



The Parrot

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

Issue # 126

Spring 2018

Our ARC\ESL Uber Drivers!

Parrot: What did you do in your country?

Xitlali: In my country Mexico, I worked at Honda de Mexico in the commercial area and also worked on the development of my own company. Prior to that I learned the development of business concepts, marketing, and production of audio-visual media, among



Nasir, Xitlali, & Ahmad

other similar things.

Nasir: In Afghanistan I used to work at an American construction company for ten years. I was on assistant security manager.

Ahmad: I used to work as an interpreter/translator with the US Army in Afghanistan

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Afghan Immigrants

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Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction.

JFK



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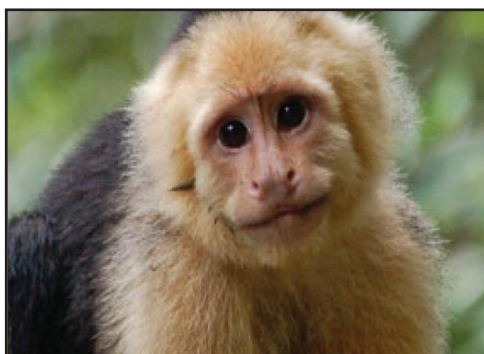
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Man issues warning after losing thousands during online monkey purchase

WYOMING, Mich. -- Don Abrego's online search for a pet took the exotic route three weeks ago.

"I needed a monkey. I needed to be different," Abrego said.

He wanted a capuchin monkey and found one supposedly in Hawaii. However, as soon as his first \$400 payment cleared, he said



the problems began. The shipper was requesting more money and claimed it was for flight cancellations and vaccination costs. So Abrego shelled out more cash.

"About 20 Amazon gift cards ranging from a hundred to \$400 and \$500," Abrego

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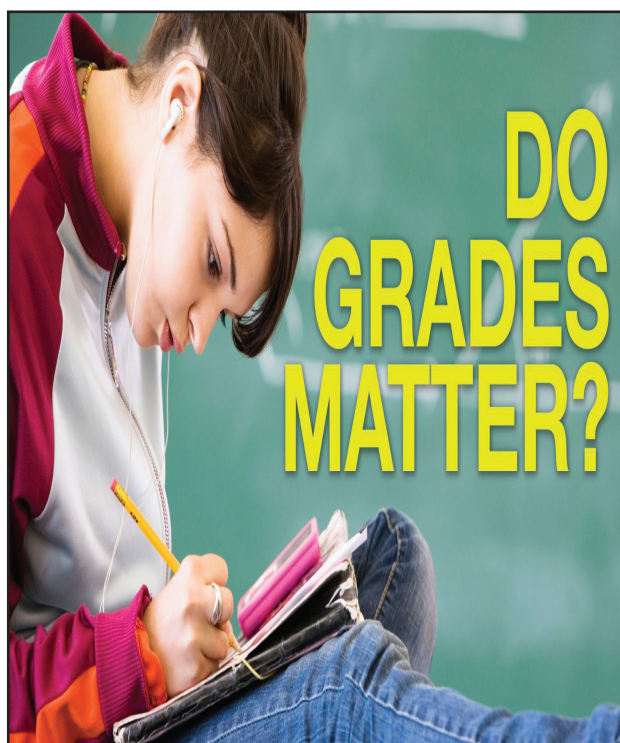


Student Chirpings

An Educational Mistake

We need to change a very big mistake of our parents! As fast as we can! Why? Because it destroys our society! It kills the dream of every student! It punishes every person who spends too much time doing what he hates. We can not wait! We need to act now! I know that you want to know what it is, right? The problem is in our educational program. I strongly agree with the idea that there should be no grades in high schools or college, that all classes should be pass or fail.

The first reason why there should be no grades in high schools or college is grades send the wrong message. What does it mean? It means that children care more about their grades than their knowledge. Why does it happen? The most common reason is that when children get high grades, their parents and teachers praise them for that. On the other hand, if they get low grades, parents get worried about that, and even punish them. I remember my reaction once to a low grade. When I got "B" instead of "A", I cried because I did not want to have any "B" on my record. Maybe my knowledge was not perfect in that subject, but I still wanted to have "A". I see the same situations with others many times. The reason why it happens is in our priority. It means that for many people grades are more important than knowledge. Moreover, have you ever thought about why people cheat? Why do they want to have high grades without knowledge? I will repeat it again and again that it happens because in our society grades are more important than knowledge. Do you see what the result of grades is? We must re-



move grades from our educational program!

The second reason why there should be no grades in high schools or college is student unwillingness to learn. Once a boy missed some lessons because he was sick. When he came back to class, he could not understand anything. He tried to catch up on missed lessons, but he could not. In addition, every day there was new information

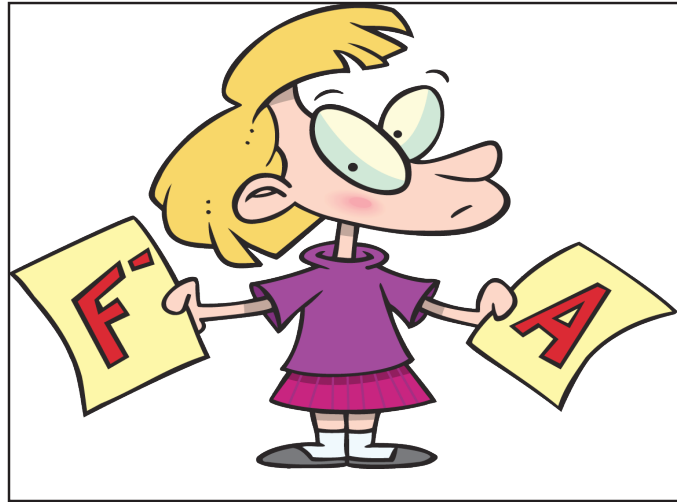
which he could not understand. Then, he started to get low grades. When his parents heard about that, they started to scold him. Moreover, he lost his status in class, so he became one of the bad students. As a result, the boy began to hate this subject. Therefore, grades do not motivate! Why do children so love sports? It is because they love it! It is not hard for them at all. They are perfect there, so other boys and girls respect them. That's why sometimes they do not want to do any lessons, but they always want to

do a sport. Therefore, children have a need to be respected and admired, but bad grades are bad for their reputation. My brother was not good in school, but he was always a leader in education any sport. He hated school except for physical. In that subject he was first. Grades do not motivate! Moreover, grades are bad because everybody judges the child by them! For some people, it is too difficult to get good grades and be admired! However, everyone wants to be admired!

The third reason why there should be no grades in high schools or college is high grades do not mean a high level of knowledge. Do you think that

all famous people were the best students in their classes? No, they were not. In fact they had some troubles with their studying. For example, Napoleon was a very bad student in everything except for math. Albert Einstein is the creator of the theory of relativity. He won a Nobel Prize. However, he was a very average student. His parents were afraid that he could not find any job. Ludwig von Beethoven

could not write without errors, and he could not do division and multiplication. However, he became a very famous composer. Once I met one very smart boy! He was good in math. He always won first places in every contest. However, I wondered when



I learned that he was the worst student in his previous school. In that school, everyone laughed at him because he was bad in any subject, even in math. Who could know that he would be a champion in math in the future?

Now you can see the importance of removing this educational problem in our lives. We need to change it! I know that you also strongly agree with the idea that there should be no grades in high schools or college and all classes should be pass or fail. Let's fix it together! Let's change a very big mistake of our parents!

Abby
ESL W50
(Argumentative essay)

My Greatest Influence: My Mother

Have you ever imagined how your life would be different if important people were not in it? My wonderful mother is the person who influenced me to do better and strive for the best life. Without my mom, I would never be where I am. Three important values that my mom emphasized were to become a good person, honor family time, and gain education.

The first important value that my mom taught was to be strong and understanding. To become like this, she had a slogan and always repeated it to me: "never give up". She taught me to always try my best to treat others equally and to continue when things get hard. She tells me all the time to be honest because in the end lies always hurt more. When I made decisions and she strongly disagreed with them, she still made sure that I knew that she was behind me all the way because she wanted me to always be happy. My mom has taught me right from wrong and the significance of self-respect.

The second important value that my mom taught me was the value of family. Family vacations

and holidays kept our relationships together and gave us opportunities to spend more time with family, discover life, and see new things together. My mom always came up with the idea to go somewhere all together. My country Ukraine, is one of the places that we roamed almost all over. Every time we had an opportunity, we escaped from the busy city where we lived and tried to see all tourist attractions such as natural monuments, reservations, museums, monasteries, and wineries. My family always liked traveling through Europe. We visited more than ten countries in Europe and enjoyed adventure, food, and history in Romania, Slovenia, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and some other countries. Traveling has helped me learn new languages, explore cultural differences, discover cultural similarities, unearth history, and gain independence. Therefore, I owe it to my mother that I enjoy each day of today and family time.

The last important value that my mom instilled in me was education. She always believed and said that education is the key to success in the future.



She always supported my academic growth. My mother supported the school and was active in my education, and expressed concerns to the teacher. She was a partner in the school and she always knew my academic strengths and weaknesses. Therefore, she worked with me on the skills that I was looking for. My mom came from a family without college degrees. She had me observe how she worked hard to support our family. My mother explained to me if she had a college education, things would be a little easier for our family. Thus, she invested all she had in my education.



Being a person of good character, honoring the family, and having a school education were the things that my mom instilled in me. The goal of my mom was to raise a child and be proud of it. I think that everyone should have a source of inspiration and a person to thank for everything she did for you. I love my mother from the earth to the moon!

Ina Vlas
ESL W50
(*Expository essay*)

No Plagiarism!

The problem of plagiarism among students is not new, but after the invention of the Internet, student plagiarism became a real and very common problem. Today every student can find a lot of information on any subject in a second. The first time I faced this problem was in high school. My classmate downloaded an essay for literature class from the Internet, changed the title page and received the highest grade from our teacher. We didn't tell the teacher about the plagiarism because in the school environment it is not acceptable to complain about classmates. However, I still remember that my friends and I were very upset, because we spent a lot of time preparing for the essay, but our classmate simply presented someone else's work as his. I consider this act dishonest and even criminal. I firmly agree with the idea that students who plagiarize should be kicked out of college.

The first reason why students who plagiarize should be kicked out of college is that it's not fair to the rights holders. I hope everyone knows that there is copyright law protection. Respect for

the law is a very important part of a modern society. You can say whatever you want, but I strongly believe that a student who plagiarizes should be considered a criminal! Many years ago, in high school, my friend Irina took the opportunity to read her essay to a classmate. However, both girls were asked to report to their teacher. He thought their ideas were too similar. The teacher didn't accept either essay. Both girls got zero points. I remember perfectly well how Irina cried and complained to me about this situation. Just imagine yourself in her place! Anyone who thinks that it's possible to forgive plagiarism is crazy or stupid! Every year, the world is shaken by scandals, and courts protect copyrights in literature, music, and art. We must respect intellectual property. If a student uses someone else's intellectual property, he must indicate who the author is. Otherwise, I consider him a thief. Why should students who plagiarize learn along with good, honest students? Get them out of college!

Another reason why students who plagiarize

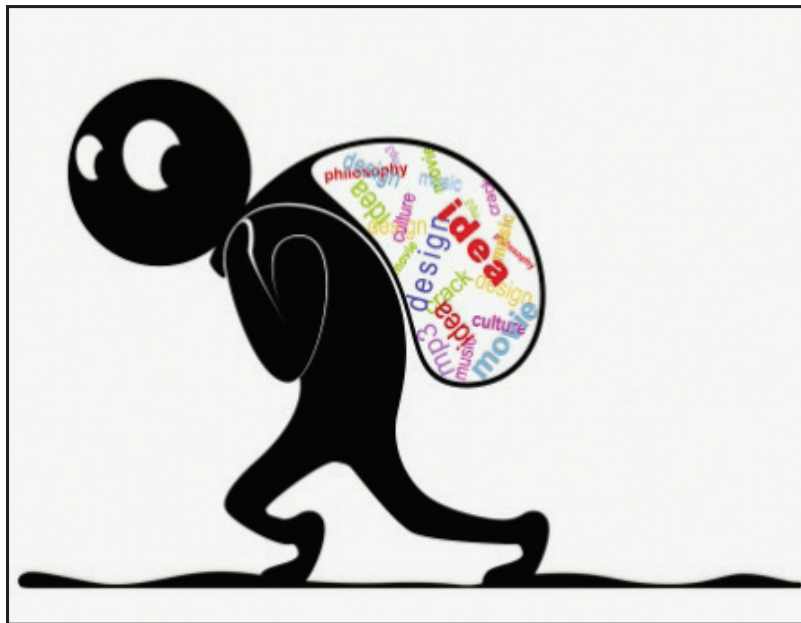
should be kicked out of college is that it's not fair to the teacher. Teaching is very difficult! A routine checking of homework takes a very long time. I know this because my grandmother was a teacher of geography in high school. Nowadays, teachers have to not only check students' homework but also check them for plagiarism. My college friend D. told me that her professor didn't accept her essay when he found it plagiarized. She did not steal the essay, but she used statistical data that she didn't cite because she didn't know that it was necessary.

The professor explained to her how to do it right but still told her to rewrite her whole essay completely. She thought it was unfair, but I support the professor's side. How could he be sure that she really did not know that it was necessary to indicate the source of information?

Probably, the professor had heard a million such explanations before! Just imagine how long it takes to check each essay! How much energy professors spend on it! It is disrespect for the work of the teacher! I believe that every teacher or professor should report the fact of student plagiarism in order to save colleges and schools from such dishonest people. If a student does not respect the work of his professor – he should have nothing to do with the college!

A final and very important reason why students who plagiarize should be kicked out of college is that it's not fair to the other students. I still remember how it was not fair when I worked on a huge and difficult essay on literature for a week, and my classmate just downloaded something from the Internet. I then decided that I wouldn't do this, but some of my other classmates decided that

it was an excellent opportunity to receive undeserved grades. One undeserved grade obtained by one student can lead others to plagiarism. Moreover, it spoils the relationship among classmates. It is very unfair if you get a lower score than the students who plagiarize. It destroys the motivation for honest learning. Therefore, students who give a bad example should be kicked out in disgrace! The most horrible thing, in my opinion, is when a student who plagiarizes not only receives undeserved grades but also gets the opportunity to



receive a scholarship. This is double theft! It is a theft of intellectual property and a theft of money. This money will not go to good and honest students! Do you still think that expulsion from college because of plagiarism is a too strong a punishment?

Plagiarism is a serious problem that often occurs in a student environment. The Internet gives students an opportunity

to quickly get the information they need. Some students start using it for their education in a criminal way. They begin to plagiarize. Like many other students, I witnessed the problem of plagiarism when I was in high school. It was a sad experience. The undeserved good grade of my classmate, who downloaded an essay from the Internet, upset my friends and me terribly. I'm absolutely against plagiarism in general and in college in particular! I firmly agree with the idea that plagiarizing students should be kicked out of college.

Nadia Orlova
ESL W50
(Argumentative essay)



Disadvantages of Being a Woman in my Country

"Would you like to be on the sea or in the forest?" asked a husband while he was calling his wife. "Wow, my beloved, did you buy a trip for our ten-year anniversary?" "Nope, I want to buy air-spray for our restroom," said the husband. Pretty often the women can only dream about a better or easy life in Moldova. To be a woman often means to be a slave. There are three disadvantages to being a woman in my country: she can't have extra time for herself, she doesn't decide for herself, and she doesn't have the right of free speech.

The first disadvantage of being a woman in Moldova is that she doesn't have time for herself. A woman is often a housewife who should do everything for her "king" who comes home after his job tired and dirty, and sometimes pretty drunk. A wife in my country should have a first-rate ability to cook, to clean, to give birth, and to raise children. She must be in excellent physical health and form so that her husband doesn't leave her for another woman. A lot of men don't buy washing machines because they have women that can work as well as a washer. A woman should never forget that her husband has a prior right to use all his wishes and he doesn't hear a refusal from his wife. A good wife should be like a machine that may work trouble-free all the time. A wife should never forget that she was married to serve her husband and her children. Her time should only be for her family and not for filing nails or plucking eyebrows.

The second disadvantage of being a woman

in my country is she can't decide for herself. A woman would never visit her parents if her husband didn't allow it. She wouldn't go to see a girlfriend or go to a café if her husband didn't approve of it. While her husband is working, she would never say that she had done her housework. A woman may never decide when she is done with her job. For example, while the husband ate dinner, his wife was watching TV. "Did you water the tomatoes in the garden?" he asked. "No, I didn't. But

it is raining now," she answered. "Take an umbrella and running water. Did I say that you have time to watch TV?" he said. A lot of men go beyond their right in Moldova; they decide what women have to wear. A woman may not go walking without her husband anywhere but together with him she must wear what he wants.

The third disadvantage of being a woman in my country is she doesn't have the right of free speech. A wife for her man should be like his old-

est daughter that could never reproach her father for anything. She must ask her man what she has to do. If she asked him what he wanted to do, it could be a big insolence from her. If a man punished his woman and hit her because not all of her weekly tasks were at the right time resolved, she must not complain about him to her mother. Sometimes mothers educate their daughters to have more patience and "don't throw the trash of the house out". That would mean that a lot of families do have problems but nobody should know about them. "If



he hits you, that means he loves you. Do you think that your father didn't hit me? Yep, during 40 years of life together I didn't tell anybody. So it must be in a lovely family that doesn't want to crush its future. Have a bit more patience, thinking about your children. What will your neighbors think if you left him? Your man as family head best knows the situation and why he had hit you. Who will believe you in your arguments about your bad relationships? For you, the most important is to keep the family together," say mothers to their daughters.

In conclusion, the disadvantages of being a woman in my country is also sadly like all the above arguments. I have met many families that might never envision something different in their lives. They are fine together and don't want anything to

change. A lot of women are happy that they are married and have children even though life isn't easy. A lot of women dreamed to create a family but their dreams were never fulfilled and they remained alone. "Better to be a slave than alone," say single women. That lifestyle isn't modern in the cities anymore. That is more in the rural communities where women don't have any opportunities to change anything. I would never write or talk to everyone about it but now it is easy to affirm; there is slavery in the 21st century and namely in middle Europe.

Victor Severin

ESL W50

(Argumentative essay)

Technology, Progress, and Freedom

What are the effects of advanced technology, progress, and freedom? Edward W. Younkens (2000) writes about technology, progress, and freedom in his article, "Technology, Progress, and Freedom." He says that nowadays technological advancements make people's lives easier. People feel that with the advancement of modern technology, more things happen around them, and they can enjoy their lives. Although there is always a negative or a positive effect concerning the invention of technological advancements in certain cases, I do agree with the author that the variety of products and the advancement of new technology will make people's lives easier, create a new standard of living for people depending on their needs, and enable people to be more creative and competitive in getting their innovations to come true.

Technology helps people enjoy their lives. Younkens (2000) indicates that the new advance-

ments in modern technology can help people enjoy their lives. Almost every activity can be done more efficiently using advanced technology, making

the user feel more at ease. I agree with him because it has happened to the country I am from, Indonesia. I have been living in the United States since 2004. When I went back to Indonesia in 2013, there was a big change in my country. Indonesia has become a more modern country due to the new advancements of technology. One of the examples and the most popular is the innovation of cell phones. The cell phone is more convenient compared to the traditional landlines due to the cell phone being multi-functional, small

and efficient, and affordable. Besides that, it is very beneficial for emergency situations and easy communication and helps people in finding directions because it has a Global Positioning System (GPS) on it. Another example that also helps make people's





lives easier is the invention of the Internet. People feel that through the Internet, they can find any information or anything they need. All information can be found instantly. Hence, the advancement of technology helps people enjoy their life and allows people to feel comfortable. However, people need to consider how or when to use technology wisely and appropriately because it can create an addiction for those people who use those devices.

Besides that, technology creates a new standard of living. Younkins (2000) also indicates that the advanced technology creates a new standard of living. I agree with him, and as a matter of fact with the advancement of technology, people can get more residual income, which means more income and a better standard of living. I believe in that because a lot of people nowadays can create a new business from home. They do not have to rent a building and can control their business from their cell phones or computer especially, for example, an online business. This is becoming the most popular business from which the progress of the advanced technology is moving forward. This home-business is beneficial for both buyers and sellers. For the buyers, they do not have to spend their gas and time to get what they want. On the other hand, the sellers can save their money because they do not have to rent a building and spend their time to promote their business. Online businesses are very convenient for both parties, buyers and sellers. This is another proof that the advancements of technology can create a new standard of living. Although I agree with the author, people need to be more careful and considerate because some people can take advantage of online business by doing cyber-crime. Related to online shopping, my two daughters and I have personal experience with it. My two daughters love online shopping. They always check

every product through the Internet and can spend hours finding or comparing each product in order to get the less expensive one. I do not think not only my daughters enjoy online businesses; almost all teenagers do. There are many people who say that online shopping is cheaper. If we connect to the author's statement, then it is really true that the advancement of technology can create a new standard of living. Moreover, people can promote their products through Facebook, Instagram, etc. Thus, it is totally true that advanced technology can create

a new standard of living due to online businesses, and people can save their money from rental buildings, time, and gas expenses. On the other hand, it is not beneficial for buyers because online shopping can create in buyers an addiction to online shopping.

Not only that, technology has enabled people to be more creative and competitive. I also agree with Younkins'

(2000) other statements and explanations which indicate that the advancement of new modern technology enables people to be more creative and competitive in getting their innovations to come true. If people do not intend to follow the new technological development, they are not eager to move forward, and unfortunately, they will be stuck at the same level and get bored. In this era, with almost every activity moving forward quickly, things are being done instantly. Unfortunately, based on my experience, that advanced technology could be harmful to people's lives. People can spend hours in front of the computer and not care about their family or other people's surroundings. The innovation, creativity, and competition of computers are things to make people enjoy their lives. It is not always as it is. They do not realize that they are slowly losing



their freedom. The moral is that delinquency and misconduct among teenagers gradually increase because of the advancement of technology.

Overall, I agree with Younkins (2000) that advanced technology helps people enjoy their lives. Technology creates a new standard of living, and technology has enabled people to be more creative and competitive; however, the advanced technol-

ogy also has negative aspects on people's lives, causing people to lose their freedom. The progress of advanced technology decreases not only their freedom but also affects the morality of people's behavior.

Sri W. Hutajulu
ESL W340
(Research paper)

Doing Tricks With a Bicycle

Three years ago when I was riding my bike in the streets in Turkey, I saw a group of professional cyclists. I was so excited, because it was the first time that I saw them do amazing tricks with their bicycles. As a result, I went up to one of them and asked, "How did you learn all these tricks?" He said, "We all learned from each other, so, if you want, we can teach you these tricks!" I really wanted to join them, so from that time on, I started to hang out with them. But I needed a better bike!

The first thing that I had to have was a specialized bicycle. My bike was a simple bike, so I had to buy a better one. I searched online for a specialized bike, and I found many of them, but I could not afford any of them because they were all so expensive. However, I decided to work hard and save my money until I could buy a specialized bicycle one day. After five months, I bought the bike that I wanted, and I could go out with other cyclists and learn tricks.

One day after I got off from work, one of my friends called to let me know that they were going to a park to practice with their bikes, so I rode my bike to the park. When I got there, one of the cyclists showed me how to do a basic trick. I tried and I failed many times, but after I practiced for about two hours, I learned it. Everyone was excited about how

fast I learned it. They encouraged me to keep doing it. They said that I could become a professional cyclist like them. At the end of that day, I realized that I could do this really well if I really worked hard enough.



It took me a year until I learned about fifty tricks to do with my bike. I practiced a lot with my friends. At times, I watched videos on Youtube to learn how other cyclists do tricks with their bikes, and it really helped me to do many hard tricks that my friends couldn't even think of. I remember that I broke my right hand just because I was trying to learn a new trick

called, "360,"; in spite of that, I learned it after I tried many times.

In conclusion, I learned that if I really put my mind on something and work hard, I can do it really well. I still ride my bike, and it makes me so proud that I can do all those tricks.

Mohammad Gholam
ESL W50
(Narrative essay)

Causes of my Family's Communication Problems

In every family there is a communication problem, even if all the individuals are loving. Family communication is communication among the whole family, which makes them understand each other and feel happy. Without communication, happiness leaves the family, and social problems appear. In my family, a misunderstanding happens between us, my mother, my brothers, and me. In addition, there are many causes of communication problems in my family. These are we don't have time to speak face-to-face, the modern technology such as WhatsApp and Facebook distracts us, and marriage with a person from another sect has caused problems.

The first reason for communication problems in my family is we don't find time to speak face-to-face. Everyone has his own work in my family. My younger brother Mohammad must go to school, and my older brother Ibrahim is busy all the time at his work. My mother also works at cleaning our house, and I go to college. Each of us in the evening time is busy either in his studies or in other things. These daily activities make my family and me busy all the time. There is no contact between us because of our own business, and it is very rare to meet. These factors and problems have made communication poor in the family.

Modern technology is the second reason for my family communication problems. Each one of my brothers and I have our own phone. My brother Mohammad spends his time on the WhatsApp program talking to his friends in other countries, such as Syria and Egypt. Facebook also steals our time as we browse through news and follow friends without feeling. For example, when I open Facebook to see a friend's notification or see a new event, I spend my time following up and do not give my attention to my brother when he talks to me. I am still

busy with reading and browsing through the rest of the news. This is a big problem that make us not connect with each other at home. In addition, when I want to talk to my mother at home, I cannot talk to her face-to-face; I send a message on her phone to talk with her, because she cannot waste a moment, as she is communicating with her family in Syria on the phone. These reasons are some of the most

common and prevent a family from communicating with each other.

The last reason for communication problems in my family is marriage with someone from another sect and subsequent misunderstanding. For example, my cousin Amina has married her college classmate, Tamer, who has a different religion from her religion. Amina is a Muslim and her husband is a Christian. Unfortunately, communication between them is bad now. This affects their children. For example, her husband wants to raise the children

according to his traditions, and she wants to raise them to observe her customs. This causes them to not communicate well with each other. There is a misunderstanding between them and their children. The children want to go with their father to church, and their mother does not want this. All of this contributes to communication problems in the family.

To summarize, there are many causes of my family communication problems that keep us apart. Most causes of my family's communication problems are because we are busy with our work or studies, we are waste our time with modern technology, or we have religious differences. All of these are reasons for problems in my family.

Alaa Turkmany
ESL W50
(Cause/effect essay)



I Survived a Wolfdog

Many years ago, when I was seven years old, I lived in Algeria, North Africa. Actually, I grew up there most of my childhood. I was in an elementary school that had two shifts on the same day. Because my house was a mile and a half away, I used to stay at school during lunch time and eat in the school's cafeteria.

On a snowy winter day, the ground looked like it was covered with bright cotton. I decided to go home at lunch time. However, before that, I headed to a bakery close to the school. The weather was frosty, and from a distance, I could smell the hot and fresh bread. I can still remember that warming smell. The smell was delicious, heated, and toasted. I bought a loaf of bread and one piece of my favorite dessert:

Mille Feuille. It is a French pastry consisting of puff pastry, pastry cream, and powdered sugar. Then, I headed to my house. I took a short cut instead of the usual way. The long way made me take the bus. However, I wanted to walk, so I took the short way.

I was enjoying my favorite dessert until I heard a dog barking very loud from behind. For a moment, I did not realize that what I heard was



real! The blood froze in my veins; my heart strongly pounded. (Thum-Thum Thum-Thum). When I turned around to look at it, I was horrified. Its eyes were like a wolf's eyes. They were like sparks. Suddenly, I said to myself with all a child's innocence, "Will it eat me?!" After that, it started stepping towards me. My breath almost stopped. At that moment, I only thought of running away. "Come on!... come on!... run!... run!..." I said to myself. The dog's voice faded away. (Grrrrr... grrrrr...)

The snow was everywhere and the air stung like daggers in the throat. I stopped for a moment in order to regain my breath. The dog had disappeared. Then I said to myself, "Thank God, I survived the fangs of the huge dog."

Even until now, I have not forgotten those eyes, my favorite dessert taste, and that dreadful feeling, which made every cell freeze in my body. From this situation, I concluded that fear and panic could sometimes blind insight, and the facts do not appear clearly.

*Roza Abdul Jabbar
ESL R 310
(Narrative essay)*

I Survived the Telaga Waja River

Nowadays, I believe that people have to survive almost every day. There are people who suffer from natural disasters, get into car accidents, and experience at war. There are also people who have a quiet, boring life and they are trying to find their own adventures. I belong to the second group and I want to tell you a story about how I survived the Telaga Waja River.

One year ago, I got married. My husband and I like to travel. That's why we decided to spend our honeymoon on the paradise island of Bali, which is located in Indonesia. We spent one month there and tried everything: long trips on a motorcycle, diving, and climbing an active volcano. But I'll never forget the day when our friend invited us to join

rafting on a mountain river. He said, "Let's go! It's not dangerous; after rafting we will be fed for free!" We thought a minute and then agreed with our friend. We needed to try it!

In the morning, we went to the mountains. We were so excited. When we arrived, an instructor met us. It was a young, strong guy who didn't want to waste time and immediately gave us life jackets, paddles, and helmets and began to tell us about the rules of white water rafting. There were a lot of people and I almost didn't hear anything. Soon we boarded the boat and the adventure began.

At the beginning, there were quiet waves, clouds like ice-cream castles in the sky, beautiful nature, waterfalls, and mountains. It was 30 minutes of calm and pleasure. Then the river flowed like a stream of glass and I felt like our boat struck a rock. The instructor shouted a too loud battle-cry, cleaving the silence like a sword. "Jump, Jump!!!" Our team worked together and we got out of the clutches of an invisible water monster that held us tight. Further, we rowed the oars and our boat went fast. It trembled in different directions. Our boat was deployed by a huge stream of water. I flitted



like a dizzy moth. I didn't see the fallen tree that blocked our way. For a moment, the trunk of the tree was right in front of my face. My husband saw it and fell on me and we two fell into the water. I felt the icy water as if I had been lowered into an ice cooler. The strong river raised us and began to carry us away. My mouth and eyes were full of water. I swam through the water like I was falling through a cold dream. Then I heard, "Give me your hand!" At that moment, I saw the instructor. He and my husband dragged me onto a boat. I hurt my right leg. Blood seeped out of the wound like red teardrops, but I did not feel pain. A minute later, I realized what had happened and started to laugh. Then I straightened my helmet, took the oar, and continued to row.

After another two hours, we moored to the shore. When we went ashore, I said to my husband, "We made it!" First of all, I hugged my husband and then I kissed the ground. I survived! Thank you! Then I got up and asked, "Where is my free lunch?"

Tatsiana Katsuba
ESL R 310
(Narrative essay)

A Shared Room

We moved to the U.S and we have been living in an apartment. Our apartment is two rooms and a kitchen. We are six family members. My mother and my father have their own room. My three sisters and I have the second room. I am 18 years old, the oldest one, and then comes my sister Amira. She is 12 years old. Amira has pretty red hair, and she is tall, almost 5ft. Then, there is my crazy sister, who can not stop speaking and destroying my stuff, Asmaa. Asmaa is 11 years old; then the youngest sister is Qamar. Her name in

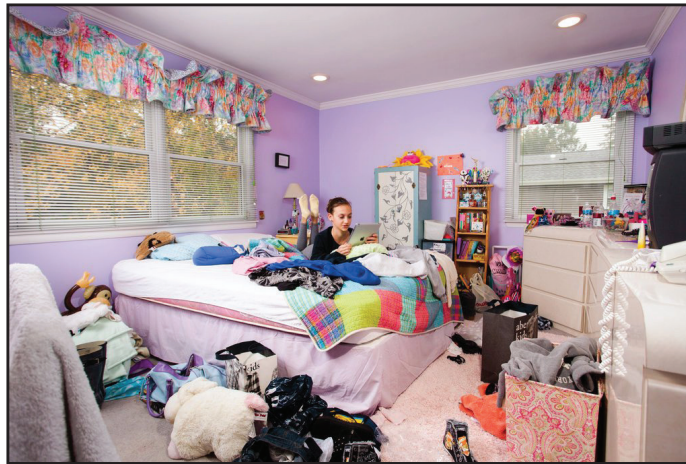
English means "the moon" and, she is beautiful like the moon, but she is 5 years old. Asmaa's name means "names," and Amira's name means "princess," but unfortunately, my name means nothing in English. So, we share everything in this room. We sleep and spend most of our day there. I like it, but sometimes I don't. Honestly, I always hate this room because it is annoying. We are looking for a big house, and I hope we find one. My shared room is really the most disturbing place.

My shared room has a white door with a golden door handle. However, Qamar made a

magic touch to the door. She drew fantastic red and black lines. When she did that, I thought she was an artist, but she was playing, and my mother was angry. So, the door is not so white because I could not remove all of the lines, but the door is not ugly. On the left side is our big closet. Sometimes it looks like a supermassive black hole, but at other times like a volcano. It has a variety of clothes inside it; every type of dress, pajamas, and jeans, and in different sizes for different seasons. In addition, Qamar has many toys inside it, and she has a bad habit. Her bad habit is that when she wants to play or take the toys out, she drops all the clothes onto the floor, and that action makes the closet look like it has exploded. In addition, Amira puts my clothes on the floor, especially, if she wants to go out, because we have the same size and she tries on all my clothes until she finds what she wants. She wears them, but she does not put them away. I told her a lot not to wear my clothes. I did that a lot until "My hair became gray." It is a popular Arabic proverb which means that the white hair grows on the head of someone who is angry because of someone else's doings. Therefore, Asmaa makes our closet like a supermassive black hole because she throws everything such as books, bags, and clothes on the floor and puts them inside the closet, but if I want my shirt, I have to look a lot and spend time just to find my shirt and iron it. I always get a headache from our closet and it is impossible to see my clothes in an organized way.

On the right side, there is a brown table and Qamar's bed. Her bed is always organized. She sleeps in my mother's room. She comes to our room just to play. The light yellow, right wall has a nail to put keys on like the car key, and there are Asmaa's pictures. We have a small window and I covered it because I don't like the sun light. Under the window is my desk which has my books and my

papers, and near to it my bed. My dad always says, "Your bed is a two-storey" because under my bed is the first storey which has my books, laptop bag, phone bag, make up box, perfumes, and sometimes unnecessary stuff everyone at home puts under my bed. It's terrible. When I organize this stuff, Asmaa comes and takes stuff and uses it. She broke my perfume bottle and used my hair accessories. I don't like that at all, and my mother is always yelling at me. She always says, "Organize your stuff; don't put it on the floor." I don't have any space for it, and Asmaa uses my stuff, and Amira uses my clothes. The second "storey" has two teddy bears. In addition, above my bed is Amira's bed and the last bed is in front of the door.



At study time, there are plenty of papers on the floors, and Qamar comes to play, but Asmaa to listen to music, and Amira starts yelling at them. All that take an hour, and I can not focus on my "Homefun" which is homework, but Prof.

Bracco likes to call it "Homefun". Actually, it is not fun, but it is helpful because it improves my English skills. My sister wakes up early, and starts to open and close the door many times or goes under my bed to play in stuff. I hate a shared room; I hate it so much. I can not sleep, either! They leave the light on and the door open. They will not stop doing these things. I know that I have spent a year with them in this room.

The worst thing that happened was Qamar slept with us on her bed. She woke me up at 3:00 A.M just for a cup of water, and there was one near her bed. How bad is that? I have school at 6:00 A.M and I can not get enough sleep. It is an awful room with annoying sisters, and no quiet time. I will probably be crazy in the future.

Alaa Shatat
ESL W50
(Descriptive essay)



Nestscape -- Articles from The Web

Continued from page 1

said.

He texted the card information to the shipper. Abrego said even the drug store employees voiced their concerns, but he kept going.

"They tried to warn me almost every single time I went to a Walgreens or a CVS, and I bought a gift card. I would say six times out of eight, they were like 'you're being scammed. Whatever you're doing, you're being scammed,'" Abrego explained.

Now he says he's out thousands of dollars.

"I would say between \$4,500 and \$5,000," Abrego estimated.

There's still no sign of his new pet.

John Masterson, with the Better Business Bureau said, "What we found and even on a national level is about 80 percent of the sponsored ads online could be fraudulent."

He suggests you go see the pet in person to make sure it's real and in good physical condition.

"Obviously research the organization, the business you're buying from, [and] try to find out who the owner is," Masterson explained.

Abrego did eventually receive photo ID from the shipper, but aside from the ten year old expiration date, a quick Google search reveals it's the same fake ID belonging to McLovin, the character from the movie

Superbad.

Abrego hopes his story will be a cautionary tale for others.

"I want people to know about it, and I want him to stop," he said.

Abrego said he paid using Western Union, Amazon gift cards, and Paypal. He managed to get the original \$400 back through Paypal. The BBB suggests you use a credit card so you have an easier time recovering your funds if things go south.

<http://fox17online.com/2018/02/28/man-issues-warning-after-losing-thousands-during-online-monkey-purchase/>

Help! I've Been Scammed Online!

Scammers are doing their best to hit us from just about every possible avenue these days, from email phishing to fake websites to cell phone SMiShing, and everything in between.

Much like master pickpockets learn to use misdirection to confuse and distract their victims, modern-day internet-based scammers use fear, false urgency, curiosity, and other tactics to help them in their quest to steal money and information.

It can be hard to bring scammers to justice because of the difficulties associated with tracking them down. Scammers often cover their tracks by using fake or stolen identities, coupled with anonymizing Internet services, spoofed e-mail addresses,



and disposable phone numbers.

Victims of scams don't always report when they've been conned because they feel embarrassed for having fallen for a scam.

If you have just fallen for a scam, you shouldn't feel embarrassed. It can happen to anyone. Scammers are constantly refining their scams to make them as effective as possible. They know what works and what doesn't.

If you're reading this article then you are here to find out what you can do after you've been scammed. Here are some tips to help you try and recover after you've become the victim of an online scam:

Call Your Credit Card Company or Bank Immediately After You Realize That You've Been Scammed

If you've given out your credit card number or bank information to a suspected scammer then you need to tell your financial institution as soon as possible so they can put a hold on your account to prevent further charges against it.

Always call them on the number on the back of your card or on your most recent statement. Never call a number in an email as it might be part of a phishing scam.

File a Police Report

Calling the police after you've been scammed might sound silly but it's not. You were just robbed, weren't you? When you're robbed on the street you contact the police, right?

It shouldn't matter how you were robbed. The fact that the criminal used the Internet to steal your money doesn't make it any less of a crime.

You'll need to file a police report as soon as possible after you've been scammed, especially if money was actually stolen from your account. Your bank and/or credit card company will likely want a copy of the police report as will the major credit agencies.

You probably shouldn't call 9-1-1 for this type of



issue, unless the scammer is threatening your life and you are in physical danger. When filing a Internet scam / fraud-related report, you may want to call the non-emergency number for your local police department and ask for the fraud or computer-related crimes division.

File a Fraud Victim Statement”(a.k.a Extended Fraud Alert) with the 3 Major Credit Bureaus

Filing a fraud alert with the three major credit bureaus (Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax) adds a note to your credit file that states to anyone trying to pull your credit that you have been a victim of fraud. The note requests that the business pulling the credit report call you on one of two phone numbers you provided when you filed the fraud alert.

This doesn't guarantee that the lender won't grant the thief credit anyway, but at least it throws up a big red flag to anyone who is paying attention.

Hopefully they will call you and you can tell them that you did not authorize the credit inquiry and that the person trying to open the account is an imposter.

Consider a “Security Freeze” of Your Credit Reports

If you've been the victim of identity theft or you believe that scammers have gotten all the information they need to obtain a credit card or a loans in your name, you may want to start monitoring your credit score by contacting the 3 major credit bureaus to request copies of your credit report. While you're



on the phone (or on their websites) ask them to place a “security freeze” on your credit reports.

Adding a security freeze to your credit reporting helps to halt ID thieves from opening accounts using your stolen identity. When a security freeze is in effect, if someone tries to get a loan or open an account using your name, the credit reporting agency will ask the requester for your PIN or password before they give over your credit score to the lender. Since the identity thief won’t know your PIN, assuming the lender is following proper procedures, the lender won’t give them an account without knowing if they have good credit.

If you opt for a security freeze then you will need to contact all 3 of the major credit bureaus and put in a freeze request with each of them.

Update Your Anti-malware Software and Scan Your Computer

When you opened that scam-related e-mail, the internet criminals who sent it may have embedded links to malware within the message which may have infected your computer. This malware could be capturing your account information and might be relaying it back to the scammers. Make sure your anti-malware software is up do date and do a full scan of your computer. You might want to install and run a Second Opinion Scanner as well.

If you want to learn more about how scammers operate and how to protect yourself from future scams, check out our article on [How to Scam-proof Your Brain](#).

<https://www.lifewire.com/help-ive-been-scammed-online-2487716>



“You know, you can do this just as easily online.”

What's Your Relationship to Your Desk?



It is a love hate relationship. It is a hate relationship because it is messy, never seems to be cleaned. I need the entire summer to go and clean up papers. This is the hate part. Love, I am glad I have it. I am really glad that I have a desk and an office. It is nice to have a place to be. Prof. Specker

I think I have a healthy relationship with my desk. I really like to be at my desk and I feel comfortable with the space, Prof. Ryther



I love my desk.

Prof. Montgomery

We're not on speaking terms.

Prof. Bracco



I have an open relationship with my desk.

Prof. Haarala





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!

An Easy-to-Follow Recipe for Haggis

This is an authentic recipe from Scotland and the ingredients and methods of cooking may be unfamiliar but we hope you enjoy the results.

Preparation time: overnight

Cooking time: over 2 hours

Serves: Serves 4-6



Ingredients

1 sheep's stomach or ox se-cum, cleaned and thoroughly, scalded, turned inside out and soaked overnight in cold salted water

heart and lungs of one lamb

450g/1lb beef or lamb trimmings, fat and lean

2 onions, finely chopped

225g/8oz oatmeal

1 tbsp salt

1 tsp ground black pepper

1 tsp ground dried coriander

1 tsp mace

1 tsp nutmeg

water, enough to cook the haggis

stock from lungs and trimmings

Method

1. Wash the lungs, heart and liver (if using). Place in large pan of cold water with the meat trimmings and

bring to the boil. Cook for about 2 hours.

2. When cooked, strain off the stock and set the stock aside.

3. Mince the lungs, heart and trimmings.

4. Put the minced mixture in a bowl and add the finely chopped onions, oatmeal and seasoning. Mix well and add enough stock to moisten the mixture. It should have a soft crumbly consistency.

5. Spoon the mixture into the sheep's stomach, so it's just over half full. Sew up the stomach with strong thread and prick a couple of times so it doesn't explode while cooking.

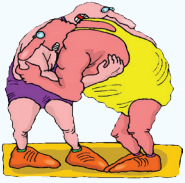
6. Put the haggis in a pan of boiling water (enough to cover it) and cook for 3 hours without a lid. Keep adding more water to keep it covered.

7. To serve, cut open the haggis and spoon out the filling. Serve with neeps (mashed swede or turnip) and tatties (mashed potatoes).



https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=p68dUOBRRKwhhttps://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/haggis_66072

Parrot Warbling



Grappling with Grammar

Grammar

Rules for Past Tense

1. SIMPLE PAST TENSE: Here, the action is simply mentioned and understood to have taken place in the past.

Key words: yesterday, last week, last month, this morning (when meaning is past), etc.

Example: I ate dinner yesterday.

2. PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE: Here, the action was ongoing till a certain time in the past.

Key words: while

Example: I was eating when you called.

3. PAST PERFECT TENSE: Express something that happened before another action in the past.

Key words: already, before, by the time

Examples: I had eaten.

I had already eaten when they arrived.

4. PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE: Express something that started in the past and continued until another time in the past.

Key words: for, since

Example: I had been eating for two hours before my friend arrived.

<http://cetking.com/must-remember-12-rules-for-tenses-grammar/>

Idiom--Attic

Raining Cats and Dogs



A very loud and noisy rain storm

Example: I can't drive the car now, it's **raining cats and dogs**.

<http://www.idiomsite.com/index3.htm>

Beak Speak

Four Ways to Form Long Vowel Sounds

1- A vowel at the end of a syllable can be long. In the word **we, hero, hi**.

Ex: We love emus,

2- Silent E can make the previous vowel long.

In the word **cute, tape, shine, code**.

Ex: Emus are cute.

3- Vowel teams can make long vowel sounds.

Vowel teams are two vowels that work together to make one sound. In the word **eat, mail, sheep, soap**.

Ex: Emus eat seeds.

4- I or O can be long when they come before two consonants.

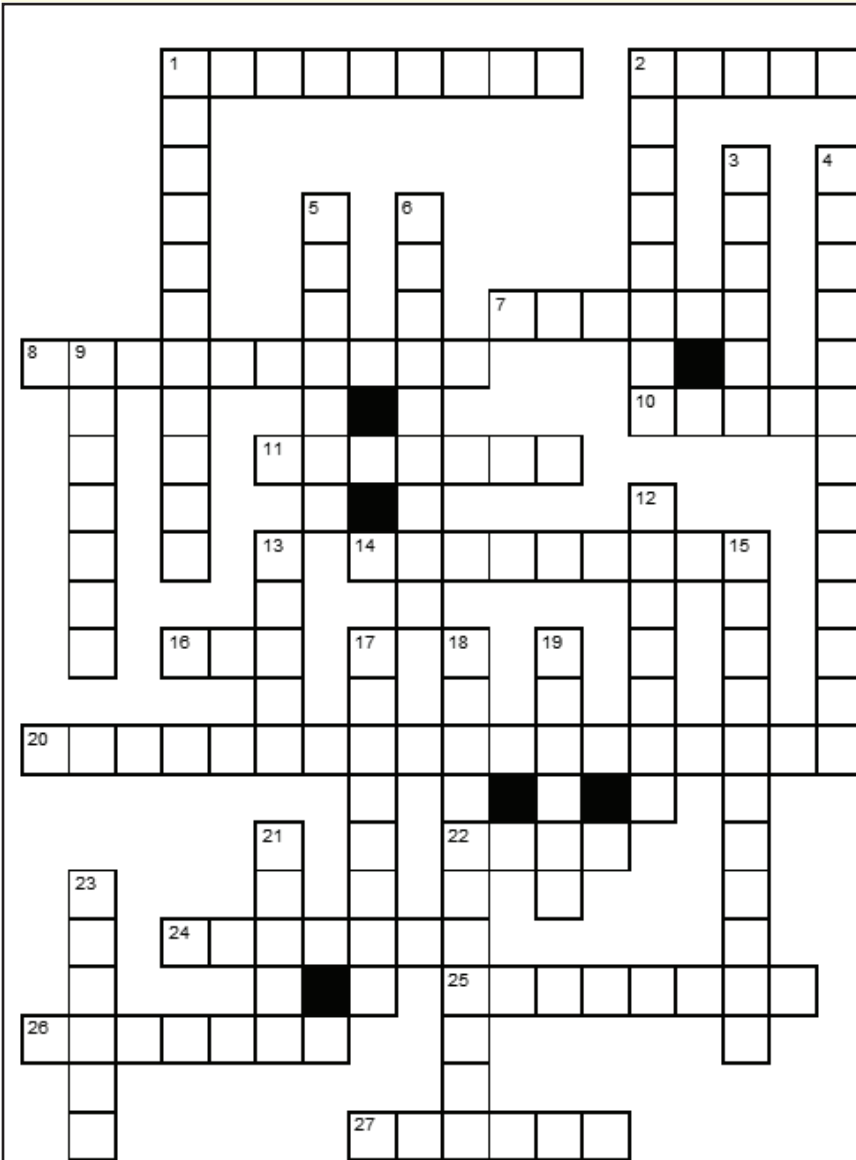
In the word **stroll, kind, gold, child**.

Ex: The emu went for a stroll.

<https://blog.allaboutlearningpress.com/long-vowel-sounds/>



Some More Parrot Fun Stuff



Jobs Crossword:

Across

1. Somebody who catches fish.
2. Someone who digs for metal ore in the ground.
7. A person who paints pictures.
8. A person who makes computer games.
10. A person who helps a doctor.
11. Somebody who fixes teeth.
14. A person who goes to outer space.
16. Somebody who helps sick animals.
20. Someone who builds houses.
22. Someone who cooks food.
24. A person who protects a country.
25. A person who tells us the news.
26. A person who plays sports.
27. Someone who grows crops

Down

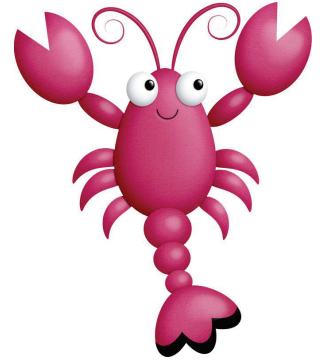
1. Somebody who puts out fires.
2. Somebody who plays an instrument.
3. Somebody who helps sick people.
4. Somebody who catches criminals.
5. A person who fixes toilets.
6. A person who does research.
9. A person who raises cattle.
12. Someone who cleans buildings.
13. Someone who stars in a movie.
15. A person who drives a truck.
17. Someone who fixes cars.
18. Someone who delivers mail.
19. A person who sings songs.
21. Somebody who flies airplanes.
23. A person who serves food.



Sea Creatures

Find and circle all of the sea creatures that are hidden in the grid

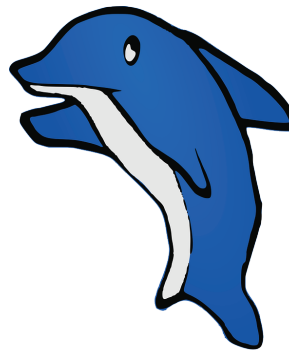
U	F	P	Y	A	R	G	N	I	T	S	U	S
X	D	J	H	H	H	D	U	S	E	M	H	W
S	J	W	E	Y	S	C	O	A	H	R	Y	M
O	U	E	P	L	E	I	L	L	I	A	O	P
N	C	R	H	S	L	X	F	M	P	L	R	S
I	R	L	L	E	A	Y	P	R	L	H	U	K
U	A	O	P	A	H	Q	F	U	A	P	I	D
G	B	B	P	T	W	C	S	I	O	T	I	N
N	D	S	P	U	V	K	O	T	S	U	S	M
E	A	T	N	R	S	Y	C	T	Q	H	W	Z
P	E	E	E	T	N	O	H	S	T	D	K	E
O	Y	R	L	L	L	A	M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



CRAB
DOLPHIN
JELLYFISH
LAMPREY
LOBSTER
MOLLUSKS
OCTOPUS
OTTER
PENGUIN

SEA TURTLE
SEAL
SHARK
SHRIMP
SPONGE
SQUID
STARFISH
STINGRAY
WALRUS

WHALE





Parrot Poetry



Your Catfish Friend

If I were to live my life
 in catfish forms
 in scaffolds of skin and whiskers
 at the bottom of a pond
 and you were to come by
 one evening
 when the moon was shining
 down into my dark home
 and stand there at the edge
 of my affection
 and think, "It's beautiful
 here by this pond. I wish
 somebody loved me,"
 I'd love you and be your catfish
 friend and drive such lonely
 thoughts from your mind
 and suddenly you would be
 at peace,
 and ask yourself, "I wonder
 if there are any catfish
 in this pond? It seems like
 a perfect place for them."

Richard Brautigan

Rigoberto's Riddles

What can always be measured but never can be seen?



Time

Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber



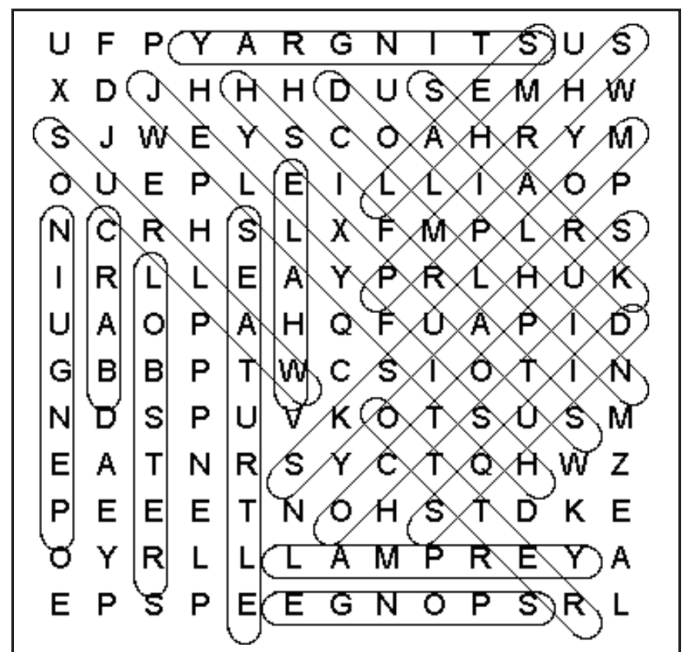
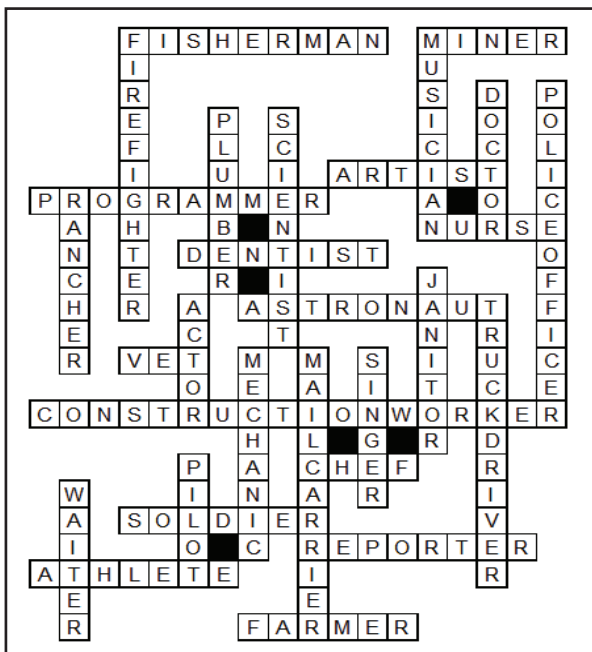
A man in a movie theater notices what looks like a parrot sitting next to him. "Are you a parrot?" asked the man, surprised. "Yes."



"What are you doing at the movies?" The parrot replied, "Well, I liked the book."



<http://www.jokes4us.com/animaljokes/parrotjokes.html>



Granny Noetal

Dear Granny Noetal,

I attend adult school to learn English. Next year I plan to go to American River College. I have many questions. My teacher said to write to you. She says you know it all. My question: what's the difference between community college and university?

Ahmed

Dear Ahmed,

Thank you for your question and thank your teacher for giving you some real writing practice with a purpose. It's true – I know a lot, if not all! (I'm laughing at myself). I found a website that explains a lot about community colleges. Below is an explanation and the website if you wish to do a lot more reading or if you have other questions. Good luck to you; hope to see you next year!

How are community colleges different from four-year colleges and universities?

The types of degrees offered is one of the main differences between community colleges and four-year colleges and universities, Shanna Smith Jaggars, assistant director of the Community Col-



lege Research Center at Teachers College, Columbia University, said in an email. Almost all community colleges are open-access, which means almost anyone who applies is accepted.

Usually the highest degree a student can earn at a community college is an associate degree. Most community colleges do not have residential facilities for students.

The population of students tends to be older, too – the average age of a community college student is 28, according to the American Association of Community Colleges.

Four-year colleges and universities award bachelor's degrees, and many award graduate and doctoral degrees as well; most also have more selective admissions than most community colleges. Many four-year colleges and universities offer living facilities to students. Most full time students at four-year colleges and universities are between the ages of 18 and 24.

By Alexandra Pannoni, Digital Producer

<https://www.usnews.com/education/community-colleges/articles/2015/02/06/frequently-asked-questions-community-college>

Interview

Continued from page 1

and at the same time I was working as an office assistant to OCL INC.

Parrot: Do you like working an Uber as a driver? What are the advantages and disadvantages of your job here?

Xitlali: Yes. For my situation in specific the advantages that I have when working at Uber is that I have the opportunity to speak with Americans since 90% of the users in Sacramento are American and learning English was the main reason why I moved here. Another advantage is that I manage my schedule to

go to school, do homework, and work in my own business. In economic terms, I earn much better than in other jobs that we can access without the language. I can also deduct many taxes. I have discounts on telephone, car insurance of cars and medical, and auto parts and service my car, among others. On the fun side, I meet many types of people. There are interesting stories. I know many corners of the city. I am not in four walls that I do not like and I have the opportunity to meet my market for the next introduction of my products to the American market.

The disadvantages are the best pay is the work at



night and weekends so if you want to earn more, you have to work at that time and those days. Another is that sometimes some users believe that getting an Uber is like the car is theirs on the trip and they think they own you and your car. You put many miles on the car although this is deducted and depreciated in the accounting field.

Nasir: Yes. The benefits of my previous job were good pay with very good benefits. Uber doesn't impose restriction or conditions on their drivers as far as working hours are concerned. You are practically your own boss and as always that comes with its perks. You can work as much as you want and maximize your gains or even work part time. All you have to do is set your availability to align with your schedule. The disadvantage of the job I had in my country was no safety at all because we worked in different areas and mostly denatured places. Especially if you worked for American companies.

Ahmad: One of the major drawbacks of driving is the anonymity between drivers and the passengers. With Uber, the risk is greatly reduced as passengers have profiles that can be checked prior to pick-up. The disadvantage of the job is unpaid downtime. There will always be the usual minimal time spent for a passen-

ger to request a ride. However, when picking a client up at busy places such as the airport, you can end up getting stuck in line. This can end up lowering your average daily earnings.

Parrot: What do you hope to be doing 10 years from now?

Xitali: At that time, I hope to speak English very well, and work fully in my company, negotiating in different countries in English myself. At that time, the social project by the company would already be underway. This is my main goal: to generate, to help more, more animals and people, in a critical situation and applying environmental economics in my country. Married and with children I do not know. I do not plan to fall in love.

Nasir: I have very good hopes for my future in this country because I have opportunity. I want to be a police officer. That's why I chose Administration of Justice as my major.

Ahmad: I hope I can finish my education, and buy a house, and find a government job.

Parroteer: Alina Lungu

Afghan Immigrants Who Helped US Troops Left To Fend For Themselves

One of the spin-offs from any war is the use of locals to help in warfare. The US military used local Af-



AJ standing in front of his car (Jahi Chikwendiu/
The Washington Post)

ghan interpreters and guides to help US soldiers in their quest for defeating Taliban and ISIS in Afghanistan, as well as in Iraq. However, the 69,000 aides from Iraq and Afghanistan face a serious problem when relocating to the US as a bid to escape persecution and execution after the US leaves the country.

One such Afghan immigrant is 31-year-old Ajmal "AJ" Faqiri from Kabul. AJ drives for Lyft as part of a pilot program aimed to help the thousands of local Afghan translators that helped the US troops.

A few of AJ's passengers notice he is from Afghanistan and ask him how he got to live in the US, and AJ says that what the real question is "why?" AJ speaks four languages, Dari, Pashto, Urdu, and English and

he served with US troops from 2006, surviving seven years of service including participation in many firefights and dangerous action. In AJ's eye's he is a US veteran that happened to be born an Afghani. In fact, the moment he was "voluntarily conscripted" to serve with the US army, he should be considered a veteran.

AJ now lives in Sterling, Virginia and believed that with his help and the help of thousands of other natives they could finally bring peace to Afghanistan. From 2008, Afghani translators and contractors, with their families that worked with the US army have fled to the US. The US Department of State issued special immigrant visas to help save them from retaliation and death threats.

The State Department released a statement saying that they increased the resources they dedicated to special immigrant visa processing and are constantly streamlining the process at every application stage. However, with around 14,000 applicants waiting in various stages and that doesn't include their families, the 3,500 available slots for 2108 is extremely meager.

Once the immigrant has landed in the US, cultural and social differences make it apparent that life is going to be very hard. Most Afghans cannot provide a work or credit history, so their chances of being employed are low. Most of the immigrants live well



An Afghan interpreter with US troops and Afghan Police

below the poverty line, and more than one family will cram together into a small apartment, just to be safe from the elements of living outside.

AJ states that their service to the people of the US

and the US military should earn them some form of honor. After all, their work was on the front lines and in many cases, their lives could not continue back home, where their families would be shunned and in some instances ostracized from society.

While living in Afghanistan would not be safe, living in the US is just as bad, but for different reasons. When a person cannot find a job, then they cannot pay rent, and from there it's a quick downhill roll to living on the streets.

AJ was lucky, he managed to save and borrow around \$16,000 to buy him and his family tickets to the US, and reached San Francisco International Airport one hour before their visa's expired. Had there been even the slightest delay, they would not have reached US soil and ended up being returned to Afghanistan. Being sent back was not an option since the Taliban militants closely monitor anyone that aided the US military and offer cash prizes for their capture.

Supporting the Immigrant

In recent years, some nonprofit and business support incentives have emerged offering aid to the Afghan immigrants. Lyft is one US company that decided to help these amazing people; it launched in October 2017 in Washington DC a pilot program for Afghan immigrants that worked with the US military. Lyft's program provides them with work as drivers and also gives them added incentives such as ride credits to help them reach consular and medical appointments.

The reason Lyft chose Washington is due to the saturation of immigrants in the city, with over 10,000 Afghan immigrants living in the metropolitan area, Steve Taylor, GM of Lyft in Washington stated that this made Washington DC a crucial testing ground for the program.

Lyft is not alone in its efforts. The pilot program participants include the advocacy group "No one left behind" which provides assistance, financial aid and also pressure on the State Department for providing more special immigrant visas. This group was set up by retired army officer Captain Mathew "Matt" Zeller, who served in Afghanistan. He was deployed to Afghanistan in April 2008 where he served at the



Ghazni Forward Operating Base as the unit's Intelligence Officer, Operations Officer, Air Logistics Officer, and head of all human assistance missions. The group was set up in lieu of his interpreter Janis Shinwari's actions. Shinwari saved Zeller's life in one combat instance by killing two Taliban insurgents. This brought immediate death threats to Shinwari and his family and was the catalyst for Zeller to help bring him to the US as well as help others in the same situation.

Zeller states that "The only difference between Janis and I, is where we were born. Interpreters are more of a veteran than I am," Zeller said. "I only did one tour. Janis served nine years."

While AJ continues to drive Lyft passengers in his Black Toyota Camry and stresses that people should not pity the immigrants, they should respect their service and try to help them. All the Afghan immigrants that helped the US military are by nature ambitious, hard-working people that just want the chance to make a living in the US. He explains that most people do not think of the local support that the military uses, and should understand that interpreters and other local assistance providers are a mandatory need for military operations. Without their services, the results would have led to extreme casualty and failure of most missions.

<https://www.ridesharingforum.com/t/afghan-immigrants-who-helped-us-troops-left-to-fend-for-themselves/575>

Parrot 310 Vocabulary Quiz

Spontaneous (adjective)

Supposedly (adverb)

Thorough (adjective)

Ventilat(ed) (verb/adjective)

Function (Noun)



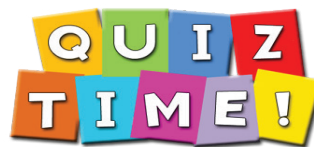
1. Which word means, "Likely, should be"?
2. Which word means, "An activity or purpose natural to or intended for a person or thing"?
3. Which word means, "complete which regard to every detail; not superficial or partial"?
4. Which word means, "happening or arising without apparent external cause"?
5. Which word means, "cause air to enter and circulate freely in a (room, building)"?

Fill in the blank:

6. He had _____ gone to Scotland.
7. Planners need a _____ understanding of the subject.
8. They broke out into _____ laughter.
9. Until recently, the main _____ of women was to marry and give birth to children.
10. The building is lighted, heated, and _____ in the most modern fashion.



*Rosa Abdul Jabbar
ESLR 310*



- | Answers | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 6. Supposedly | 1. Supposedly |
| 7. Thorough | 2. Function |
| 8. Spontaneous | 3. Thorough |
| 9. Function | 4. Spontaneous |
| 10. Ventilated | 5. Ventilated |

Squawk! Did you know...

All of the counselors at American River College can:

- Make recommendations to assist you in making an informed decision when choosing a major and career.
- Help you to figure out what's most important to you.
- Listen to what interests you.
- Help you to identify your skills.
- Suggest steps to take that will assist you on your path to success.



Typically, counseling appointments are 30 minutes long.

Hour long appointments are available in the **Career Center (916-484-8492)** and occasionally at the discretion of counselors in **General Counseling (916-484-8572)**.

The Career Center has a career counselor available to currently enrolled students and has selected availability for one hour appointments. You can call 484-8492 or go to Career Center for more information on career counseling services.

We also offer two courses related to a career that may be of interest to you:

Human Career Development 330, “Life and Career Planning” is a 1 unit course that is transferable to California State Universities. This course is a comprehensive approach to life and career planning based on extensive measurement of aptitude, interests, personality type, values, and skills. Personal and career goals are formulated using career research and decision-making strategies. Course topics include changing career trends and job search techniques.



Human Career Development 331, “Career and Job Search Strategies” is a 1 unit course that is transferable to a CSU. This course is designed to assist in the development of research skills in preparation for future employment in a competitive employment market. Topics include researching career fields, setting specific career/educational goals and examining employment trends. It also includes resume writing, interviewing skills and job search strategies.

To read above information again or to learn more, peck below:



http://www.arc.losrios.edu/Support_Services/Counseling.htm

Out of the Cage

ACE (Accelerated College Education) Information Session

- **Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018; 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Natomas Center room N201**
- **Wednesday, April 25th, 2018; 6:00-7:00 p.m. Natomas Center room N103**
- **Tuesday, May 15th, 2018; 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Natomas Center room N201**

Struggling to find classes that fit with your work schedule? The Accelerated College Education program (ACE) program is designed for working or busy students who wish to complete general education classes towards an Associate's degree and/or transfer. Students in the ACE program are part of a cohort that takes two classes every 8 weeks; these classes meet Tuesday evenings and Saturdays for a total of 10-12 units each semester. Attend an ACE Information Session to learn more and get enrolled!

Location: 2421 Del Paso Road, Sacramento, CA 95834

Sacramento Job Fair Wednesday, May 16 2018 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Are you in the market for a job or a new career in Sacramento California? Have you been sending resumes to employers and wonder why they have not got back to you? The key is being able to get in front of the right person who is hiring. At our Sacramento job fair, you will meet hiring managers from the top companies in Sacramento. Put on your best attire and dress to impress the companies that may be your next employer. At our job fair, you will be able to interview with multiple companies all in the same location on the same day, giving you a greater opportunity to get hired.

Location: Hilton Sacramento Arden West
2200 Harvard Street

Have a great

 Vacation!



Questions/Comments?

Student Editors: **Elaf Khafaja, Habiba Salehzada, Betul Yousif & Alex Grynishyn**

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/ARC_Majors/Humanities/ESL/The_Parrot.htm