to repeat after him. I said whole words and sentences like I had never had a problem speaking. The women got so excited. My cousin was dancing and yelling like crazy and my grandma burned herself with a hot iron

and was laughing and crying at the same time. Even my new cousin was impressed so my aunt had to give him a bath the next morning. Yes, I had given up. I started talking, and I talked a lot, especially, to my grandma. I owed her for all the words she had given to me. However, after four months, I made her so exhausted that she asked my parents to take me back.

That day changed my life dramatically. Being able to speak is a great gift for us to communicate

with and it's our responsibility to use it sensibly. I want to thank God, Mother Nature and the universe for this talent. I have been talking too much but also listening a lot, and I try to keep things balanced and remember that the more I talk, the less people want to listen to me.

Nazar Datsenko
W310



The Most Convenient Study Provider for Learning English

To learn English ten years ago was very boring for me. I spent a few hours to find a needed definition or translation of a word in a huge dictionary. To hear the correct pronunciation of new words a few times from a tape, you needed to rewind it every time. I read and studied uninteresting, irrelevant texts. Today, to study English is very simple and interesting because we have the Internet. There are several advantages to learning English on the Internet.

The first advantage of learning English on the Internet is a quick translation of a word or a whole paragraph. "Google Translate" is a very useful web site. You can write or just say any word and the automatic program will define in a moment the language that you are speaking and the detailed translation. You can download "Google Translate" on your smartphone and take a picture of any English text. It will recognize all the words in a few seconds and will write the translation. You can also listen to the pronunciation of any word as many times as you want. "Google Translate" is the most popular program for learning English in the world.

The second advantage of learning English on the Internet is the daily practice of new words or rules. I can practice my knowledge anytime and anywhere. I downloaded to my smartphone "LinguaLeo" and "Quizlet" apps, which help me to save unknown words and practice them every day. There are a lot of app techniques to study new words: flashcards, tests, listening, word constructions, crosswords, etc. My favorite method of practice is "Leo Sprint". You need to

guess the right translation of each word from two variants in one minute. Every time you guess the correct translation, your score will multiply. The program records your results and your mistakes, so you can learn some new words in just one minute per day. It's always fun for me to practice English as a kind of game. My friend from ESL Reading class advised me to practice new words from our study book in the "Quizlet" app. It's very simple to learn new words. All you need to do is just to enter in the program the title of a chapter and you will get a list of new words with their definitions and synonyms.



The third advantage to learning English on the Internet is the studying of relevant information. You don't read any study texts or news of previous years. You learn only super fresh developments. If I hear a lovely new song and I don't understand its sense, I can find the lyrics on the Internet in a few seconds, study, and sing it next time. If I read an advertisement and can't understand some details of it, I just click on an unknown word and add it to my vocabulary at "LinguaLeo" to know its definition and to practice it. If I want to watch a new American comedy and understand every American joke, I can watch it on the Internet with Russian (my language) subtitles. It will help me to study contemporary humor step-by-step.

Today, I can't imagine my life without learning English on the Internet. It is the most convenient study provider. I don't need to waste my time like I did ten years ago. The main advantages of learning English on the Internet are a quick translation of a word or a whole paragraph, a daily practice of new words or rules, and relevant information studying.

Svetlana Andruh
W50



Nestscape -- Articles from The Web

Continued from page 1

To tip or not to tip constitutes one of the oldest and nastiest debates surrounding America's restaurant business.

When tipping began to spread in post-Civil War America, it was tarred as "a cancer in the breast of democracy," "flunkeyism" and "a gross and offensive caricature of mercy." But the most common insult hurled at it was "offensively un-American."

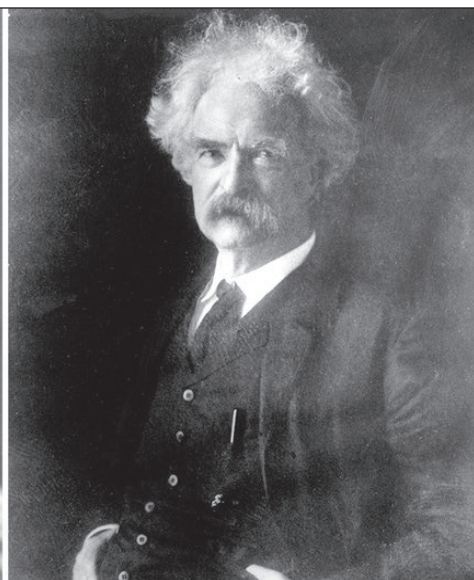
Loathed as a master-serf custom of the caste-bound Old World that went back to the Middle Ages, tipping was blamed for encouraging servility and degrading America's democratic, puritanical, and anti-aristocratic ethic. European immigrants surging into the U.S. were charged with bringing this deplorable custom with them. But in fact, it was also American tourists, like the characters in Henry James' novels, who picked up the restaurant conventions of the Continent, and imported them back to America.

In James's 1897 novel *What Maisie Knew*, 6-year-old Maisie, breakfasting with her English stepfather, Sir Claude, at a quayside French café, watches the waiter retreat "with the 'tip' gathered in with graceful thanks

on a subtle hint from Sir Claude's forefinger." Significantly, the word "tip" is in quotation marks, indicating its newness to the little girl, as well as to James' American readers.

For their part, Europeans were irked by wealthy Americans who ruined the rates by over-tipping — not just during the Gilded Age, but in more recent times as well. According to Kerry Segrave's *Tipping: An American Social History of Gratuities*, conservative thinker William F. Buckley Jr. was in the habit of leaving a scandalously lavish propina for the staff of the Swiss chateau he rented in the 1980s. He used the Spanish word for tip, his son Christopher explained, "since it's money, you know, it's best not to discuss it directly."

America's anti-tipping hall of fame includes millionaires John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, who were stingy tippers, and Ralph Waldo Emerson, who famously said, "I sometimes succumb and give the dollar, yet it is a wicked dollar, which, by and by, I shall have the manhood to withhold." A 1901 editorial in the *Chicago Times-Herald* congratulated Mark Twain for refusing to tip a cab driver, and added, hyperbolically, that should the writer lived to "claim credit for its abolition[,] he will deserve greater gratitude from the pub-



Famous anti-tippers (from left): Leon Trotsky, William Howard Taft and Mark Twain



lic on that account than for anything that he has written or ever may write.”

The long-suffering public grumbled incessantly about being at the mercy of surly waiters and porters who performed only when bribed. The attitude was summed up by the young prostitute in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s 1920 novel, *This Side of Paradise*, who, when caught with a patron in a hotel room, says angrily: “Alec didn’t give the waiter a tip, so I guess the little bastard snitched.”

The tipping abolitionist campaign came to a boil in 1915, when three states (Iowa, South Carolina and Tennessee) passed anti-tipping laws, joining three other states (Washington, Mississippi, and Arkansas) that had already passed similar bills. Georgia soon followed. By 1926, however, all these anti-tipping laws were repealed, writes Segrave, largely because it was seen as futile to police something that had gained a momentum of its own.

Tipping also had a racial angle. “Class, race and gender all played a part in the early discussions of tipping,” writes Segrave. He quotes journalist John Speed writing in 1902, “Negroes take tips, of course, one expects that of them – it is a token of their inferiority. But to give money to a white man was embarrassing to me.” Such was the furor surrounding tipping that, in 1907, Sen. Benjamin Tillman of South Carolina – a virulent segregationist whose bronze statue stands outside the statehouse in Columbia – actually made national headlines for tipping a black porter at an Omaha hotel. The porter, well aware of Tillman’s previous boast that he never “tips a nigger,” told reporters sardonically that he would have the quarter made into a watch charm. “Tillman gives Negro a Tip,” was *The New York Times*’ headline, under which ran a sympathetic editorial on how travelers were forced “to convert themselves into fountains playing quarters upon the circumambient Africans.”

Tipping even became an election issue, writes Segrave. When William Howard Taft, who prided himself on never tipping his barber, ran for president in 1908, he was projected as “the patron saint of the anti-tip crusade.” Today, several Democratic presidential hopefuls have campaigned on raising the minimum wage – an issue that was, and continues to be, at the heart of the tipping debate.

Then, as today, the crux of the matter was the low wages paid to waiters, making them dependent on patron largesse. The waiters’ cause was taken up by union member T. O. Smith, in the 1919 edition of *The Mixer and Server*, a trade journal of restaurant and hotel employees. He said waiters were unfairly accused of having “an itching palm,” when the truth was that the “waiter was not the author, but the victim of the tipping system.”

Smith was referring to a popular 1916 anti-tipping jeremiad by a writer named William R. Scott entitled, *The Itching Palm: A Study of the Habit of Tipping in America*. Scott’s screed decried the millions of Americans who derived their income from tips as suffering from a “moral malady.”

But Smith pointed out acerbically that while the newspapers were dripping with concern for the “long suffering public,” not too much thought was directed at the “long suffering waiter.” He said the unjust system forced waiters to “learn the art of smiling under even the most adverse circumstances” – for a frown, however justified, would cost him not only his tip but perhaps his job as well. It was tougher for black waiters, who were commonly paid a lower wage than white waiters. Russian revolutionary Leon Trotsky refused to tip and had soup spilled on him by vengeful waiters in the Bronx (where he lived briefly). He believed that tipping allowed capitalists, a.k.a. restaurant owners, to get off the hook. If the waiters were being paid a decent wage, he said, tipping would die on the vine.

Over time, however, the opposition to tipping faded. “Tipping eventually became more entrenched in American life than in any other country,” writes Segrave.

In 1942, the Supreme Court ruled that employees had an exclusive right to their tips and that their employers



could not force them to share their tips with kitchen staff.

In 1966, Congress created a concept known as “Tip Credit.” This system allows employers to pay tipped employees a sub-minimum wage on the understanding that the rest of the wage would be made up by the largesse of customers. Which is why, to this day, the federal minimum wage for tipped employees is just \$2.13 per hour.

Tipping remains a deeply divisive issue. Many waiters at fine-dining restaurants prefer the tip system because it means a higher income — but it’s harder for those who toil away in diners and lower-end eateries to earn a livable wage. No-tip restaurants like Alice Waters’

famous Chez Panisse in Berkeley, Calif., have a fixed service charge that is divided among the whole staff, including the kitchen. As a result, waiters get less, but the back-of-the-house staff — traditionally left out of tipping — get more.

The irony is that, though Americans imported the tipping custom from Europe, countries such as France have long done away with tipping: A 15 percent service charge is automatically added to the bill, and customers aren’t obliged to tip. As a result, a French schoolgirl visiting the U.S. might find herself, like Maisie, curiously eyeing the “tip” in the billfold.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2015/11/30/457125740/when-tipping-was-considered-deeply-un-american>

Advising Undocumented Students



Higher education obstacles and possibilities

There are an estimated 65,000 undocumented students — children born abroad who are not U.S. citizens or legal residents — who graduate from U.S. high schools each year. These children are guaranteed an education in U.S. public schools through grade 12, but may face legal and financial barriers to higher education. **What can you tell undocumented students about their options for college?**

There are three main areas on the path to higher education where undocumented students may have special concerns or face obstacles: admission, tuition and financial aid.

College admission policies

Undocumented students may incorrectly assume that they cannot legally attend college in the United States. **However, there is no federal or state law that prohibits the admission of undocumented immigrants to U.S. colleges, public or private.** Federal or state laws do not require students to prove citizenship in order to enter U.S. institutions of higher education. Yet institutional policies on admitting undocumented students vary.

For example, many four-year state colleges in Virginia (following a 2003 recommendation by the state attorney general) require applicants to submit proof of citizenship or legal residency and refuse admission to students without documentation. This policy is not, however, a state law. In many other states, public institutions accept undocumented students but treat them as foreign students; they are therefore

ineligible for state aid and the lower tuition charged to state residents.

College tuition policies

An issue generating controversy today is the question of whether undocumented students residing in a U.S. state should be eligible for the lower tuition rates that state residents pay for their state's public institutions. Many state institutions charge undocumented students out-of-state tuition fees (even if the student is a longtime resident of the state), and this policy can put college out of their reach financially.

Some states have passed laws that permit undocumented students to pay in-state tuition rates under certain conditions. Counselors should familiarize themselves with their state's specific prerequisites. The Repository of Resources for Undocumented Students (.pdf/1,068KB) provides a good starting point.

In 2011, the DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act was introduced into the 112th Congress. If passed, this legislation would permit undocumented students to begin a six-year process leading to permanent legal status if, among other requirements, they graduate from a U.S. high school and came to the U.S. at the age of 15 or younger at least five years before the legislation is signed into law. To complete the process they would, within the six-year period, be required to graduate from a community college, complete at least two years toward a four-year degree, or serve at least two years in the U.S. military. These individuals would qualify for in-state tuition rates in all states during the six-year period.

Federal, state and institutional financial aid policies

Undocumented students cannot legally receive any federally funded student financial aid, including loans, grants, scholarships or work-study money.

In most states, they are not eligible for state finan-

cial aid. Some states do grant eligibility for state financial aid to undocumented students who qualify for in-state tuition. This has proven a contentious issue, so the situation is subject to change.

Most private scholarship funds and foundations require applicants to be U.S. citizens or legal residents, but there are some that do not. The Resources section on this page links to a list of scholarships that may be available to undocumented students.

Private institutions set their own financial aid policies. Some are willing to give scholarships and other aid to undocumented students.

The counselor's role

Legally, K–12 school personnel cannot inquire about the immigration status of students or their parents. Therefore, you may learn that a student is undocumented only if the student chooses to share this information. Undocumented students may not even be aware of their legal status.

What you can do:

- **Reach out as early as possible to all students** and encourage them to envision themselves as college material, explore career options and prepare academically for college. If the opportunity arises, let students know that undocumented status is not a legal bar to attending a U.S. college.
- **Explain the requirements for federal financial aid** when discussing financial aid at parent meetings or other group sessions: recipients must be U.S. citizens or legal residents. You can explain financial aid policies and options to parents and students without asking about their immigration status.
- **Know your state's laws** regarding undocumented students and stay up-to-date on changes in the laws.
- **Let students know there are scholarships available** to undocumented students.

<https://professionals.collegeboard.org/guidance/financial-aid/undocumented-students>



Eat the World!

The Parrot represents students of many hues and sounds --- no news there. Indeed, birds of a feather flock together, right? They also eat together. The Parrot is proud to present Parrot fodder from around the world in this and subsequent issues. Squawk!

What is an easy-to-follow recipe for succotash?



Make succotash according to the recipe on Epicurious.com by softening 1 1/2 cups of chopped onion with 2 tablespoons of olive oil and a pinch of salt in a hot skillet. Toss in 1 minced clove of garlic and cook it for one minute. Incorporate 3 cups of chopped tomatoes, 2 1/4 cups of corn kernels and 2 cups of fresh or frozen lima beans. Cover the skillet, and allow the mixture to simmer gently for approximately 20 minutes or until the beans

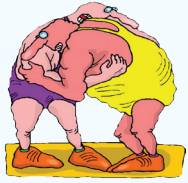
and vegetables are tender. Add salt and pepper to taste, and fold in 3 tablespoons of finely sliced fresh basil.

Follow the succotash recipe on FoodNetwork.com by frying 4 strips of chopped bacon in a skillet. When the bacon is crispy, set it aside on a plate while retaining the drippings in the pan. Sauté 1 chopped green bell pepper and 1 minced clove of garlic in the bacon drippings for approximately five minutes. Pour in 16 ounces of frozen corn, 16 ounces of frozen lima beans and 10 ounces of frozen pearl onions. Stir through 1/3 cup of heavy cream and 1 teaspoon of hot sauce. Gently cook the mixture until the ingredients are sufficiently tender. Incorporate the reserved bacon before adding salt and pepper to taste.



<https://www.reference.com/food/easy-follow-recipe-succotash-39e42a8d8a20622?qo=contentSimilarQuestions#>

Parrot Warbling



Grappling with Grammar

Grammar

The Colon

The colon expands on the sentence that precedes it, often introducing a list that demonstrates or elaborates whatever was previously stated.

I am a colon

Examples

- * There are many reasons for poor written communication: lack of planning, poor grammar, misuse of punctuation marks, and insufficient vocabulary.
- * He collected a strange assortment of items: bird's eggs, stamps, bottle tops, string, and buttons.
- * Peter had an eclectic taste in music: latin, jazz, country and western, pop, blues, and classical.
- * He had just one fault: an enormous ego.

The colon is also used to divide the hour from the minutes in writing a time in English.

Examples

- *4:15 = "four fifteen"
- *6:45 = "six forty-five"

http://www.edufind.com/english/grammar/pre_determiners.php

Idiom--Attic

Taste of your own medicine



Means that something happens to you, or is done to you, that you have done to someone else

Example: He is always late for appointments and keeps people waiting, so we decided to give him a taste of his own medicine.

<http://www.smart-words.org/quotes-sayings/idioms-meaning.html>

Beak Speak

How to Pronounce 'ed' at the end of a verb

The three ways are:

- 1: 'id' (like in painted 'paint-id')
- 2: 'd' (like in 'played')
- 3: 't' (like in 'hoped')

1- If the verb has a 'd' or a 't' sound before 'ed' you need to pronounce 'id'. If it doesn't, don't pronounce an extra syllable.

- wanted (want-id)
- ended (end-id)

2- If the word before 'ed' ends in the sounds 'p', 'f', 's', 'ch', 'sh', 'k', then 'ed' is pronounced 't': So:

- 'p' stopped
- 'f' laughed

3- For all other words, 'ed' is pronounced 'd':

- allowed
- cried



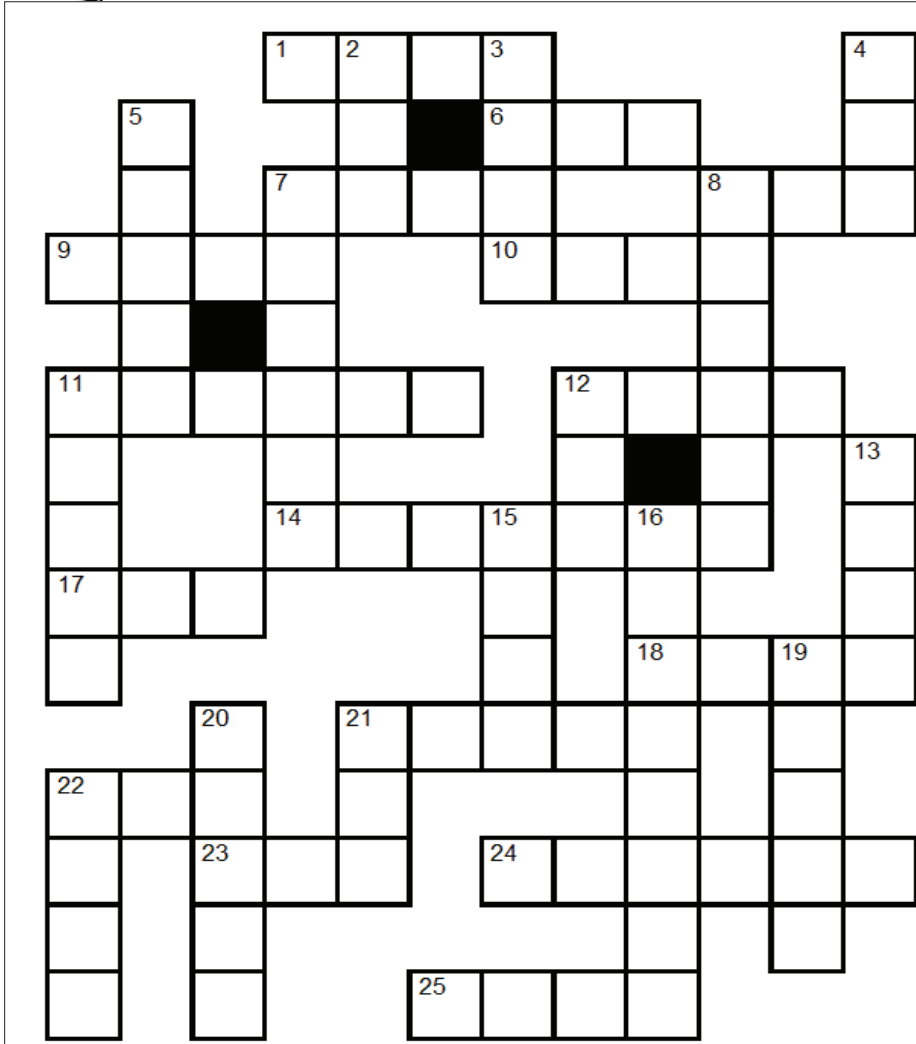
<http://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/how-to-pronounce-ed.html>



Some More Parrot Fun Stuff



Word Skills



Across

- 1 An animal that rhymes with word. (4)
- 6 The opposite of in. (3)
- 7 The antonym of fast. (4)
- 8 The opposite of young. (3)
- 9 Another word for jump. (4)
- 10 The opposite of far. (4)
- 11 Another way to say 'run fast.' (6)
- 12 Another way to say 'very small'. (4)
- 14 A synonym for trash. (7)
- 17 The opposite of high. (3)
- 18 The opposite of first. (4)
- 21 A synonym of sleepy. (5)
- 22 A farm animal that rhymes with pen. (3)
- 23 A pet that rhymes with log. (3)
- 24 Another word for cold. (6)
- 25 An animal that rhymes with

Down

- 2 Another word for sick. (3)
- 3 The opposite of up. (4)
- 4 The antonym of good. (3)
- 5 A farm animal that rhymes with sleep. (5)
- 7 A season that rhymes with king. (6)
- 8 A type of Fruit that begins with O. (6)
- 11 The antonym of big. (5)
- 12 A drink that rhymes with sea. (3)
- 13 The opposite of east. (4)
- 15 A forest animal that rhymes with hair. (4)

- 16 A kind of fish that begins with G. (8)
- 19 Another word for Sniff. (5)
- 20 The opposite of over. (5)
- 21 Another word for pull. (3)
- 22 The opposite of soft. (4)





50 State Word Search

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

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Alabama | Indiana | Nebraska | South Carolina |
| Alaska | Iowa | Nevada | South Dakota |
| Arizona | Kansas | New Hampshire | Tennessee |
| Arkansas | Kentucky | New Jersey | Texas |
| California | Louisiana | New Mexico | Utah |
| Colorado | Maine | New York | Vermont |
| Connecticut | Maryland | North Carolina | Virginia |
| Delaware | Massachusetts | North Dakota | Washington |
| Florida | Michigan | Ohio | West Virginia |
| Georgia | Minnesota | Oklahoma | Wisconsin |
| Hawaii | Mississippi | Oregon | Wyoming |
| Idaho | Missouri | Pennsylvania | |
| Illinois | Montana | Rhode Island | |



Parrot Poetry



Chemistry Class

Chemistry class, chemistry class,
The class in which I do surpass!
The class I really most enjoy,
My teacher, though, I do annoy!

Mixing that, twirling this,
Adding 'till I hear a hiss!
Prompting looks up from her desk,
Towards my beaker, statuesque!

Heating up, cooling down,
My teacher watches, face a frown!
Lovely liquid, yellow bubbles,
Teacher's ready for the troubles!

Exploding here, exploding there,
Yellow globs in teacher's hair!
It's dripping onto teacher's shawl,
And creeping down the classroom wall!

Fizzle here, fizzle through,
Oh no, I think I'm in a stew!
It's eaten through the wooden floor,
And dropped below on Mr. Moore!

Chemistry mess, much distress,
My brew today did not impress!
Chemistry is my favorite class,
But that's my last, I think, alas!

By ©2005 Gareth Lancaster

Rigoberto's Riddles

What can run, but never walks?
Has a mouth, but never talks?
Has a head, but never weeps?
Has a bed, but never sleeps?

• A river



Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber



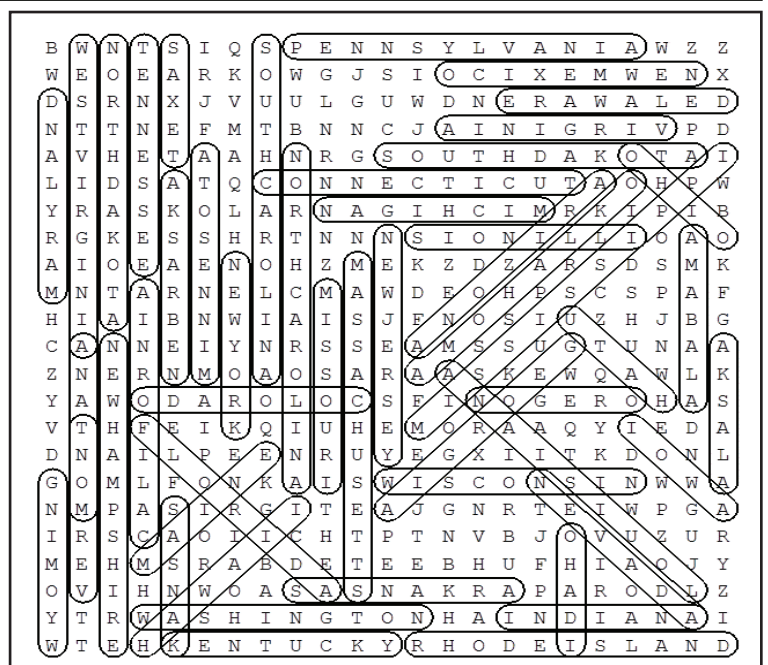
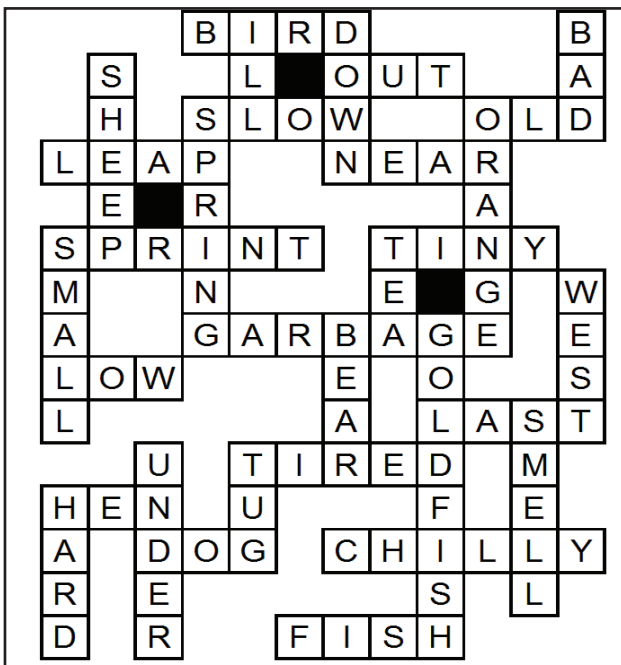
The politician was sitting at his campaign headquarters when the phone rang.

He listened intently, and after a moment his face brightened. When he hung up, he immediately phoned his mother to tell her the good news.

"Ma," he shouted, "the results are in. I won the election!"

"Honestly?"

The politician's smile faded. "Aw, heck, Ma, why bring that up at a time like this?"



Granny Noetal

Dear Granny Noetal,

Some politicians and educators have suggested that community college tuition should be free. I'm an ESL student and I do get financial help. I like that. However, I had to apply for it. It was a lot of work filling out the forms and applications. I still have to pay a little. Anyway, what do you think about free education at the community colleges? In my country university was free.

Tamara

Dear Tamara,

It's an interesting question and I'm of two minds on that. Our K-12 system is free and our taxes support it. Why not have our taxes pay for the community college tuition too? We need more students getting education and receiving certificates and degrees and diplomas. It will make our workforce and society stronger. Questions abound. What kind of taxes? State taxes? Federal taxes? Will free community college in some way also affect four-year schools, both private and public?



When I was a college student, there was an expectation that students would work hard in the summer and during vacations to earn and save money for school. I did that (picking apples, babysitting, working in a café) and to this day I'm proud of what I did. It was a life lesson on the value of hard work, and I was happy to help my parents out. I realize that the modern economy doesn't always have a lot of plentiful part-time and seasonal opportunities for students. In the old days, my brothers, for example, were able to work in the summers in local factories and earn good money. Those types of jobs are hard to come by these days. A lot of students fall into debt. I understand that but I worry that things that are doled out for free are not always appreciated.

Where do I stand? In general, I'd say yes to free tuition. However, I'd certainly have some guidelines drawn up. Readers, what do you think?

"Ya got me thinking,"

Granny

Interview with Brian

Continued from page 1

"magic". Now the magic was better because this guy not only did the experiment for us, he said "I got a few things to show you today around here." So he did the experiment, but he didn't explain how it worked. Magicians never tell you how they work. That was really an inspiration for me to study chemistry and teach.

Parrot: Before that, didn't you study chemistry at school?

Brian: Well, I went to high school and I took the standard pre-college classes. I knew that I wanted to be a science major because I liked math and science, but I didn't know exactly what.

Parrot: How would your friends describe you as a

chemistry man?

Brian: I hope that they would describe me as somebody that really enjoys what he does and loves to come to work because it's fun and is also super-dedicated teaching class and who makes sure that students get a lot of feedback.

Parrot: What should everyone know about chemistry? And why should students study chemistry?

Brian: Chemistry is often seen as esoteric, and it is often seen as something that is just a room of super intelligent people in labs, but the fact is it is all around us. We see it everywhere, and it controls everything, and everything around us happened because of chemistry. The more you can understand the world, the better off you can be. One day of class I bring something simple to class because I can explain quite a lot of chemistry using



just real world stuff that happens all the time, and I try to bring as much of that in my classes as I can.

Parrot: Do you apply your knowledge of chemistry in every day life?

Brian: I like to think how things work all the time, and then, I really like to cook. My favorite thing to do outside of the class is to cook. I sometimes say this would work better because of this.

Parrot: You think there are some connections between cooking and chemistry.

Brian: Cooking is a great relaxation for me because it's a lot like doing lab work except it's way more forgiving. One tablespoon is such a rough measurement compared to the measurement we have to do in lab where we have to measure things down to the tenth of a milligram.

Parrot: What are the similarities between the chemistry lab and the kitchen?

Brian: The similarity is you are putting things together. You are basically doing a synthesis, and in the end you are going to eat your product, which you never do in chemistry. So, it is a synthesis of putting things together, and there is even more creativity in the kitchen that you cannot have in a lab.

Parrot: In the movies and literature there is always the character of the mad (crazy) scientist. Do you

have any of the mad scientist in you?

Brian: I think so! First of all, start with my hair. It looks like I am a mad scientist, and then if you give me a chance, I will show you some of the chemistry demonstrations and you can see the mad scientist in me.

Parrot: So, your students are supposed to be scared?

Brian: No, nobody is scared. It's fun. It is a lot of fun.

Parrot: Have you seen the periodic table in your dreams?

Brian: No, I've never seen the periodic table in my dreams. I guess I have a few dreams about lecturing in class, but never anything about the periodic table.

Parrot: Do you know all the elements?

Brian: A lot of them just form every day, but I don't think that I know them. If you gave me a blank periodic table, which is a common exercise in a high school classroom, I don't think I could fill it out. By studying a little bit, I guess I could.

Parrot: How many elements are there in the periodic table?

Brian: There are 118 so far. Some of them were discovered recently.

Parrot: Would you like to discover an element?

Brian: I'd like to discover something new but not an element. That is very specialized work they do in national labs. When they find these new elements, the elements only exist for a few fractions of a second.

Parrot: Why did you choose teaching as a profession in chemistry?

Brian: My life is interaction with students. In fact, when I was a graduate student, I started being a teaching assistant as a graduate student for

chemistry. I went to Davis, and there all graduate students are teaching assistants. And then if you are lucky enough, you get to be what's called a research assistant. As a research assistant, you can focus fully on your research. I remember that in that semester, I was chosen as a research assistant. I was watching all the students go to the lab, and I was so disappointed. I wanted to teach. I didn't want to do this research.

Parrot: Do you find research to be boring?

Brian: It's very methodical, very slow. The number of steps between what is happening in the lab and the application to the real world is a lot. It is a big job.

Parrot: Was it difficult for you to study during university years?

Brian: I liked my undergraduate degree. It was fun to take chemistry classes, and I enjoyed that as an undergraduate student. I was very focused on the research and I found it hard, and long, and not very fun.

Parrot: What do you like more: lab or the classroom?

Brian: I like the classroom more because I feel I can explain things better and show bigger things. I teach in a big lecture hall. So, I like that a lot when people can see. In the lab, if I'm showing something in the corner over there, students are over here and there is no way they can see everything, and there is also the lab room. There are some things on the bench, and so because of that, and then after talking a little louder it can be distracting. I feel that some people don't get what I'm saying because they can't hear.

Parrot: Do you usually organize this place or someone else takes care of the lab?

Brian: We have fantastic stock room people. Fantastic instructional assistants that make it really easy for me to come in to the lab and say, "Okay, that one I want to do."

Parrot: Have you ever had any dangerous experiments?

Brian: No. We keep the things small so there are not a lot of explosions, but there have been people who have gotten burned. So, that part is hard.

Parrot: What is the best piece of advice you have gotten in your life?

Brian: I think the best piece of advice I got in my life maybe is from my dad and it was about college and studying and I was concerned if I was a chemistry major what I was going to do. I talked to him and he said, "You want to do something with it, if you want to have skill in it, you should go to trade school. You are not at college to learn one specific thing. You are there to learn a lot of things and to grow."

Parrot: Would you like your kid to be a chemistry major?

Brian: I have a two-and-a-half-year-old son, and I really want him to find something, anything that he is passionate about as long as it is realistic. I'd like him to be passionate about something and pursue that. It doesn't matter what that is.

Parrot: You have been granted three wishes for the chemistry department. What are they?

Brian: We need an unlimited amount of equipment so everybody can do the experiment. It would be nice to not have students pairing up in a lab because a lot of time in the pair one student works and the other watches. I would like more time because I would like to be able to develop more experiments, new experiments. And then I really like my colleagues here. And then more time to be able to be collaborative with them and to be able to have them work with me to set up new experiments.

Parrot: Thank you so much, Prof. Weissbart.

Parroteers: Anastasiia Panfilova & Mohammad Louayme



Chemistry Jokes

- A neutron walks into a restaurant and orders a couple of drinks. As she is about to leave, she asks the waiter how much she owes. The waiter replies, "For you, No Charge!"

- Two atoms are walking down the street. Says one atom to the other, "Hey! I think I lost an electron!"

The other says, "Are you sure?"

"Yes, I'm positive!"

- A chemistry professor couldn't resist interjecting a little philosophy into a class lecture. He interrupted his discussion on balancing chemical equations, saying, "Remember, if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the precipitate!"

- The anti aircraft guns fired at the bomber pilot as he emptied his load of Hydrochloric Acid over enemy territory. He smiled with satisfaction at the voice over his radio. "Congratulations, you've just neutralized a dangerous base!"

- At the end of the semester, a 10th-grade chemistry teacher asked her students, what was the most important that they learned in lab. A student promptly raised his hand and said, "Never lick the Spoon."

- A small piece of ice which lived in a test tube fell in love with a bunsen burner. "Bunsen! My flame! I melt whenever I see you!" said the ice. The bunsen burner replied: "It's just a phase

you're going through."

- What do you do to chemists when they die?
You barium.

- If H-two-O is the formula for water, what is the formula for ice?
H-two-O-CUBED.

- Why is potassium a racist element?
Because, when you put three of them together, you get KKK.

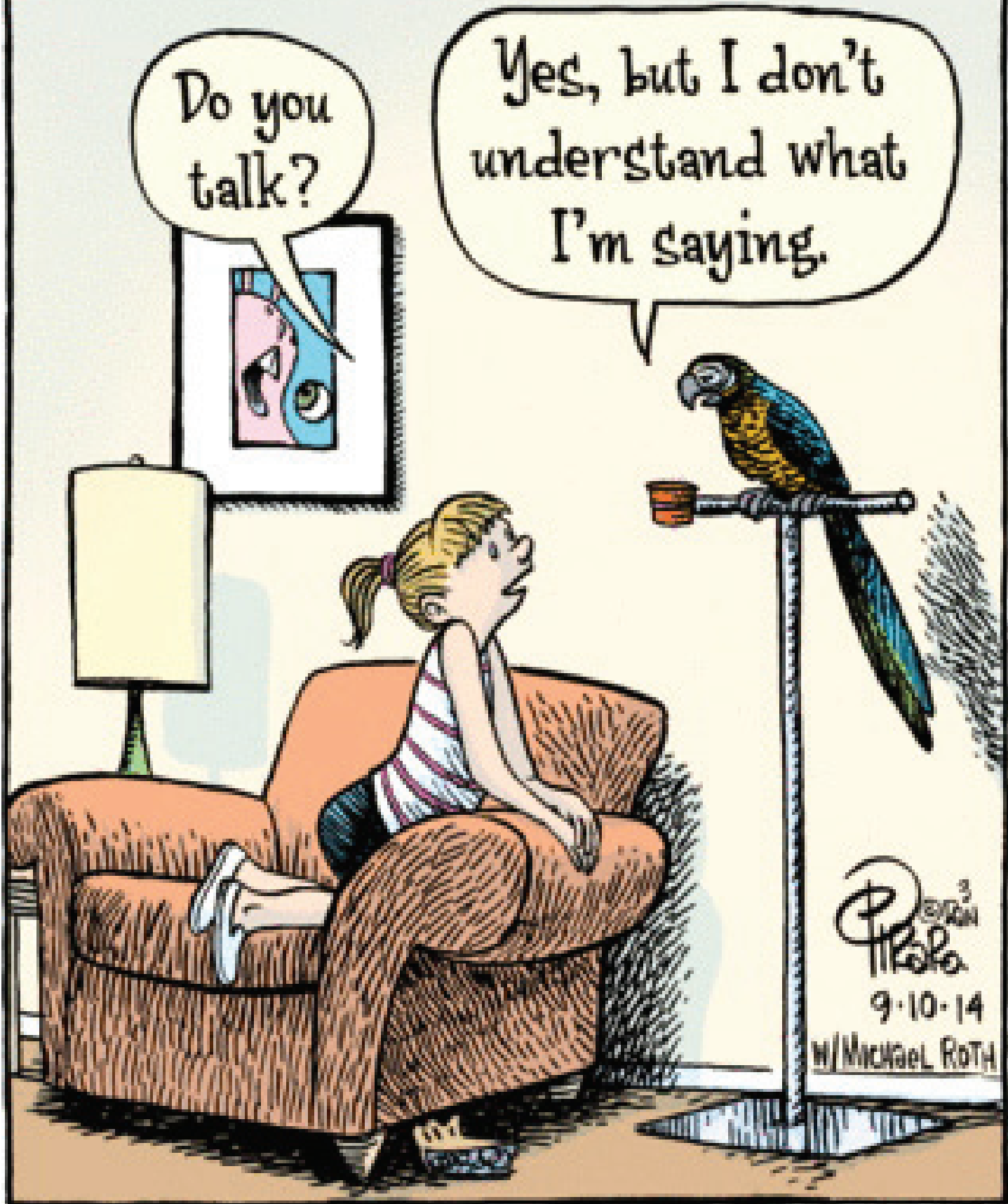
- Why do chemists like nitrates so much?
They're cheaper than day rates.
Do you know a good chemistry joke?
No sorry, all of them argon.



BIZARROCOMICS.COM Facebook.com/BizarroComics Dist. by King Features

Do you talk?

Yes, but I don't understand what I'm saying.





Out of the Cage

Fighting Food Injustices Thursday September 1, 2016 From 12:15pm – 1:15pm

In urban settings, we are less likely to see gardens and stores packed with the same quality and quantity of fresh produce as we see in upscale neighborhoods. How can we bring social and economic justice to urban centers while increasing the health and welfare of the peoples who need the most support? Join CSUS Anthropology student Daniel Milewski as he discusses the trends in urban gardens to fight food deserts.

Location: Raef Hall 160

Résumé Development Workshop Tuesday September 13, 2016 From 2:00pm – 3:00pm

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.

Location: DSPS Conference Room

Interview Success Workshop Tuesday September 13, 2016 From 10:00am – 11:00am

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.

Location: DSPS Conference Room

Résumé Development Workshop- Wednesday September 14, 2016 From 03:00am – 04:00pm

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 of workshop

Location: DSPS Conference Room

Questions/Comments?



Student Editor: **Elaf Khafaja**

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