



The Parrot

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

Issue # 108 Fall 2016

Speaking of Prof. David Austin!

Parrot: Hi, my name is Vivi and I'm from The Parrot. This is our interview of you! So, you have been at American River College for a while right? Can you share about you got here?

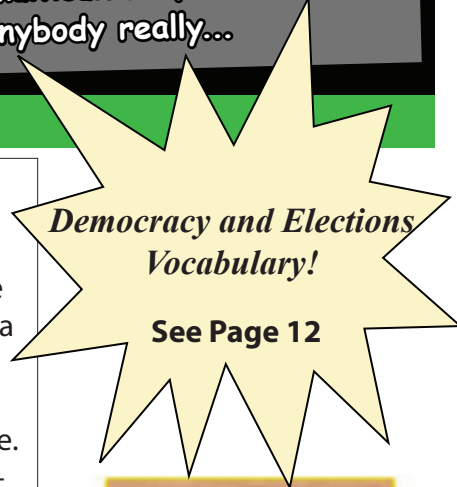


Speech Prof. Austin

Prof. Austin: Well, this is my 4th semester at ARC, with a 10-year contract. So I started teach-

ing in Los Angeles, and after a while I moved to Santa Clara Valley, where I taught for Delta College. And then somebody suggested I apply at ARC, so I applied 2 years ago. It was kind of weird; somebody told me about the job opportunity and said Los Rios is a really good district to work for and

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Democracy and Elections Vocabulary!

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"Challenges make life interesting; overcoming them makes life meaningful."

R.W. Emerson



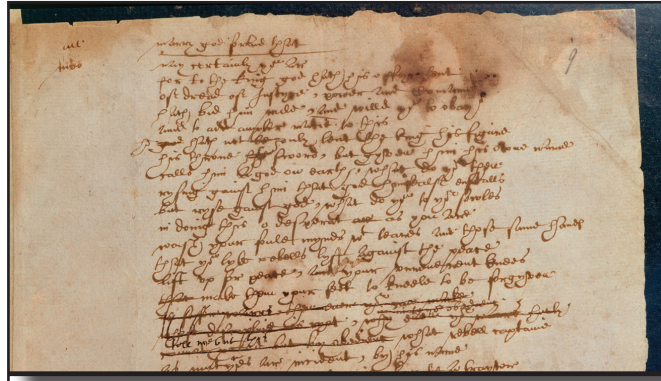
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Only Script In Shakespeare's Handwriting Urges Compassion For Migrants

This week the world's been treated to a commentary on immigration reform from a surprising source: William Shakespeare.

2016 being the 400th anniversary of



A section of the only surviving script in Shakespeare's handwriting

the Bard's death, many institutions are doing celebrations of one sort or another. The British Library, in hosting a major exhibition, has put online the only sur-

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Student Chirpings

A Miracle

I've always believed that miracles happen, but I didn't think that one would happen to me. My best friend, Natasha, said that it was possible, and I only had to pray to God and believe that it would happen. Natasha is a Christian, and she invited me to go with her to church. Because it was summer and we were on vacation from high school, I went to her church several times. I made new friends there and liked the services. It was 18 kilometers between Natasha's village and my town. Another Sunday was coming, but I just had money for a one-way trip. I was determined to use the money for the trip back home and made a plan how to get to church. That day, I found the meaning of my life.

I woke up at four o'clock in the morning. My parents were still sleeping. Even though my parents knew that I was going to go to church that morning, they didn't know the plan that I had come up with. I had never told them because they couldn't help me with the money I needed, and they would stop me from going. They were unemployed at that moment because the factory where they worked had closed. I dressed very quickly and quietly and left my home. Like in the house, outside was peaceful. A mighty sun rose in the cloudless sky. Birds' trills could be heard here and there. I took a deep breath of cool, fresh air and started to walk along the road.

At the beginning, the road was empty, so I had a pleasant and wonderful time walking on it. While I was walking, I was singing a song that I had

heard at Natasha's church. I had to pass three small villages and many fields planted with different crops. I enjoyed the Moldovan countryside. I was already familiar with the road, so I wasn't afraid of getting lost. However, I was worried about getting to church late because I didn't want to disturb people, sit in the back of the church, or answer questions about how I got there. I had my watch with me, so I could manage my time by walking faster or slower. I had 18 ki-

lometers and 6 hours to get to the church. Later, the road got a little busier after seven o'clock. An athlete was running in the opposite direction. Then a man was riding his bike in the same direction. Another one crossed the road and started to climb the hill that was on the left side of the road. Next, six cars passed me. When I had 20 minutes left, I had 6 kilometers more to walk. I remembered Natasha's words and started to pray.



Even if I prayed, I didn't completely believe that something would happen. However, after 10 minutes a car slowed down behind me. Then it went a little ahead of me. It did this two times. I was frightened. Why did the driver drive like that? He drove back and stopped near me. He opened the window and asked if I was a Christian. I said that I wasn't a Christian, but I was going to a church at that moment. Then I saw a woman in the back of the car, and the driver told me that they were Christians. I calmed down. They were driving to the capital city and were in a great hurry. In spite of this, he offered to drive me closer to the church. In fact, there are two roads that lead to the capital city from my town. They had planned to go another way that is shorter, but they took this one because they simply felt they should. I accepted his offer and ended up with just

a half kilometer to walk. I sighed with relief and became thankful that I was on time to the church service. I walked in and sat myself near my friend. She was happy to see me. Even though I decided not to tell anyone my story, the pastor did it. He got a call right before the service started from that driver. They knew each other. He told the pastor everything he heard from me. Everybody who was there that day in the church heard my story.

The church members wanted to help me. Some gave me financial

help on that day while others helped me later. On that day, I also realized that God controls everything, even the purpose of why we live on Earth. I gave my heart to Him, and I have never regretted that. The miracle is that when you ask God for help, He sends the help you need through other people and even more than you asked. Every time I feel that I have to help someone in any way, I do it.



Silvia Tacu
W310

Papa Murphy's

TAKE 'N' BAKE PIZZA

There are many stories that are funny in our everyday life, especially when you are new in a country. There are experiences that are sometimes funny and interesting to others, but annoying to yourself at that time.

When I was new in the USA, one thing very funny happened in my life and I will never forget it. It is an unforgettable memory for me. One normal day in summer when I was very hungry and there was nothing made to eat at home, I decided to go out and get some pizza. I wasn't familiar with the area, so I went around my house to find a pizza place. After searching for an hour, I finally saw a sign for a pizza place. I happily parked my car and walked toward the pizza place. By that time, I was super hungry and all I could see in my head was a hot cheese pizza. I opened the door to the pizza place and

Hot Pizza

walked in. I didn't see any tables, so I thought that it might be a kind of fast food pizza place. The lady took my order and I thought I had to wait at least 15 minutes. However, I was wrong. She gave me the pizza almost immediately and the instructions were to bake it! I was about to ask her in a loud voice, "Why isn't it cooked?" I was so mad, but I didn't say anything and I acted completely normal, just as though I knew exactly what was going on. Then I went back home and cooked the pizza. That pizza place was Papa Murphy's. Now every time I see that place, I will laugh and tell everyone my story.

In conclusion, every story, whether funny or sad, is an experience of life. When something like my story happens, we don't realize how funny it will be in the future to tell everyone. However, at the time we are really upset about it.



Nawid Rafiqi
W30



Say No to Pay!

Most of us do not know one big truth about our mothers. Every day every mother gets more and more tired. Sometimes, after a whole day's work she "crawls" to bed, lies down without any energy, and starts crying quietly into her pillow. You have not known this because it happens in the deep night, when all the children are asleep in their warm beds.

She never complains, but she feels loneliness, strong fatigue, and even sickness. The reason why it happens is because she has too much to do, but does not have enough time or anybody to help her! The question is who should help her? The answer is children! Children should help their parents not for cash, but for free! I strongly disagree with the idea that parents should pay children for doing household chores!

The first reason why I strongly disagree with the idea that parents should pay children for doing household chores is because children should learn how to love and help others for free. Once a boy left a note on a table for his mother.

Garbage - \$1

Dish washing - \$2

Vacuuming - \$3

Mowing the lawn- \$4

Total - \$10

When his mother saw that list, she wept. She was upset about his note because she saw that her child did not know what love meant. The next morning, the boy saw the note from his mother on his table in his bedroom.

Birth - \$0

Food (3 times a day) - \$0

Comfortable, warm, and clean place to live - \$0

Driving to school - \$0

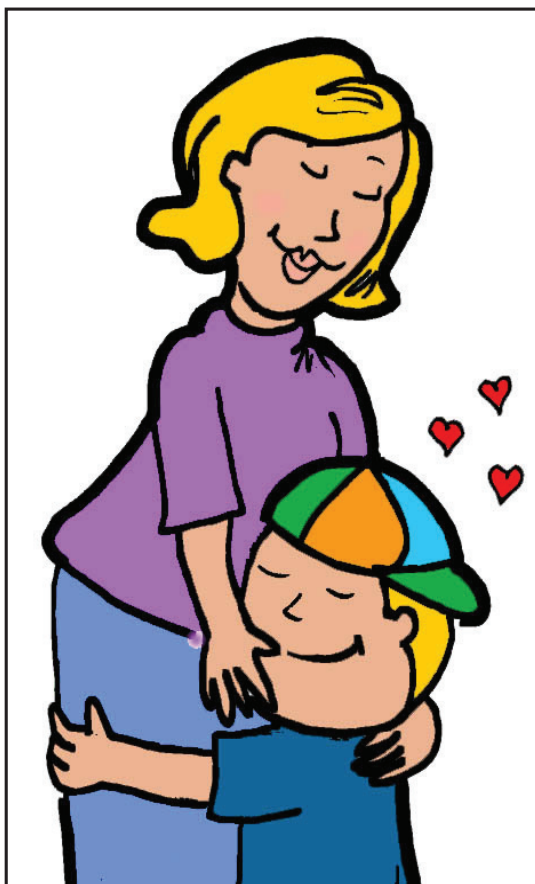
Traveling - \$0

Medical care - \$0

Total - \$0

When the boy read this list, he ran to his mother,

hugged her, and said, "Mom, sorry! You always do so many things for me and never ask me to pay for it, but I...". He started crying. Then, the mother said, "It is called love. On the earth so many things exist which we should give to others as a gift!" It was a good lesson how to love! Parents should explain to their children how they can love people, especially their parents, by helping.



The second reason why I strongly disagree with the idea that parents should pay children for doing household chores is because it is bad for children. We had seven children at home in 2013 (others were married). Some of them always did household chores, but others did not. Therefore, my parents decided that there was a need to make a graph of duties for everyone. For example, Alex - backyard, Vera - living room, Sveta - bathrooms, etc. Every day our mother gave us grades depending on the quantity of work done. At the end of the week, we evaluated who did the work better and gave everyone a place (I,II,III...) Then, everyone got a gift. The person who won first place chose the gift first, etc. You may say,

"Good idea! Why did you say that

paying is bad for children?" The reason why is in the result. When we stopped doing the graph of duties (and stopped getting pay (a gift)), no one wanted to do household chores. When my mother asked someone to help, there were the usual excuses : "Why should I do this, but others don't?", "What will I get when I have done this?"; and "I do not have enough time. I must do my homework. Ask someone else!" (Before that, they always found the time for that.) Therefore, because of the payment, they learned this: all their work should be compensated, others should also do their duties (if not, they will also not do them), if they have to do something else, let

others do their duties because they are free. Therefore, paying for doing household chores is bad!

The last reason why I strongly disagree with the idea that parents should pay children for doing household chores is because it can be bad for children in their future families. Do you know about the law of sowing and reaping? It means that everything that you do has repercussions. It comes back to you one way or another. My mother always repeats, "I remember that when I was a child, I once did not obey what my mother said. Now I see this disobedience in your acts. You even use what I was saying for my excuses. Be smarter than I! Do not do what you do not want to see in your children!" Therefore, if a child ask his parents for pay, he will have this situation with his children. However, what would happen if they would not have money to pay their children for doing household chores? Probably, they would do all chores by themselves.

In conclusion, I hope that you strongly disagree with the idea that parents should pay children for doing household chores. If you are a father or mother, be smarter, and never pay children for doing household chores. It is bad for you and even for your children. If you are a child of your parents, help your parents as you can. It will be good for you. You will learn how to love others. Your children will help you with household chores too. Their behavior will be like a mirror where you will see your behavior, your words, and your manners. Do you remember about our help your mother at that moment, you will have such a future! Say no to pay!



Abby
W50

I'm a Different Person Now

Almost nothing stays the same in time, no matter whether we like or dislike it. Personality is also something that changes as we grow up. Some personalities change just a little bit and some change totally. My personality is in that group that changed almost totally. Now I do things that I used to dislike or didn't even think about. When I sometimes ask myself how come I became such a different person than I used to be when I was a teenager, I can't find an answer. I'm happy that I have changed. I'm a different person compared to my teenage self.



The first difference between me from when I was a teenager and now is spending free time in different ways. For example, when I was a teenager, I used to spend free time writing poems and jokes. Since poems and jokes are a very important part of Persian life, almost everybody loved them in my neighborhood. Furthermore, my neighbors used to come to my house to hear my poems and jokes. My younger siblings were also so excited to hear a new

poem or joke every day. I also used to make up stories and tell them to my siblings and relatives. In contrast, now I spend time doing housework. Because I'm married and have no one beside my husband in the U.S., I have to do all the work. For instance,

I have to clean the house, cook, do the dishes and laundry, and so on, so I don't have much time to spend writing jokes, poems, or making up stories. Sometimes my husband helps with cooking (he is a really good chef) but he is usually at work and not able to help me. I sometimes spend free time reading books as well. Whenever I'm tired of something, I grab a book and start reading. Reading makes me feel relaxed, especially when I read old novels.

Another difference between me from when I was a teenager and now is patience. In the past, I had almost no patience. I didn't like to wait for anything. Back in Iran people get in line at a bakery to get bread, and usually the bakeries are so crowded in the morning and afternoon. Thus, I liked to wake up very



early in the morning and go to the bakery with my younger brother. In the very early morning, bakeries are not so crowded because people go from 9:30 - 11 a.m. so I never had to wait at a bakery because I was the first person almost every day. However, now I do have a lot of patience. For example, when I go shopping for groceries at Walmart or any other markets, check-out lines are often crowded. Sometime it takes me almost half an hour waiting in line, but I don't lose patience because now I understand that waiting isn't so bad. In the past, I also used to get angry very easily. For instance, since I didn't have patience, I used to get angry at people when they made a mistake. Back then my siblings were too young, and they would make a lot of mistakes, especially if I asked them to do something. Then I would get angry so easily and did not listen to any of their excuses. On the other hand, now when someone makes a mistake, I'll not get angry or at least I will try to listen to their excuses. I never thought that I would have the patience that I have now.

The third difference between me from when I was a teenager and now is doing things instead of thinking about them. When I was a teenager, I used to think about becoming a politician one day. Thus, I used to read a lot of newspapers every day. Hamshahri, Keihan, Jamejam were the newspapers that I used to read, and my favorite one was Jamejam. I loved them because there was always something about politics or issues in Iran. I really enjoyed reading about politics no matter if it was about Iran or other countries. Sometimes I used to listen to the radio or watch news on TV as well. In contrast, now I have chosen my major and it's International Studies. I want to become an international human rights lawyer. Consequently, I'm studying hard to reach my goal instead of just watching news or reading news-



papers. In the past, I always wanted to become an author instead, so I used to make up stories and tell them to my siblings and relatives. However, I didn't write down any of the stories that I was making up. I always thought that I could write better when I got older. Conversely, now I don't feel that way. Now

I think that a lot of writing makes a good writer, so I write my stories down. Even though I want to become a lawyer, writing is the most important part of my life. I love writing books more than anything else. Thus, I wrote a novel four months ago. I'll edit my novel in six months and will publish it. I also have just started my second novel and will finish after a few months. As a result, I write stories rather than just telling them.

In conclusion, as I said, almost nothing will stay the same all the time. Sometimes we may like the changes, and sometimes we may dislike them. Our personality is also something that changes by the time we are grown up. I am almost a different person than I used to be when I was a teenager. I'm really happy that I've changed, because now I spend my free time doing things that are more important to my life. I love how I changed from having no patience to having a lot of patience. Doing things instead of thinking about them is my favorite part of this change. I'm happy that things won't stay the same all the time; otherwise, we would never grow out of making the same mistakes that we used to do in the past. In the past, I thought an intelligent person never makes a mistake. But now I think that an intelligent person is not someone who doesn't make a mistake; in fact, it's someone who learns from his or her mistakes.

Hajir Tashmohamad
W310

Advantages of Being the Youngest in A Family

Are you the youngest child in your family? Some people think that being the youngest child in the family is very bad. Brothers/sisters always tell the youngest to do a lot of things: bring a book from the living room to the bedroom, get a cup of water, etc. But some people disagree with the idea that being an older child is better. They think being the youngest child in the family is very lucky. There are several advantages to being the youngest child in the family: the child can get more from his parents, the child can learn from brothers' or sisters' experience, and the child can be protected by all the family members.

The first advantage of being the youngest child in a family is a child can get more from his parents. For example, I have a little sister who is ten years younger than me. When my mother bought snacks from the supermarket, she always gave more than half the snacks to my sister. I asked her why. She said it was because I was older than my sister and I should decline out of modesty. In China, every child gets money from parents during Chinese New Year. My sister can get a lot more money than me because she is the youngest child in my family. I feel that isn't fair for me, but I have no choice. My classmate has a little brother too. Once his parents bought two kinds of toys. One was a toy gun and another was a toy bear. His little brother just grabbed the toy gun and ran away. His parents didn't say anything about this because they think my classmate should let his little brother pick first.

The second advantage to being the youngest child in a family is a child can learn from a brothers' or sisters' experiences. Two years ago, I was a high school student in China and my sister was a primary school

student in China. I was able to teach my sister a lot of ideas about how to use her time in her classes so that she would save a lot for time for other things. My friend told me his little sister always asked him how to make their parents feel happy when something went wrong. He was very good at it and so was his sister. I always cooked for myself when I was hungry. My sister always stood beside me and watched how I cooked. Later on, she was able to cook by herself too.

The last advantage to being the youngest child in the family is the child will be protected by siblings. Once, the last month before summer vacation, my little sister told me she was bullied by her classmate. I went to school with her and I taught the little boy a lesson. After that, no one bullied my sister again. I have a friend in China named Yangyang. When

he heard someone beat up his brother, he got very mad. He just ran to that guy's classroom and beat him very hard. I told my friend that he was wrong, but he said he couldn't let his brother get hurt.

In conclusion, being the youngest child isn't always terrible. There are still some advantages to being the youngest child in the family: getting more from parents, learning more from brothers' or sisters' life experience, and being protected very well when outside of the family. Maybe being the youngest child in the family means a child can become more responsible because he or she grew up in the full love of a family.

Danyang Lin
W50





Driving in the U.S.A vs Driving in Japan

I am driving a car by bay areas with beautiful sunshine. Winds are blowing in my hair, and I am listening to and singing my favorite songs. These are one of the best habits and the best feelings for me. Driving a car is not normal transportation. It is a kind of relaxation. Nowadays, driving a car is really necessary for many people to go somewhere and to relax. To drive a car, we must know many driving rules and customs and we must follow them. Otherwise, we may have big accidents or troubles. Thus, all countries in the world have their own driving rules and driving customs. Many countries have similar driving rules, but driving in the U.S. and driving in my country, Japan, differ in terms of the place of the driver's seat, how to get a driver's license, and highways.



One important difference between my country and the U.S is the place of the driver's seat and the driving direction. In the U.S, the driver's seat is on the left side of the car and every road is right-hand traffic. In contrast, in my country, the driver's seat is on the right side of the car and every road is left-hand traffic. Driving in the U.S. and in my country are totally opposite. In my experience, I have a drivers' licenses for both countries. When I drove in the U.S. for the first time, I was so confused about sides. Sometimes I

drove the opposite way and I almost crashed into another car. It took such a long time to get accustomed to it. Now, I drive almost every day in the U.S. wherever I want to go to. I sit on the left side and I drive in right-hand traffic. I have no problem with this anymore. However, when I went back to my country last year, I was so confused and had

the same feeling as when I drove here for the first time because I had not driven in my country for a long time. It was really scary. When you go to another country and drive, you must know which side to drive on. To drive on the opposite side is much harder and more dangerous than you can imagine.

Another difference between driving in the U.S and driving in my country is how to get a driver's license. In the U.S, to get a driver's license is so easy. If you are 16 years old, you can learn how to drive from someone who knows about driving. It is not necessary to go to a driving school. In addition, you just need to pass the written test and the road test one time. Fortunately, in the DMV, they have a written test in many different languages, so even though your first language is not English, you can find your own language for the written test and you can pass the test easily. On the other hand, in my country, to get a driver's license is really hard. You must go to a driving school to get a license and you have to be more than 18 years old to get

in. Tuition for the driving school is around \$2700. In the school, not only do you have to study about driving more than 34 hours, but you also have to study about driving rules and customs more than 26 hours. Moreover, you have to pass a written test 5 times and a road test twice. If you fail the test, you have to take more lessons in the school. Unfortunately, the written test is only in Japanese, so if your first language is not Japanese, passing a written test is really hard and difficult.

Finally, highways in the U.S. and in my country are really different. In the U.S. a highway is mostly free. You can go anywhere at no charge. Speed limits on a highway are around 65-80 mph. As a result, if you travel for a long distance, you definitely use highways because it is faster and more convenient. Conversely, in my country, highways are not free. We have to pay a fee depending on the distance, time, and day. For example, if you use a highway on a weekday and during daytime for around 100 miles, you have to pay around \$100. If you use a highway at night or weekends, it is 30 percent cheaper than day time and weekdays. Speed limits are also different. Most of the speed limits are around 45-60 mph. Thus, most Japanese people use public transportation, such as a bullet train (shinkansen), a bus, and a train to travel long distances because it is cheaper and easier. Sometimes public transportation is faster than a car. If you use a highway in another country with no information about it, you might spend a lot of money.

Every country in the world has similar driving rules; for example, we need to follow traffic

lights and traffic signs, we need to have car insurance, and we cannot drink alcohol in the car. However, there are many remarkable differences between the U.S and my country such as the place of the driver's seat, direction of traffic, how to get a driver's license, and highways. Therefore, it is so important to know driving rules and customs in different countries before you drive there. "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." To follow the rules is really important to enjoy traveling by car.

Hitomi Atsumi
W310





Nestscape -- Articles from The Web

Continue from Page 1

viving scrap of a script in Shakespeare's handwriting — a scene that finds eerily poignant echoes in today's arguments about refugees and immigration on both sides of the Atlantic.

This week the world's been treated to a commentary on immigration reform from a surprising source: William Shakespeare.

2016 being the 400th anniversary of the Bard's death, many institutions are doing celebrations of one sort or another. The British Library, in hosting a major exhibition, has put online the only surviving scrap of a script in Shakespeare's handwriting — a scene that finds eerily poignant echoes in today's arguments about refugees and immigration on both sides of the Atlantic.

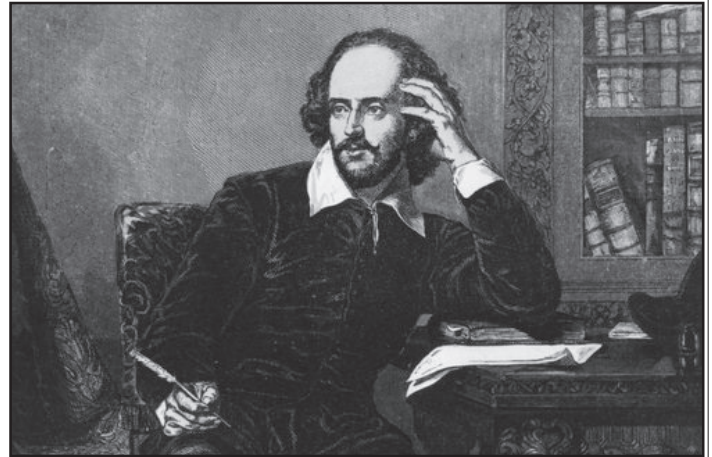
It's a speech from a play, *The Book of Sir Thomas More*, that was not by Shakespeare. Nor was it produced in his lifetime, apparently for fear that it would incite unrest at a time of religious tensions that had created an unprecedented refugee crisis in Europe. The Bard and several other authors did rewrites, but while his own contribution was an impassioned plea for tolerance, the revisions weren't enough to get the play produced, and its script languished for centuries.

When it was finally staged in London in 1964, a young Ian McKellen played Sir Thomas More (which has enabled him to joke in speaking engagements that he is "maybe the last actor who can say 'I created a part written by William Shakespeare'.")

A part only partly written by the Bard, but powerfully so. In the stirring speech penned in Shakespeare's hand, it is More's task to silence a mob that's rioting about "strangers" in their midst. King Henry VIII had offered safe haven to too many refugees, scream the rioters. "They must be removed!"

More begins by pretending to agree, then points out that there's a problem with mob rule when it denies clemency to the downtrodden. Though Shakespeare's handwritten revisions to *The Book of Sir Thomas*

More qualify as a rough first draft, they do not lack for eloquence in decrying the mob's "mountainish inhumanity."



You'll put down strangers,/ Kill them, cut their throats, possess their houses,
And lead the majesty of law in lyam/
To slip him like a hound. Alas, alas! Say now the King/
As he is clement if th'offender mourn,
Should so much come too short of your great trespass/
As but to banish you: whither would you go?/
What country, by the nature of your error,
Should give you harbour? Go you to France or Flanders,
To any German province, Spain or Portugal,
Nay, anywhere that not adheres to England:/
Why, you must needs be strangers.

Shakespeare's original handwritten script is now on loan at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington. It is one of more than 300 texts being digitized as part of the British Library exhibition, *Shakespeare in Ten Acts*, that opens April 15 in London.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/03/16/470729477/only-script-in-shakespeares-handwriting-urges-compassion-for-migrants>

Upside Down House in Taiwan



Your eyes aren't deceiving you; the key to defying gravity hasn't been found. This is, perhaps equally unusually, an upside down house!

The three-storey house in Taiwan has been furnished with real-size tables, chairs and crockery. It even, rather bizarrely, has a car stuck to its ceiling. Hundreds of visitors have come to visit the American country-style home, the ideal photo op setting.

This visitor explained that being in the upside down house feels like being in a movie like "The Exorcist" or "Spider Man".

The house is 334 square metres and includes a living room, a bathroom and a garage and took around two months and a hair-raising \$600,000 USD to make.

This exhibition certainly seems to be turning things on its head.

Difficult words:

deceive (to trick)

defy (to rebel against)

storey (a floor)

crockery (plates, dishes, cups and other things like that)

bizarrely (strangely)

photo op (a photo opportunity)

hair-raising (surprising or scary)

on its head (upside down or very strangely)



<http://www.newsinlevels.com/products/upside-down-house-in-taiwan-level-1/>



VOCAB LIST: Democracy and Elections

Politics (n.) – the process of debating, making laws, and running a government

Political (adj.) – relating to politics or the process of running a government

Barbara is very interested in politics, so she reads the political news every day.

Election (n.) – in a democracy/republic, when everyone votes for their representatives

Elect (v.) – to vote for and choose a representative

Candidate – a person who tries to get people's votes for a government position

There are many candidates in this year's presidential election. I'm not sure who I will vote for.

Campaign (n., v.) – when candidates try to convince people to vote for them (through advertisements, speeches, etc.)

Run (v.) – to campaign for political office

Political campaigns have become increasingly expensive in recent years.

I want to campaign for mayor, but my mother says that only dishonest people can win an election.

Party (n.) – a group of people with similar political ideas (examples of political parties include the Republican and Democrat Parties (US) and the Conservative Party and Liberal Democrats (UK))

Debate (n., v.) – when people (or candidates) with different opinions answer questions and argue with each other (usually before an election)

Conservative – a political philosophy based on keeping traditional views and spending less money

Liberal/progressive – a political philosophy based on progress, breaking with tradition, and spending more money to help poor people

Independent – a person who does not belong to a particular political party

In last night's presidential debate, candidates from the conservative and liberal parties argued over jobs and health care. Many independent voters watched the debate carefully to decide who to vote for in the upcoming election.

Patriot (n.) – a person who deeply loves his/her country

Patriotic (adj.) – feeling or showing love for one's country

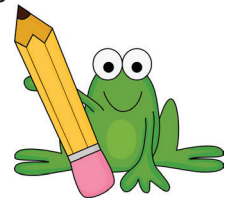
In the presidential campaign, the candidates often compete to prove to voters that they are the most patriotic person and will do the best job leading the country.

Opposition – the political party that is not in power; people who disagree with a certain view

The opposition is hoping to defeat the president in this year's election by questioning his patriotism.



Vocabulary



Parrot Vocabuilder: Government

VOCAB REVIEW: Democracy and Elections

political	election	candidate	campaign
party	elect	conservative	patriotic
independent	debate	liberal	patriot

1. The Republican _____ has a majority of members in the state legislature.

2. Many people think the Republicans won because they called themselves _____ and tried to show how much they love the country.

3. The Republicans are usually more _____ -- they are more traditional and support lower taxes.

4. People in the Democratic party are usually more _____ -- they are more progressive and support higher taxes and more social programs.

5. The Republican _____ for President spent a lot of money on advertising.

6. I watched the _____ last night with my family so we could decide who to vote for.

7. I consider myself a _____ because I love my country and I served in the army.

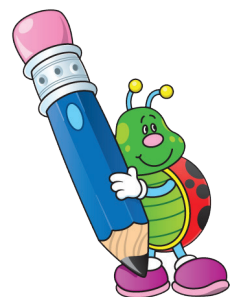
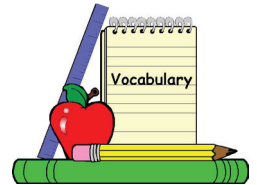
8. Although Mr. Jones spent a lot of money on advertising, the people of the city did not _____ him as their mayor.

9. My uncle said that he is tired of the Republican and Democratic parties, so he always votes for the _____ candidate.

10. I rarely pay attention to _____ news because it's always so depressing.

11. This year's _____ was very close; the Democratic candidate got 51% of the vote, and the Republican candidate got 49%.

12. If you want to _____ for an office like governor or President, you need to be able to raise a lot of money and make a lot of important friends.





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 Vietnamese Beef Pho?

Ingredients

2 beef shanks with meat on them (about 2 1/4 pounds total)

3 large yellow onions, halved

1 6 -inch piece ginger, halved lengthwise

1 head garlic, halved crosswise

2 tablespoons vegetable oil

Kosher salt

2 cinnamon sticks

4 star anise pods

3 tablespoons black peppercorns

3 quarts low-sodium beef broth

1/3 cup fish sauce

For the soup:

1 pound flat rice noodles

8 ounces deli-sliced roast beef, torn into pieces

4 cups bean sprouts

1 large bunch Thai basil or mint, leaves torn

2 jalapeno peppers (red and/or green), thinly sliced

1 large red onion, thinly sliced

Hoisin sauce and/or Sriracha (Asian chile sauce), for serving.

Directions

Make the broth: Position a rack in the upper third of the oven and preheat to 450 degrees F. Toss the beef shanks, onions, ginger and garlic with the vegetable

oil on a rimmed baking sheet and season generously with salt. Roast, turning once halfway through, until the meat and vegetables are slightly charred, about 30 minutes. Transfer to a large pot.

Meanwhile, toast the cinnamon sticks, star anise pods and peppercorns in a small skillet over medium heat, shaking the pan, 5 minutes.

Add the beef broth, 2 quarts water, the toasted spices and the fish sauce to the pot with the beef shanks. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to maintain a gentle simmer. Cook, skimming off any foam that rises to the top, until the meat is tender, 1 hour to 1 hour, 30 minutes. Remove from the heat and transfer the beef shanks to a cutting board; strain the broth through a fine-mesh sieve into another large pot. (The broth can be made up to 2 days ahead; let cool, then refrigerate in a covered



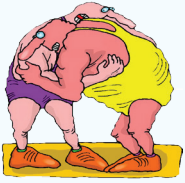
container.)

Shred the meat from the shanks with two forks, discarding any bits of cartilage, then stir back into the broth. Discard the bones.

Cook the noodles as the label directs. Divide the broth and shredded meat among bowls, then add the noodles and roast beef. Top with the bean sprouts, basil, jalapenos and red onion; serve with hoisin sauce and/or Sriracha.

<http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchens/beef-pho-recipe.html>

Parrot Warbling



Grappling with Grammar

Grammar Semicolons



Rule 1a. A semicolon can replace a period if the writer wishes to narrow the gap between two closely linked sentences.

Examples: Call me tomorrow; you can give me an answer then.

Rule 1b. Avoid a semicolon when a dependent clause comes before an independent clause.

Incorrect: Although they tried; they failed.

Correct: Although they tried, they failed.

Rule 2. Use a semicolon before such words and terms as namely, however, therefore, that is, i.e., for example, e.g., for instance, etc.

Example: Bring any two items; however, sleeping bags and tents are in short supply.

Rule 3. Use a semicolon to separate units of a series when one or more of the units contain commas.

Incorrect: The conference has people who have come from Moscow, Idaho, Springfield, California, Alamo, Tennessee, and other places as well.

Correct: The conference has people who have come from Moscow, Idaho; Springfield, California; Alamo, Tennessee; and other places as well. (Note the final semicolon, rather than a comma, after Tennessee.)

Rule 4. Do not capitalize ordinary words after a semicolon.

Incorrect: I am here; You are over there.

<http://www.grammarbook.com/punctuation/semicolons.asp>

Idiom--Attic

(To be) On the ball



It means that you're very quick to understand certain things.

Ex: "Wow, you've already finished your assignments? They are not due until next week; you're really on the ball. I wish I could be more organized."

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

Beak Speak Linking

One of the reasons non-native speakers have problems understanding and pronouncing English is because of linking.

Linking occurs when a word ends in a consonant and the following word starts with a vowel. The consonant sound is linked with the vowel when it is pronounced.

For example :

in the phrase 'that's **e**nough'- the 's' in that's is linked to the 'e' in enough. and sounds like that's enough.

The linked letters are in bold. The first sentence will be with proper enunciation, and the second with linked enunciation.

- Sit **on an orange** crate.
(Sit ton nan orange crate.)

- Bring **an apple and a** book.
(Bring gan napple and da book.)

- A car **is only as good as its'** engine.
(A car ris sonly yas good das sits' engine)

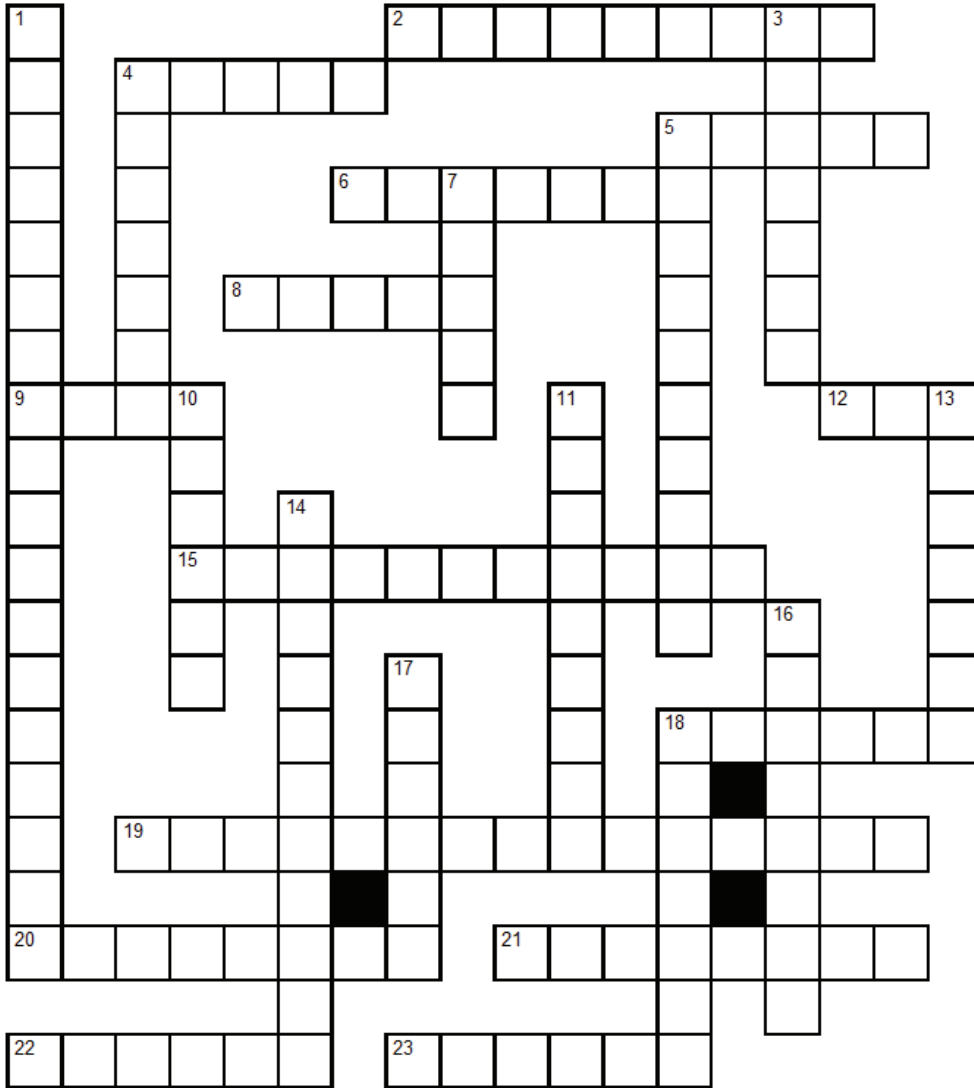
<http://pronunciationtips.com/linking/>





Some More Parrot Fun Stuff

Jobs Crossword



Across

- 2- A person who does experiments.
- 4- Someone who stars in a movie.
- 5- Somebody who flies airplane.
- 6- Someone who cleans buildings.
- 8- Someone who digs for metal ore in the ground.
- 9- Someone who cooks food.
- 12- Somebody who help sick animals.
- 15- Someone who delivers food.
- 18- Somebody who helps sick people.
- 19- Someone who serves people on airplane.
- 20- A person who tells us the news.
- 21- Somebody who plays an instrument.
- 22- A person who sings a songs.
- 23- A person who paints pictures.

Down

- 1- Someone who builds houses.
- 3- A person who protects a country.
- 4- A person who plays sports.
- 5- A person who makes computer games.
- 7- A person who helps a doctor.
- 10- Someone who grows crops.
- 11- A person who goes to outer space.
- 13- Somebody who teaches.
- 14- Somebody who puts out fires.
- 16- Someone who fixes cars.
- 17- A person who serves food.
- 18- Somebody who fixes





Car Makers



Find the names of the car manufacturers in the list. The names can be up, down, forward, backward, or diagonal.

ACURA
AUDI
BMW
BUICK
CADILLAC
CHEVROLET
CITROEN
CHRYSLER
DAEWOO
DODGE
EAGLE
FERRARI
FORD
GMC
HONDA
HUMMER
HYUNDAI
INFINITI
ISUZU
JAGUAR
JEEP
KIA
LAND ROVER
LAMBORGHINI
LEXUS
LINCOLN
LOTUS
MASERATI
MAZDA
MERCEDES BENZ
MERCURY
MITSUBISHI
NISSAN
OLDSMOBILE
PEUGOT



PONTIAC
PORSCHE
RENAULT
SAAB
SATURN

SUBARU
SUZUKI
TOYOTA
VOLKSWAGEN
VOLVO





Parrot Poetry



'III. NATURE XXVIII. AUTUMN'

The morns are meeker than they were,
 The nuts are getting brown;
 The berry's cheek is plumper,
 The rose is out of town.
 The maple wears a gayer scarf,
 The field a scarlet gown.
 Lest I should be old-fashioned,
 I'll put a trinket on.

By Emily Dickinson

Rigoberto's Riddles

What does December have that other months don't have?

The letter D



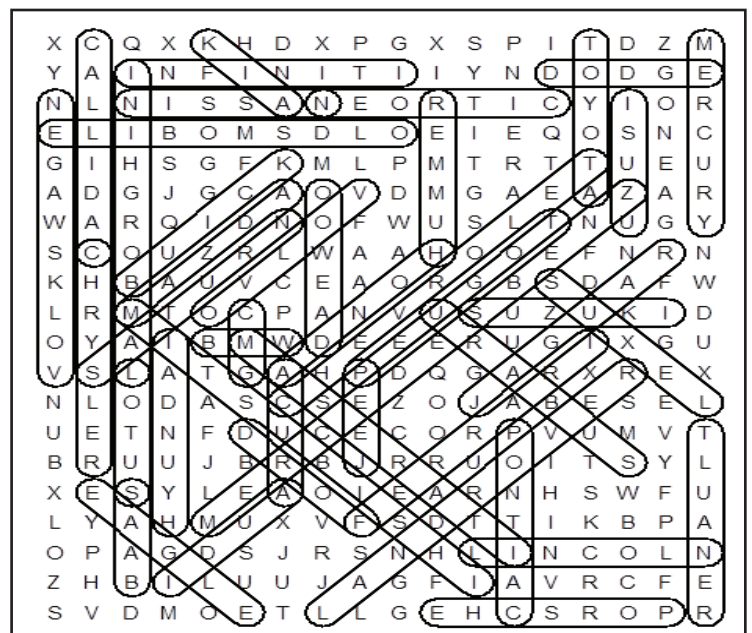
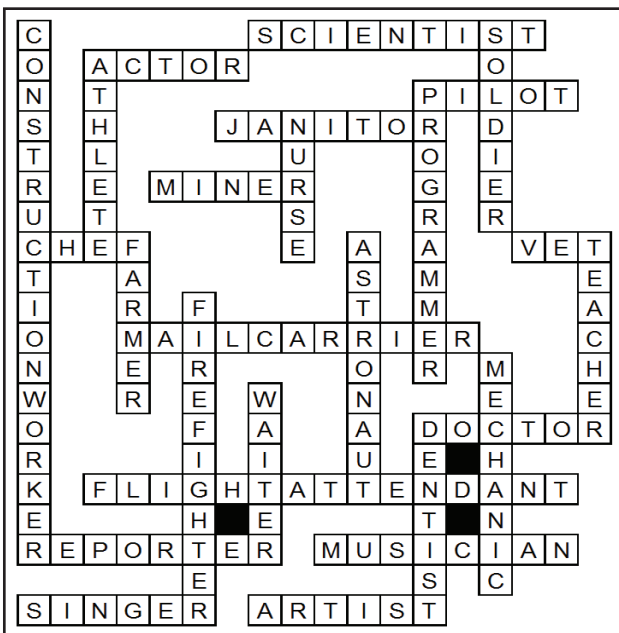
Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber

A Woman Shoots Her Husband For Stepping On The Clean Floor...



A police officer jumps into his squad car and calls the station. "I have an interesting case here," he says. "A woman shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped."

"Have you arrested her?" asks the sergeant. "No, not yet. The floor's still wet."



Granny Noetal

Dear Granny Noetal,

Recently in one of my ESL classes I heard some of my classmates arguing about politics, you know, the presidential elections. Should they be doing that? We don't do that in our country because it could get you in trouble.

Narita Valenzuela

Dear Narita,

Sometimes our politics seems like a combination of circus, advertising, entertainment, and shadiness. Maybe it's our national sport. At times, it can get a bit depressing and even disturbing if you hear people arguing demonstrably. I'm no historian but I'd bet it's always been that way in this coun-



try. One thing we value is freedom of expression, but we also value the ability to get along with others, with people who may not share our views. As a result, often we refrain from engaging in political talk with neighbors and people we work with if we don't already know their views. Differing views abound because, after all, we are a nation of diversity! I'm sorry to hear it may be a bit of trouble in your country to speak up. In any case, we all benefit from listening to the other side, even if it hurts or angers. Epictetus, an ancient Greek philosopher and not a contemporary of mine once said, "We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak."

Wise words, indeed, during the election season.

Granny

Interview with Prof. Austin

Continued from page 1

American River College is really great; you should consider working there. I was like "Wow", so I logged on to the website to apply for the job. And when I did that, I realized I just had a couple of hours. The application deadline was at 5p.m. and it was already 1p.m. I thought that I was like the last person who applied for this, I would never get it, but I applied anyway. Then I got a call for the interview.

Parrot: How did you get interested in your area of expertise?

Prof. Austin: Well, my dad used to teach speech. Back in the day, we couldn't afford daycare after school, so I would go to my dad's class in the morning before my school started, and in the evening after my school ended, we would go home. I watched him teaching from the age of 5 until 11 or 12 years old. That inspired me to become a speech teacher.

Parrot: What advice you think is the most important for your students or students in general?

Prof. Austin: My advice for students in general is to always meet with your professor during the semester and introduce yourself, so the professor can get to know who you are and you can get to have a personal relationship with him or her. It is very important, especially if that professor is in your discipline. When you go to apply for some sort of internship or scholarship, or maybe a college and you need a recommendation letter, this teacher has a knowledge of who you are. It is good to keep up with teachers even after you finish the classes, to let them know what you are doing, what is happening with your school schedule, when you are getting close to your graduation, so they can help you with your transferring. When a recommendation letter is required, not every teacher can write you one if they don't really know anything about the student. It is not enough if you have just one class; there has to be some sort of relationship that they built with you to be able to write that important recommendation letter. That is one piece of advice I would give: go to see your professor at least once, or a couple of times during the semester, even if it's just to talk about the class, to get information about a coming test, or to get some



sort of assignment. Ask how you can do better. The second thing I would tell the student is to go to see a counselor, at least once a year, or once a semester, to make sure that you are on track to graduate. I see a lot of students taking classes that don't quite apply to anything, so they ended up spending a lot of time and money.

Parrot: Do you think you've grown as a teacher? If yes, how so?

Prof. Austin: Yes, I've grown as a teacher. I think when you start teaching, you don't want your students to know that you're new. So you would try to do all these things that aren't really you. And when you've actually been a teacher for a while, it's a must that you have to continuously try to improve. One class this semester I actually dumped everything that I had ever done before, and I started over from scratch. I think that a really good teacher would do that. They would say that this class could be better, so I'm going to scrap everything I know, and start over. It is a lot of work, but it is beneficial for the students and also it shows that you've grown and how you are as a teacher, that you are better than what you did before. So I've definitely grown.

Parrot: Looking back, are there any changes you would have made in your educational choices?

Prof. Austin: I would say no because everything I did brought me to another level. Every class took me to journeys that showed me something about myself, either about assignments, or how to complete reading or how to do papers, even though they might not be in my field. There is always something that I learned in the classes that I took.

Parrot: If you can choose one word to describe yourself, what would it be?

Prof. Austin: Dynamic.

Parrot: If your interview gets in the Parrot, how do you think it would affect your life?

Prof. Austin: My office mate would tell me in a minute; he reads it all the time. He will go, "Hey, you're in the paper". I will feel like a super star.

Parrot: What is your idea of a dream vacation?

Prof. Austin: I really want to go on an African Safari, go out to see a giraffe, go to Africa!

Parrot: Have you ever been out of the country before?

Prof. Austin: Yes, I've been to Europe and Canada.

Parrot: So if you had 10 million dollars, what would you do?

Prof. Austin: I would build a building in American River College. Maybe a new Speech Department? Or maybe an ESL Lab; we really need one. And Humanities Lab as well. It will be called the David Austin Building.

Parrot: That is very cool! It sounds like you're very passionate about your students' success and also devote yourself to the school. What is your motivation?

Prof. Austin: I think I just want to leave something behind. One way to do that is by inspiring students to be something more than what they think they can be and that starts in the classroom.

Parrot: Do you have any good tips for students that are going into your field, which is Communications?

Prof. Austin: I think some students go with Communications because they don't know what they want to do, and so a good thing to do is figure out what you do can with a Communications Degree. See if a counselor can help. They have a system called Eureka, which really helps students determine what they need to take for what colleges, and what classes would transfer and what job they would have with that degree, how much they can expect to earn in that career.

Parrot: Which one of these items could you not live without for a year? The Internet, TV, your car, your cell phone, or nail clipper? And why?

Prof. Austin: It would be the TV. Yeah, The Walking Dead is about to start, right?

Parrot: Can you not watch it on the Internet, though?

Prof. Austin: That's true, but I hate the Internet. I

overload myself on research. Once I start, I will be there forever. Last time I was doing research about Wells Fargo for 3 hours.

Parrot: Do you think the Internet has a big effect in your field?

Prof. Austin: Yes, of course. Communications is geared through social media, through the Internet, also with research. It is easier to do research online than in the library. (Don't tell the librarian!)

Parrot: So what do you think? How has communication changed since the Internet came out? I noticed that nowadays people don't interact with each other that much because we have all these devices and the Internet, so we can just send a text, or maybe use facetime?

Prof. Austin: There are more ways to communicate but sometimes in-person is the best. So it just depends on what of communication you are going to use. Lets take Ted Talk, for example! Everyone plays this in the classroom, shows some great Ted Talk. The problem is this: Yes, they are good, but when you actually go to one, it is much more powerful, because you're seeing somebody live, and that interaction makes them better. Obviously not everybody can go to those, and you can't have all your students go, so you show them in the classroom, but it's actually not as powerful. So I think that even though we have the Internet, no argument on that, but in some cases, person-to-person is much more valuable and powerful than it would be on the Internet. Imagine taking all your classes online; some might not be as good as others.

Parrot: About taking online classes, there are colleges which provide online classes for Public Speaking. What do you think about that? What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Prof. Austin: At American River College, we don't do that. We don't have Public Speaking class online for that very reason, that you need to be able to understand your audience and you need to be comfortable speaking in front of people. Some colleges do. I used to work for California State LA, and they have programs in which you enroll in online courses, so you do everything online but you have

to report to the school to do your speeches four times per semester. I've also seen some colleges that would do the entire class online and you have to tape or record, digitalize your speech, but for me it is not quite effective because it is not going to be the same as the presentation in front of people. And at some point, you are going to have to do that. We want to make it to an advanced way, where that would happen. So you use Skype live, but we haven't gotten that far yet. So you need to be good at both skills, being able to use technology, as well as being able to take advantage of in-person situations.

Parrot: Timeout! Would you prefer to have dinner with Lady Gaga or Hillary Clinton? Why?

Prof. Austin: I think the persons who I would want to have dinner with is the Obamas. I want to know everything that happens in the White House; plus I want the recipe for her ginger cookies. Those are the best and I don't know how she made those.

Parrot: Would you prefer two weeks of a luxury vacation in Hawaii or two weeks of trekking in the Himalayas? Why?

Prof. Austin: For now, I would choose the vacation in Hawaii. There is this thing, on an island named Kailua; they made it into a rafting experience, like a blow-up raft. It is supposed to be one of the best things you can do in Hawaii and it is not really well-known. I really want to go there.

Parrot: It seems as if you keep yourself updated pretty well with everything that is happening. How can you use your sources effectively? Can you please share more about it?

Prof. Austin: For all of my classes, I think it is really important and I have an obligation as a teacher to bring to the classroom current events for them to talk about, to debate, to be knowledgeable about. Some of them are on Facebook but a lot of it is from the news that I watch every morning. I watch different channels to get a different perspective. And then I do a lot of research, just on interesting things that I think my students might be able to be interested in and debate. They can be anything from the proposition on the ballot to social issues, to whether



or not things are working out in the society. Students need to be aware of what is going on; they are already busy studying, so most students don't have the ability to be aware of what is happening, but it is important they know. I consider it as a part of my job.

Parrot: If you have 20 minutes of free time, would you read the Parrot or People Magazine? Why?

Prof. Austin: I would read The Parrot. I think there is no point reading People Magazine; it is too gossipy. And I'd like to know what's happening around our campus. But to be honest, 20 minutes of free time, I don't even know what that is. I'm super-dedicated to my family and my students. My students have my cell phone number and they call me for help about everything, even a job interview. One time I was having my coffee and watching the news. Then one student called me and was like, "I just got an interview today. I just got called yesterday and I thought maybe you could help me out." I love that, so I don't have a lot of free time. Everything in my life is pretty much planned.

Parrot: Would you describe yourself as adventure-some or cautious? Adventuresome.

Parrot: Ambitious and energetic or relaxed and care

free? Ambitious and energetic.

Parrot: Artistic and creative or scientific and practical?

Prof. Austin: Both.

Parrot: Competitive or laid back?

Prof. Austin: Competitive.

Parrot: Organized or Disorganized?

Prof. Austin: Super organized.

Parrot: Playful or Serious?

Prof. Austin: Playful.

Parrot: Extra question: Hillary or Trump?

Prof. Austin: There is the third option. He is Johnson and he is Independent. The problem is even if he wins the general election, there is no electoral set up for Independent, but more and more Americans register for Independent, so I think it is something we have to address. But I haven't made up my mind yet.

Parrot: Thank you for joining us!

Parroteer: Van Ho



The Parrot - Simply Everywhere !



Vienna Neighborhood Library



Out of the Cage

ARC Speaks: In the Mix

Thursday, November 3, 2016
From 12:15pm – 1:15pm

Come join us with another installment of ARC Speaks, an opportunity for members of ARC's diverse communities to share their experiences. In this installment of ARC Speaks, a panel of biracial and multiracial ARC students answer the question: "How has your identity as a biracial or multiracial individual been shaped or influenced by living in the Sacramento area?" Join us in hearing these stories of ARC students in a respectful and thoughtful setting.

Location: Raef Hall 160

Free Meditation Class

Tuesday, November 15 2016
From 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Meditation is a natural and rewarding practice. It gives direct, intuitive experience of higher realities, and is the cornerstone of many spiritual teachings. It brings balance, rest, and a growing inner peace.

The meditation will start with a short lesson or review of basic but very effective meditation techniques, followed by a prayer, some chanting (devotional singing), and then the meditation. The meditation is open to all faiths and spiritual practices. Chairs are provided or you may bring your own meditation cushion.

Location: Sunlight of the Spirit Books & Gifts 2314 J Street

Study Abroad!

Thursday, November 17, 2016
From 12:15pm – 1:15pm

Learn about study abroad opportunities next summer in London and Florence. All students are eligible to participate in these very exciting and enriching programs. Program dates, itineraries, application deadlines and costs will be provided.

Location: Raef Hall 160

50th Anniversary: Star Trek as a Barometer and Agent of Social Change

Tuesday, November 29, 2016
From 12:15pm – 1:15pm

From the very beginning, Star Trek responded to the social issues of the time: racism, civil rights, and oppression. Star Trek created a social dialogue even when television networks blocked similar attempts by other shows. As the show evolved, so did its social critique.

Location: Raef Hall 160



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