



The Parrot

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

Issue # 133

Spring 2019

Well-traveled ESL Prof. with a Story to Tell

The Parrot:

Hi, Professor Brittney! From Cairo to Ankara to Sacramento, it was a long journey! Could you please tell us how you started there and how you came to be here?

Brittney: I had a contract/fel-



Prof. Brittney Bouc

lowship with the US State Department for one year. I was working with the US embassy in Cairo in 2011. My assigned job was to work in the Language

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Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.

Albert Einstein



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The Real History of Valentine's Day



When you think of Valentine's Day you probably think of flowers, chocolates, and notes sealed with a kiss—not whipping women with dead animals or martyrdom. But it turns out this sweet and loving commercial holiday has its roots



in pagan rituals and good old-fashioned Christian rebranding. Oh, and selling you cards.

Historians aren't 100%

sure about the origins of Valentine's Day, but many

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Student Chirpings

Women's Choice

Modern women are so different from women who lived in the 19th or early 20th century. A modern woman feels like she has to work, or has to have her own business and be equal to her husband. However, a lot of husbands think the way men thought in the 19th century. They think that a woman has to sit home, cook, clean, and change kids' diapers when needed. It seems absurd. Women should work for a lot of reasons and some of them are to support the family financially, to be independent, and to be an example for their kids.

Firstly, a woman needs to work to support her family financially. There is a saying, "There is never too much money". Even if a husband's salary is high and he can provide for a family, it's okay for a woman to work too. She can put her money in a saving account and this way she will always be sure that her family has some extra money in case of emergency. Also, she can save her own money and spend it on traveling with her family. Some families with a working husband and stay-at-home wife can't afford to go somewhere because of a lack of money. They always choose between, for example, visiting another country and buying a car, etc. However, families with a working wife and working husband can afford both.

The second reason why a woman should work is to be independent. Every woman wants to have her own money that she can spend on her own needs. A woman who doesn't work doesn't have such opportunity. However, a woman who has her own budget can easily spend money to buy cosmetics, go for a spa treatment, go to a gym, and even give some amount of money to charity. This way she doesn't need to ask her husband to give her money every time she wants to buy something. It gives a

woman more self-confidence and independence.

The third reason is to be an example for her kids. Of course, a mother is a role model for her kids, especially for girls. This is a person her kids want to look like when they grow up. For this reason, a mother needs to be a good example. However, if a mother always sits home, does chores, watches her kids, makes food, and always asks her husband for money, what kind of example is she going to be? She will never be able to instill a love to work hard and to be attentive to her kids. How is she going to answer when her daughter grows up and says, "Mom, I don't want to work. I don't want to look for a job." She will ask, "Why?" The girl will answer, "Because you never worked, so why do I have to?"

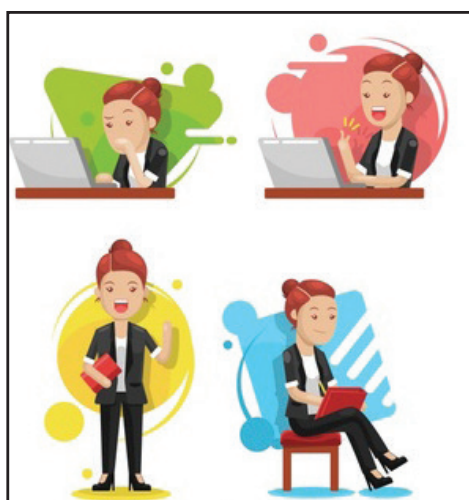
The opponents may say that a man is like "the head of a family" so he is the only person in a family who has to work and make money.

However, in our modern world more and more families live with a woman as the head of a household; a woman works, pays bills, raises kids, does housework, etc. It would be unfair, in the 21st century, to say that only a man must work. A woman can do everything, not only be a homemaker.

In conclusion, women produced their revolution about 200 years ago. Now, they have a right to do everything they can. They can be educated, they can work, and can be equal to men. Also, they can choose between work and family, or they can even combine both. It would be unfair to think that women should not work. They have such good opportunities to develop their skills and talents. They benefit from independence and family stability. Also, they can be an example for other people to follow.

Viktoriia Biliak
ESL W310

Argumentative essay



Very Picky Customer

As we all know, accidents are not accidental. Sometimes we meet very difficult people, and after having dealt with them, we hope that we will never meet them again. But our destiny has an unexplored script for us, and sometimes things that seem bad turn out to be good. That happened to me when I was a 23-year-old in my hometown Zhytomyr, Ukraine, working as a salesperson in the sporting goods store Sport-Alliance. Every day we had many different customers, but one of them I will always remember as very picky, and at that moment I did not yet know that an encounter that seemed bad would turn out to be good.

It was our ordinary day in the store. As it was winter time, many customers came to buy ski clothes, jackets, and active-wear. One by one, they left our sporting goods store happy with very good clothes. One afternoon, a very strange person appeared in the store. He was of medium height, thin, and shifty-eyed. Outwardly, he looked respectable, but his face seemed drawn like a junkie's. He looked like a vagrant that wasted time walking around. I was near him, so I asked him if he had some questions or needed my help. And it began. He tried on an uncountable number of jackets, asked me about every bit of the company's history, and could not make a choice. I asked myself, "Why does he need to know it?" Dealing with him, I even thought that maybe he was a mystery shopper evaluating me. I felt that the day would never end, but I worked with this customer patiently and with respect. He bought one ski jacket, but after ten minutes he returned again to try on a few other jackets. Finally,

he left the store with a purchase, and I was extremely happy that our communication had come to an end.

After a few years working in the sporting goods store, I decided to change jobs. I wanted to continue my career in sales, so I considered positions as a pharmaceutical representative. I was interested in the offer of a pharmaceutical company, Vishpha, so I sent them my resume. After a few days, they selected an interview date. I was very surprised when the person who conducted the interview was my picky customer from the sporting goods store. I immediately recognized him because of his junkie's eyes, and, as it turned out, this was just his physiological feature. I think he also recognized me, but he never told me. My picky customer was Mr. Goltsman, marketing director for the pharmaceutical company Vishpha.

After waiting ten days, I found out that I got the job.

Mr. Goltsman became my new boss, and we worked together almost one year before he found a new job with another pharmaceutical company. It was a very fruitful time for me, and I will never forget the things that Mr. Goltsman taught me.

Accidents are not accidental, and we never know what will happen next. This situation in my life taught me that we need to be kind to every person, even if he seems to be very strange. At that moment, I did not know that my eccentric customer would become my boss, so that event in my life, which seemed bad, turned out to be good.

Kateryna Maksymenko
ESL W50
Narrative essay





A Good Holiday

Most people like holidays. Usually, holidays are special dates on the calendar. They remind us about some important events in the past. Some popular holidays have a specific tradition. However, every holiday may be good if it has three features.

First, an important thing for a good holiday is knowledge about the story of the celebration. Every holiday cannot be without a reason. For example, Christmas has its own story about the birth of Jesus Christ. Also, the Celtic New Year was named "Halloween" two thousand years ago. Traditionally, this holiday was associated with human death.

Third, an important thing for a good holiday is activities. Generally, many holidays have traditional activities. In Siberia, some people celebrate a strange holiday named Tvorila's Night. This is an old Slavic pagan holiday at the end of summer. In the middle of the night, people do something evil to their neighbors. Actually, not too evil; for example, a group of people can turn over a neighbor's car. On Valentine's Day, some people give each other postcards and heart-shaped cookies and say, "I love you". In brief, good traditional activities during the celebrations are an important part of most holidays.



The real story about the celebration shows the main meaning of it. To conclude, knowledge of the pre-story of a celebration makes the correct atmosphere and the right mood for a holiday.

Second, an important thing for a good holiday is special food. On Thanksgiving Day, a family always has a turkey. Turkey is usually eaten by members of a family and their friends. An interesting thing is that on Easter, people from different cultures eat different meals. For example, Jewish people eat lamb, but Russians eat special bread. Also, Russians paint eggs and then eat them. Indeed, traditional food is a delicious part of any fiesta.

To sum up, there are three things that are important for a good holiday: knowing the history of the event, specific food, and special activities. Holidays are very good if people are keep them traditional. Special food for the event is a tasty addition for any holiday. If the participants have information about the holiday, then it helps them to spend their time in a more interesting way.

Aleksei Kostritca
ESL W40
Expository essay

Solving the Borrowing Neighbor Problem

Neighbors are often good, fantastic people. They live around us and they share every moment of happiness and sadness, too. In addition, you may visit your neighbor at night just to drink a cup of tea or a cup of coffee or you may spend all your day cooking, laughing, or watching a wonderful movie with him or her. Imagine that your neighbor knocks on your door for some tomatoes in the morning, and you are dreaming that Prof. Bracco announces that at the end of the semester we will not have a final test. Absolutely,

you will be angry because this moment happened just in a dream and your neighbor destroyed it for some tomatoes. Let's think about another situation. What if your neighbor wants to borrow something from your house, something like your father, maybe, and he does not return your father. That's cool for me, but it's annoying if she or he borrows my clothes; they may take my best dress. We must find a solution to this serious problem because it is a bad thing to borrow something and not return it. In order to solve this problem, people need to think deeply and utilize these three solutions: borrow something expensive from your neighbor, never lend your neighbor anything again, and ask your neighbor about your stuff.

The first suggestion to solve the problem of a neighbor who borrows things but never returns them is to borrow something expensive from your neighbor. Do it, and don't be shy. Go to your

neighbor and ask for a diamond necklace for one day. I know it sounds crazy, but you must do that to solve the problem. I borrowed a laptop from my neighbor. I told her I was going to take it for one hour, and she said, "Okay." I spent all day using the laptop. She was trying to reach me, but I turned off my phone. Then, she came to my house, and I did not open the door until night. At night, she came again, and I replied. She started saying, "Where is my laptop?" I told her with my dress which she took

the week before. She said, "Oh, but your dress is not as expensive as my laptop is." "I said, "OK, it is not expensive for you, but it is expensive for me and for that you will not get your laptop until you give my stuff back." She has now changed a lot. She does not borrow my stuff for long, and she takes good care of about the things that she borrows.

Another suggestion to solve the problem of a neighbor who borrows things but never

returns them is to not give your neighbor anything ever again. If your neighbor asks you to give him something, just say, "I don't have what you want or "Sorry, my sister took it." Don't be scared, because you know that your neighbor will not return what he borrows and when you say it like that, he or she will not ask you again about anything. I had a friend who had been living near me. She came to my house asking about my math notes. At first, I gave them to her, but she did not return them until we finished our math test. The next time, I told her my friend Omima had taken them. After that she did





not come asking. Another friend who lived near my house always came to my house to borrow stuff like perfume or accessories. I became so angry because I don't like my sisters to do that, so I told her not to come to my house and ask for any of my stuff by asking my sisters. Honestly, she didn't speak with me after that, and she stopped asking for anything. Whenever your neighbor asks you for things, you don't have to give them to him or her because you will lose what you lend. To illustrate that, our neighbor asked my brother to give him an iPhone charger. My brother did not know much about our neighbor, so he gave him the charger. Later, my brother went to get his phone charger, but the neighbor did not give it to him because his youngest son had thrown away the charger. Never give your stuff to your neighbor anymore is the second suggestion to solve the problem of a neighbor who borrows and doesn't return things.

The best suggestion to solve the problem of a neighbor who borrows things but never returns them is to ask your neighbor about your stuff. Going to visit your neighbor is not a bad idea. You can also drink a cup of tea as you usually do, and during the conversation which is about dogs or maybe about your awful day, you can say, "Hey! Do you remember recently when I gave you my essay?" Or "Dude, where is my new shirt that I lent you last night?" Of course, your neighbor will be embarrassed and will answer you immediately or give your stuff back to you. For example, I live in North Highlands and almost all my neighbors speak my native language, Arabic. One of them asked my sister about my dress because

she had a party at the same time I had one. My sister did not know what to do, so she gave it to her. I was outside somewhere. When I came back into the house, my sister told me what had happened. I ran to my neighbor's house to get my dress. I asked her nicely, "Could you please return my dress right now? I have to prepare myself to go to a party tonight and I am going to wear the dress." She was angry, but had no choice, so she gave it back to me. Coincidentally we went to the same party. My mother

had the same situation back in Syria. My aunt always asked my mother to lend her jewelry because she had a lot of parties to attend. My aunt borrowed a golden necklace and she said, "I will return it by the end of the week." My mother said, "It's okay." The end of the week came, but my aunt did not come, so my mother went to her house asking for the necklace. My aunt did not return it until the following month. My mother had not learned not to give my aunt anything.

To sum up, we must not ignore this problem and we must stop our

neighbors who borrow things but never return them. Obviously, there are many ways and suggestions to solve this problem, but the three best suggestions are to borrow something expensive from your neighbor, to not lend your neighbor anything again, and to ask your neighbor about your stuff.

Alaa Shatat
ESL W50

Problem-solution essay



Convincing Your Older Brother to Move Out of Your Parents' House

Do you have a lazy older brother? Do you want him to move out of your parents' house? Almost all parents say that their happiness is their children. They raise them with love. However, the parents expect their children to become independent adults. Despite their worries and expectations, their children reach thirty years old and still live with their parents and rely on them. Some parents,

being too careful, fear that when their children become independent, they won't help them cope with life's problems. Other parents don't want to break the relationship with their children. Sometimes it is more difficult for parents to make a decision on this issue for an older son than for a younger son. However, there are three major steps that you

can take to convince your older brother to move out of your parents' house.

The first step in the process of convincing your lazy brother to move out of your parents' house is to persuade your parents to make his life uncomfortable. For example, the parents of my neighbor Derek gradually stopped paying for his expenses when he turned eighteen years old. First, they refrained from giving him money when he went out with his friends. This made him uncomfortable and made him think that he had a prob-

lem. Then, his parents didn't pay for his car. This limited him a lot and he started to find solutions. Next, Derek's parents didn't pay for his mobile phone. Nowadays, young people can't imagine their lives without a mobile phone! So, he found a part-time job. After that, his parents didn't pay for his clothes. Derek became distant from his parents and found a full-time job. Then, Derek's mother didn't cook for him. Finally, Derek was

prepared for independent life and he thought about renting an apartment and living alone. This series of measures makes life for every grown-up child who relies on his family uncomfortable, but not every son would decide to find a job. If so, you have to move to the next step.

The second step in the process of convincing your lazy brother to move out of your parents' house is to help your brother find a job. For instance,

Alice, one of my friends, struggled with this problem. First, she had to convince her brother to find a job. She was wise and she prepared her speech to her brother ahead of time. Then, she looked for the right time to talk to him. Alice chose a night when her brother was in a good mood. Then, she decided to talk to him, keeping calm and having an open discussion. Her brother, being financially constrained by his parents and asked by his younger sister to find a job, agreed to do so. Next, Alice asked her friends for a job for her brother. She





found a job for him as a cashier at Target. Finally, Alice encouraged her brother to go to work and gave him examples of his friends who worked and lived separately of their parents. For Alice's brother, these steps worked, but for others it might not be enough.

The last major step in the process of convincing your lazy brother to move out of your parents' house is to make him fall in love with a good girl. For example, my

roommate Amanda found out what kind of girls her brother was attracted to. Then she found the right girl, a girl who also liked her brother. After that, she often asked them about their relationship, making



sure everything went according to plan. Later on, Amanda suggested they rent an apartment and live together. So, she solved the problem for all family members.

In conclusion, talking to your parents to

make your older brother's life uncomfortable, helping him find a job, and finding a good girlfriend for him are the three major steps that you can take to convince your older brother to move out of your parents' house

Vera Gusacinski
ESL W50
Process essay

The Causes of Student Dissatisfaction at American River College

People believe that community college is the cheapest institute for education in the United States. Residents prefer to send their kids to community college rather than any state college because state college is twice or maybe three times as expensive as a community college. I am also a student in American River College, which is one of the biggest community colleges in California. I spend most of my time speaking with other students and I notice that most of them are dissatisfied with their college expenses because students don't have jobs. Although there are several causes of student dissatisfaction at American River College, I chose only the three main factors of student's dissatisfaction: they are suffering from over-priced books, they are suffering from over-priced food, and they are suffering from over-priced parking.

American River College students are tired of

spending tons of money on the over-priced books that cost them twice the amount they pay for their classes. Professors always push students to buy new books, not used or rental books, because they don't understand the financial problems of their students. I have a friend named Ahmad, who paid \$130 for a four-unit English writing class and he spent more than \$220 for the books that his professor recommended. As a result, he is very dissatisfied and unhappy with his class. First, he bought some used cheap books from Amazon.com, but his teacher didn't accept it and made him then buy new books. The other sad example is my cousin John, also a student in this college this semester. Due to expensive books, he dropped his class. As I mentioned earlier, I am also a student in this college, and this is my first semester. I also experienced some financial challenges while buying new books from the book-

store of our college, so I preferred to buy used books from online websites, which is half the price of the bookstore books.

The second cause of student complaints at American River College is the high prices of food in the cafeteria. We are certain that full-time students have to be at the college all day. As they come to college in the morning and stay till afternoon, they definitely get hungry and need to eat something. They feel hopeless when they can't afford the expensive food of cafeteria and then they suffer from hunger all day. Although in other institutes the college cafeteria

is the cheapest place to eat food, in our college it is the same price as eating outside. Two days ago, I went to the cafeteria to buy a coffee for myself, but I didn't expect to pay the same amount as I pay at a Starbucks outside the college. In addition, the service was too slow, and the taste of the coffee was bad. The

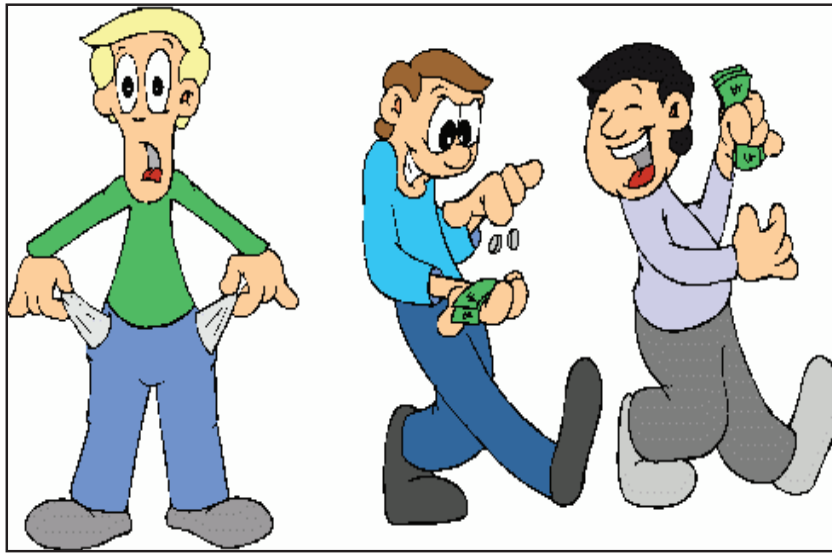
other example concerns my sister. She is a student at our college and she always prefers to make herself some food at home and eat it at the college. She tells me that the food in the cafeteria is overpriced. I feel sorry for her because she spends almost half an hour each day to make food for herself to eat at college.

The last cause of student complaints at American River College is not having free parking for the students' vehicles. Students choose community college for the cheapest education for their future careers as they can't afford private colleges or state universities. In addition, every student desires to have access to free parking in their college because it is neither a business center nor an entertainment arena. Therefore, they are dissatisfied spending thirty dollars each semester to park their cars. For example, the total amount I pay for the college parking would be around 90 dollars a year, as I would have class in

the summer. However, I pay the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) 90 dollars for the whole year to drive my car thousands of miles. This is insane and incomparable. Another good example concerns my classmate Karim. This semester he isn't able to pay for his college parking because he is jobless. Therefore, he parks at his friend's house and walks 30 minutes to college. Finally, my sister really likes to drive her car, but as she doesn't have money to pay for the parking sticker, she uses public transportation for college commuting, which is free, but slow.

In conclusion, American River College

students have dissatisfaction with overpriced books, overpriced food, and overpriced parking. We know that ESL (English as Second Language) books cost students thirty-five to eighty dollars. However, the college can print these books for less money. If those responsible pay



more attention to the financial situation of students, then they would find other ways to lower the price of books, food, or parking. The community college students are making rich the writers of the books or the company which publishes these books, the cafeteria shop owners, and the parking lot contractors. They are doing their business and they don't care about the students. The best solution is that a special committee at American River College should negotiate and speak with those responsible in the government and to the providers to bring down the cost of education in our college.

Mohammad Edress Attaee
ESL W50
Cause-effect essay



My Sentimental Cassette Tape

Most people nowadays don't use cassette tapes anymore, and they can't be found in a market. I love to listen to music, and I collected all the songs that I liked. In my country, Thailand, I liked to record songs from a radio station. I had a lot of cassette tapes, but I had only one cassette tape that I loved the most. I felt free, and happy, and I felt I could fly when I was listening to music from my cassette tape.

The tape was so old; it didn't work anymore, but I still kept it. I had a lot of memories from this tape. I had a favorite radio program, which played old songs from the years 1960 - 1970. The disk jockey let a song start playing a few seconds; then, he spoke about the meaning of the song in one or two sentences. I think that was nice! I felt close to the song. I spent about three months to record five songs because I sometimes had to hide my radio and waited until my parents weren't home. I called my tape "My Sentimental Cassette Tape."

"Rhythm of the Rain" by The Cascades was one of my favorite songs. I could smell the grassland, and the wild flowers when I heard this song. The D.J. liked to play this song while it was raining, and the next was "It Never Rains In Southern California" by Albert Hammond. I wanted to jump out of my bed to dance, especially as the rhythm of the song began. I couldn't help it; my legs were moving. I had listened to the radio program for almost three years; I knew the next song he would play, but I couldn't guess what he would say about that song. I liked his style and his management of the radio program. When the D.J. played "Why" by Frankie Avalon, I knew from the D.J. that the song was

about love, but I didn't much care what it meant until five years later. "I Left my Heart in San Francisco" by Tony Bennett; "My love waits there..." It was the sound of the D.J. who graduated from San Francisco State University in California. He talked about San Francisco on his radio program; the weather was cold, the smell of the fresh ocean air, and there was a big full moon. I told myself I would be there in my dream city San Francisco. He always played "I Love you for Sentimental Reasons" by Nat King Cole before he said goodbye for that night.



I transferred my tape to disc many times, but I kept the original cassette. The original cassette, which was a Sony tape, didn't work anymore. I had played my cassette a lot. The paper was torn; the tape was stretched, and the sound was "KO KA KO KA."

My friend asked me why I liked my cassette. I explained that it wasn't the songs, but the voice of the D.J. When I was listening to the radio program, I was fourteen years old. Most of the time, I wrote letters to request my song because I had to go to bed before ten p.m., but the radio program was on the air from ten p.m. to midnight, Monday to Friday. I always hid my radio under my blanket, so nobody knew that I didn't go to sleep yet. It was so exciting. I recall the good times I had when I was young. The D.J. was my model. I wanted to be a D.J. like him; although I didn't become a D.J., I still like to listen to the old songs.

Pattaraporn Callorina
ESL W50
Narrative essay

Prof. Hoggan in China

Editor's Note: *ESL professor, Patrick Hoggan, accompanied by his family, is teaching in China this year. Periodically, The Parrot will publish accounts of Patrick's experiences. Below are some of his impressions*

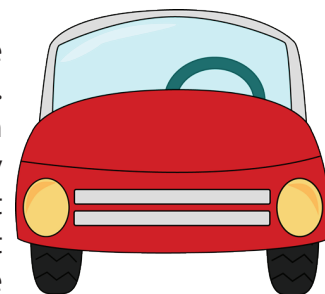
Water: we have hot water in our apartment but only in the shower. No hot water in the kitchen or the bathroom sink. The hot water is immediately hot because the water heater is right above the shower along with an outlet. We don't drink the tap water, so we are grateful for 1.5 liter bottles for 2.5 yuan (37 cents). I buy water almost daily in the little markets near our apartment. Since coming here, we have had two times when the water to our building was shut off. The first one was for 24 hours, the second was longer, and we didn't receive any notice. I guess that might be due to my inability to read Chinese.

Classes: the students are for the most part more fluent than I expected, much more fluent than the students I had 24 years ago. They all have an English nickname though I wonder if some need a little help with theirs. Though the names, Green, Purple, Rainbow, Auntie Ho (a guy!), Bonduca, Euller, Arehorn, Leonhard, Rolander, Dream, Vienns, Fairy, Murph, Canvis, Sweety, Chita, Jelly, Lemon, Arling, Kitty, Gragon, YoYo and others are cool in a way, I like the way my colleague Anthony from Boston put it, "That just won't do on a resume!" I was so bold as to tell LNNY that I think she really wanted to spell her name, LYNN. I've been surprised by a few students who have chose first and last names, "Rebecca Gillbert," "Jennifer Hathaway," and "Flora Salvatore," for example. Otherwise, I'm delighted to have some "family members" with me in class: Jenny, Alisa, Isabel, Susie, Abby, Kathy, Katherine, William, and Sharon, as well as a fellow teacher named Alice. Yes, I have felt Oma smiling down on me as the guardian angel of teachers and travelers.

Food: I love the food, but Georgia and Gemma don't. Gabe has been adventurous. We have been praying for the girls daily to find food they like and to be willing to try new ones. We have all lost weight, but I'm happy to say it hasn't been from digestion issues, just from not eating as much and eating more

veggies and walking a lot. The girls both tried and liked some drumsticks from the cafeteria—there are five on campus and they are a great deal. I bought a three entree meal with a boat load of rice yesterday for 13 yuan (about \$2) that fed both Kristin and me and filled the girls up with white rice. Panda Express, eat your heart out! The girls have eaten a lot of white rice!

Driving: the drivers are aggressive but not angry. In fact, the car we were in today got acked into by the oblivious driver in front of us. The two drivers got out, examined for possible damage, got back in their cars and hardly spoke to each other let alone raise voices or gesture rudely. Whereas 24 years ago there were bicycles EVERYWHERE, now there are electric scooters with some gas powered motorcycles thrown in as well as quite a few motorized "tricycles" to serve in capacities where we might see pick up trucks. These "non-cars" pretty much ignore all the laws and signs and traffic lights, but they also defer to cars and buses. The traffic seems a bit wild and wooly, but I'm starting to get a feel for it, and there is more method than madness. My friend pulled a totally illegal U-Turn right by the sign prohibiting it and caused three lanes of fast traffic to slow, and there were a few horns, but no angry words or gestures. Kristin would like to get a family scooter. The kids would like her, too, as well.



Location: we are in Zengcheng, about an hour east of Guangzhou, which is the capital of Guangdong (Canton) Province. Massive sprawl, endless amount of new skyscrapers with cranes on top. Zengcheng is a special economic development zone. I think a lot of southern China is. Honda has a factory not far from here. The humidity and pollution make for



grey skies and beautiful sunsets. It is incredibly lush and green. Quite a few flowers. Our campus is particularly blessed with lots of trees, some with lovely smelling flowers. We are on Huashang College campus, a private college founded by the owner of the Sun City Hotel chain. I haven't met the mogul, but he sure gave us some nice tins of moon cakes for Mid Autumn Festival, which was on Sep 24, the Monday after we arrived here. I, alone, have been eating the mooncakes. They scare the rest of the family. What? Who doesn't like a candied egg yolk in the middle of your candied fruit pie. Our Chinese friend, Link, thinks that everyone just pretends to like mooncakes and that no one really does.

Church: We travel to downtown Guangzhou for church, and have had to go twice for my medical exam. It takes an hour by Uber (called DiDi here), which we have done several times, or as Gabe and I found out, two hours if you first take a bus and then the metro. The "fun thing" about the DiDi driver is that he (or one time she) calls you after you request a ride. Ugh. My Chinese isn't good enough yet to do deal with those calls, but a few times I've asked someone next to me to help me out and they always have. Kristin has actually figured out that you can text the drivers back in English and it will get translated into Chinese! So cool! But I digress. We are part of the Guangzhou 1st Branch, expatriates and their families only. The branch president and his wife used to be students in Kristin's LDS Institute Class that she taught back in DC. His wife just had a baby a month ago in the US and returned this week. About 60 members were at the branch on our first Sunday: Americans, a Kiwi, a South African, Zimbabwean, Filipinos, Brazilian, Singaporean, Indonesian, and some Chinese who are now citizens of other countries. And on my first day, I got to play keyboard for Primary. My dream calling. :)

Security: our campus feels really safe. Case in point: the Sunday before National Day (Oct. 1) many students brought their luggage to their last class before catching a bus or Didi to leave campus. They didn't bring their suitcases into class, they lined them up outside in the hall downstairs. Hundreds of suitcases. I should have taken a photo. No one disturbed

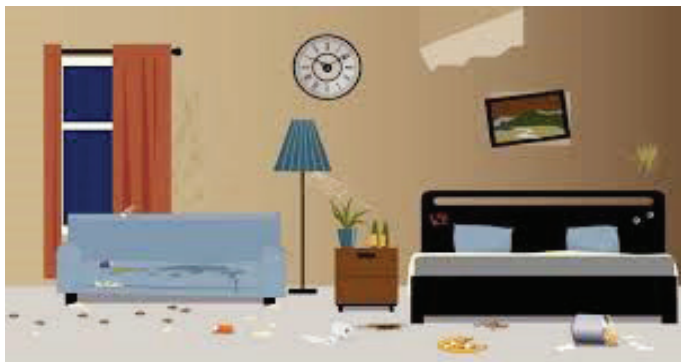
them. The kids are getting brave enough to go to the market without me (one time), or to run home ahead of us or to leave the house before us and wait downstairs (we are on the third floor). Also, the other night, we left our key in the keyhole of our door, and we were grateful that it was still there in the morning.



Critters: geckos (one in our apartment—cue hysterical screaming), turtles (No, Gabe, you can't bring it in as a pet even though the other boy did), frogs (cue more hysterical screaming especially when it one came into the elevator), and the biggest dang snail shell ever (cue warning from Chinese friend, Link, that these snails are not to be touched because of the dangerous bacteria that can attack your brain!). Gabe and I thought it was a stray sea shell! Special mention in the critters section was our day spent at the Grandview Aquarium in Guangzhou for Gabe's birthday: Gabe and Gem got to hold a corn snake and an Australian blue-tongued skink (I'm not making this up), and they all got to pet a chinchilla, baby llama, hedgehogs, bunnies, guinea pigs, dogs and NO, not the prairie dogs—they will bite. Which begs the question, why were the prairie dogs in the petting zoo in an open cage with no warning signs. Fortunately, the attendant stopped us from offering our fingers to the prairie dogs before they tried to test whether or not our fingers tasted like GooGoo Clusters. An anonymous critter found its way to our third floor apartment stairwell garbage can and enjoyed the chicken legs (not feet!) that we had disposed of one night. The bones were scattered ominously on the floor as if an ancient seer had been diving our fortune or just really hungry and messy. The few cats and dogs we have seen look rather neglected by Grandma Shari standards, and their presence always makes us feel grateful that we all have our rabies shots!



Accommodations: frankly, we were shocked and dismayed when shown our apartment. It was filthy, had broken furniture, and stunk! What appliances were here were likewise filthy, stinky, and broken. Had anyone checked this place beforehand and asked if would be fit for someone to live in let alone



a family with three young children? Fortunately, they had us stay in the campus hotel for four nights when we first arrived. The only change to our apartment during that time was that Gabe's bed arrived. The girls have spacious bunkbeds. All the kids' mattresses were new and wrapped (and very hard—builds character, right?), and we had time to pick up some bedding and start cleaning and lodge some very conservative yet direct complaints. When I said, "I'm sorry to complain," the reply from our HR rep was, "No, I'm sorry first." Soon, but not lickety-split, we had the leaky sink and faucet replaced, the missing kitchen window fan installed, all but one of the broken handles on the kitchen cupboards replaced, a disgusting couch removed, broken folding chair replaced, and a new microwave, electric kettle and electric hot plate with wok and pot arrived. A week later we got a new "couch" and matching chairs. Very lovely but hardwood! Not the cozy reading sofa we saw coming out of the moving van that evidently got delivered to someone else. We actually bought our own new table and six chairs, two bamboo bookshelves and matching shoe rack, along with a bedroom bureau and some drawers. I won't list the repairs that haven't happened yet, but we cleaned for a good 9 hours. We had a face-off with only one cockroach (a word one class didn't know!), but the wasps living in our balcony door have been a tad more "sociable."

Language: daunting. However, I must say that the ear-training I had 24 years ago, has helped me a lot. Numbers are not so foreign and indecipherable now as they were when I came back then. There are phrases that I recognize now that I didn't. My 50-year-old brain certainly requires more repetitions and higher concentration to remember now than it did, but I've been managing quite a few tasks without the help of a translator. There are a lot more people now who speak English to some degree than back then, so we've gotten lots of help. One of the funniest times was when I was trying to get some fried noodles. The student who was helping me was wondering why I wanted "dried" noodles until I explained again and pronounced again. Her face almost exploded with illumination as she said the word for fried ("chao", 3rd tone) the way she expected it to sound and not the way I was saying it, and she realized that I didn't want "dried" noodles to take home, but "fried" noodles for take-out. By the way, the word for panda, literally means "bear cat."

Kids: the kids have been so well received. The Chinese word we hear the most is "piaoliang", meaning "good-looking" or "beautiful." Gabe said he feels a little bit like a rockstar walking around China because of all the people who say "hi" or "hello" or "so cute." People stop us in stores to take pictures of the kids. One woman gave the kids free ice-cream cones from her store. She definitely gained my customer loyalty. I must admit though that the college girl who reached over and first brushed Gabe's hair and then squeezed his face got a clear message from me to not touch. Gabe agreed that it felt kind of creepy. Is this how a dog or pudgy baby feels? I'd like to ask some Chinese friends to find out if that was truly a culture clash or if she crossed a line that most Chinese recognize as a line. Otherwise, everyone has been so nice to the kids, and we have made friends that maybe we wouldn't have, but still, they don't have any playmates on a daily basis besides each other, so that's a new adventure in itself.





Nestscape -- Articles from the Web

Continued from page 1



believe it all started as the pre-Roman empire ritual known as Lupercalia, which sounded like a real hoot. Every February 13 - 15, goats and dogs were sacrificed at an altar by the Luperci (or "brothers of the wolf") as an offering. After that, folks were anointed in the blood of the animals, wiped clean with some wool soaked in milk (as one does), and feasted until they were full and drunk. Then came the best part: the Luperci took the skins of the sacrificial animals and ran around naked, smacking people with them. Here's how Plutarch describes the festivities:

Noel Lenski, a historian at the University of Colorado at Boulder, also points out that there was a kind of "matchmaking lottery" during the festival. Men drew women's names randomly from a jar and then they would be, uh, "coupled" during the duration of the festival. Now that is a holiday.



Then, ladies and gentleman—drum roll please—came the Catholic Church. They didn't care much for the blood, and the nakedness, and the sacrificing of the things. By the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I decided to create a new holiday right on top of the old pagan one to, well, make people forget about it. He said, and I quote, "Stop smackin' bitches with dead animals," and dubbed it St. Valentine's day in honor of two Christian martyrs named Valentine—Valentine of Rome and Valentine of Terni—who both happened to be executed by the Roman Emperor Claudius Gothicus II on February 14 in two different years during the 3rd century A.D. What are the odds? Actually, pretty good, since the Romans were basically executing everybody who was Christian during that time. Anyway, at that point, celebrating Lupercalia was all but outlawed.

But did that stop people from getting their fertility

on this time of year? No way! The Normans (early northern French folks who descended from the Norse) celebrated Galatin's Day this time of year instead of St. Valentine's Day. "Galatin" meant "a lover" or "a gallant," so they did that, and the name is even believed to have been confused with the name "Valentine" at some point. Eventually, during the Middle Ages, the day gradually became associated with romantic love in Europe. In the 14th century, Geoffrey Chaucer wrote in his *Parlement of Foules*:

The poem was for the first anniversary of King Richard II's engagement to Anne of Bohemia, and it's largely considered the first written instance where Valentine's Day is associated with romantic love and not fertility or lusty pursuits. Also, it was believed in England and France that the beginning of birds' mating season was February 14, hence the line in Chaucer's poem. They weren't far off. By the time the Julian calendar became the Gregorian calendar, February 14 actually became the 23, which is a time when some birds start mating and nesting in England. Either way, it added to the notion that Valentine's Day was for romance. By 1415, people were writing handmade valentines to one another, like the famous poem by Charles, the Duke of Orleans, "A Farewell to Love," that was sent to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. And by Shakespeare's time—"To-morrow is Saint Valentine's day, all in the morning betime, and I a maid at your window, to be your Valentine"—the romantic version of Valentine's Day that we all know had become popular throughout almost all of Europe.

Around the start of the industrial revolution in the U.S., Valentine's Day went from being a small-time, historical day of romance to full-blown money tree. The new age of machinery ushered in mass-produced, factory-made cards one could easily purchase and pass off to those they cared for on special occasions. In 1913, Hallmark Cards offered pre-made valentines, and in 1916 started mass pro-

ducing them. The day of romance was born anew as a commercial holiday. Since then, the day is not only about buying cheesy cards to pass around your third grade class, but it's also about buying flowers, candy, jewelry, and trying unsuccessfully to get reservations at halfway-decent restaurants.

Love is still in the air, but there's no doubt the holiday is more about "stuff" nowadays than romance. It almost makes you miss the carcass-slapping days of old.

<https://lifelifehacker.com/the-real-history-of-valentines-day-1822975633>



Presidents Day 2019



Presidents Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February; Presidents Day 2019 occurs on Monday, February 18. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, the holiday became popularly known as Presidents Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.

Washington's Birthday

The story of Presidents Day date begins in 1800. Following the death of George Washington in 1799, his February 22 birthday became a perennial day of remembrance.

At the time, Washington was venerated as the most important figure in American history, and events like the 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration.

While Washington's Birthday was an unofficial observance for most of the 1800s, it was not until the late 1870s that it became a federal holiday. Senator Steven Wallace Dorsey of Arkansas was the first to propose the measure, and in 1879 President Rutherford B. Hayes signed it into law.

The holiday initially only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the whole country. At the time, Washington's Birthday joined four other nationally recognized federal bank holidays—Christmas Day, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving—and was the first to celebrate the life of an individual American. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, signed into law in 1983, was the second.

Uniform Monday Holiday Act

The shift from Washington's Birthday to Presidents Day began in the late 1960s, when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. Championed by Senator Robert McClory of Illinois, this law sought to shift the celebration of several federal holidays from specific dates to a series of predetermined Mondays.

The proposed change was seen by many as a novel way to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers, and it was believed that ensuring holidays always fell on the same weekday would reduce employee absenteeism. While some argued that shifting holidays from their original dates would cheapen their meaning, the bill also had widespread support from both the private sector and labor unions and was seen as a surefire way to bolster retail sales.

The Uniform Monday Holiday Act also included a



provision to combine the celebration of Washington's birthday with that of Abraham Lincoln, which fell on February 12. Lincoln's Birthday had long been a state holiday in places like Illinois, and many supported joining the two days as a way of giving equal recognition to two of America's most famous statesmen.

McClory was among the measure's major proponents, and he even floated the idea of renaming the holiday Presidents Day. This proved to be a point of contention for lawmakers from George Washington's home state of Virginia, and the proposal was eventually dropped.

Nevertheless, the main piece of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act passed in 1968 and officially took effect in 1971 following an executive order from President Richard M. Nixon. Washington's Birthday was then shifted from the fixed date of February 22 to the third Monday of February. Columbus Day, Memorial Day and Veterans Day were also moved from their traditionally designated dates. (As a result of widespread criticism, in 1980 Veterans' Day was returned to its original November 11 date.)

Presidents Day Transformed

While Nixon's order plainly called the newly placed holiday Washington's Birthday, it was not long before the shift to Presidents Day began.

The move away from February 22 led many to believe that the new date was intended to honor both Washington and Lincoln, as it now fell between their two birthdays. Marketers soon jumped at the opportunity to play up the three-day weekend with sales, and "Presidents Day" bargains were advertised at stores around the country.

By the mid-1980s, Washington's Birthday was known to many Americans as Presidents Day. This shift had solidified in the early 2000s, by which time as many as half the 50 states had changed the holiday's name to Presidents Day on their calendars.

Some states have even chosen to customize the holiday by adding new figures to the celebration. Arkansas, for instance, celebrates Washington as well as civil rights activist Daisy Gatson Bates. Alabama, meanwhile, uses Presidents Day to commemorate Washington and

Thomas Jefferson (who was born in April).

Washington and Lincoln still remain the two most recognized leaders, but Presidents Day is now popularly seen as a day to recognize the lives and achievements of all of America's chief executives. Some lawmakers have objected to this view, arguing that grouping George Washington and Abraham Lincoln together with less successful presidents minimizes their legacies.

Congressional measures to restore Washington and Lincoln's individual birthdays were proposed during the early 2000s, but all failed to gain much attention. For its part, the federal government has held fast to the original incarnation of the holiday as a celebration of the country's first president. The third Monday in February is still listed on official calendars as Washington's Birthday.

Presidents Day Celebrations and Traditions

Like Independence Day, Presidents Day is traditionally viewed as a time of patriotic celebration and remembrance. In its original incarnation as Washington's Birthday, the holiday gained special meaning during the difficulties of the Great Depression, when portraits of George Washington often graced the front pages of newspapers and magazines every February 22.

In 1932, the date was used to reinstate the Purple Heart, a military decoration originally created by George Washington to honor soldiers killed or wounded while serving in the armed forces. Patriotic groups and the Boy Scouts of America also held celebrations on the day, and in 1938 some 5,000 people attended mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York City in honor of Washington.

In its modern form, Presidents Day is used by many patriotic and historical groups as a date for staging celebrations, reenactments and other events. A number of states also require that their public schools spend the days leading up to Presidents Day teaching students about the accomplishments of the presidents, often with a focus on the lives of Washington and Lincoln.

<https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/presidents-day>

Black History Facts

Black History Month honors the contributions of African Americans to U.S. history. Did you know that Madam C.J. Walker was America's first woman to become a self-made millionaire, or that George Washington Carver was able to derive nearly 300 products from the peanut? Get the story of the creation of the NAACP, famous firsts in African American history and other black history facts.

Black History Month: The celebration of Black History Month began as "Negro History Week," which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

NAACP: On February 12, 2009, the NAACP marked its 100th anniversary. Spurred by growing racial violence in the early twentieth century, and particularly by 1908 race riots in Springfield, Illinois, a group of African-American leaders joined together to form a new permanent civil rights organization, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). February 12, 1909, was chosen because it was the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.



Heavyweight Champ: Jack Johnson became the first African-American man to hold the World



Heavyweight Champion boxing title in 1908. He held onto the belt until 1915.

First Lawyer: John Mercer Langston was the first black man to become a lawyer when he passed the bar in Ohio in 1854. When he was elected to the post of Town Clerk for Brownhelm, Ohio, in 1855 Langston became one of the first African Americans ever elected to public office in America. John Mercer Langston was also the great-uncle of Langston Hughes, famed poet of the Harlem Renaissance.

Supreme Court Justice: Thurgood Marshall was the first African American ever appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. He was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, and served on the court from 1967 to 1991.

Eminent Scientist: George Washington Carver developed 300 derivative products from peanuts among them cheese, milk, coffee, flour, ink, dyes, plastics, wood stains, soap, linoleum, medicinal oils and cosmetics.

First Senator: Hiram Rhodes Revels was the first African American ever elected to the U.S. Senate. He represented the state of Mississippi from February 1870 to March 1871.

First Woman Representative: Shirley Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives. She was elected in 1968 and represented the state of New York. She broke ground again four years later in 1972 when she was



serving from 2009 to 2017.

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-facts>



the first major party African-American candidate and the first female candidate for president of the United States.

Self-Made Millionaire: Madam C.J. Walker was born on a cotton plantation in Louisiana and became wealthy after inventing a line of African-American hair care products. She established Madame C.J. Walker Laboratories and was also known for her philanthropy.

Population Growth: The black population of the United States in 1870 was 4.8 million; in 2007, the number of black residents of the United States, including those of more than one race, was 40.7 million.

Oscar Winner: In 1940, Hattie McDaniel was the first African-American performer to win an Academy Award—the film industry’s highest honor—for her portrayal of a loyal slave governess in *Gone With the Wind*.

Into Space: In 1992, Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African American woman to go into space aboard the space shuttle *Endeavor*. During her eight-day mission, she worked with U.S. and Japanese researchers, and was a co-investigator on a bone cell experiment.

White House: In 2009, Barack Obama became the first African-American president in U.S. history. He occupied the White House for two consecutive terms,



American River College - Mobile Printing

Welcome to our Mobile Printing service. Print virtually any document or web page from your mobile device! Standard GoPrint rates apply (\$0.10/page). A Student Access Card or GoPrint Print Card is required to pay for prints.

There is no additional software required. Simply follow these steps:

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface with three main sections:

- Printer:** A list of printer locations with radio buttons: Business Computer Science, Learning Resource Center, Library, Natomas Center, and Student Center Hallway. A 'Details' button is below the list. A note states: 'A 6 digit release code will be required to retrieve your print job.'
- User Info:** An 'Email Address:' field. A note states: 'You will be provided with a release code to obtain your document from this printer. This code will be sent to your email address specified above.'
- Select Document:** A 'File or URL:' field with a 'Browse...' button. A note states: 'Browse your computer files to select the document you wish to print. You may also enter the URL of a web page you want printed.'

At the bottom of the interface are three icons: a question mark, a close (X) button, and a printer icon.

How do I print from a mobile device?

To print an email message or attachment, simply forward your email to
Learning Resource Center :
300428696132@printspots.com or arc@printspots.com

***Library:** 300754762206@printspots.com or arc-library@printspots.com

***Natomas Center:** 300996046838@printspots.com or arc-natomas@printspots.com

***Student Center Hallway:** 300468496437@printspots.com or studentcenter@printspots.com

***Business Computer Science:** 300802905513@printspots.com or arc-bcs@printspots.com

You will be sent a release code for the email mes

sage and each attachment. Use these release codes to retrieve your documents. Email forwarding is ideal for online email portals such as Yahoo!, Hotmail or Google Mail.

Why?

Most online email services require that you log-in to access email. If you provide the URL (web address) of your message, the printing services will be blocked because your email login name and password are not known by the print system.

PrinterOn Supported File Formats

Microsoft Formats

- Microsoft Word 2000-2016
- Microsoft Word 2008-2016 for Mac
- Microsoft Excel 2000-2016
- Microsoft Excel 2008-2016 for Mac
- Microsoft PowerPoint 2000-2016
- Microsoft PowerPoint 2008-2016 for Mac
- Microsoft Visio 2000-2016

Apache Open Office Formats

- Apache OpenOffice/LibreOffice Writer 2.x to 5.x
- Apache OpenOffice/LibreOffice Calc 2.x to 5.x
- Apache OpenOffice/LibreOffice Impress 2.x to 5.x
- Apache OpenOffice/LibreOffice Draw 2.x to 5.x

Graphics & Text Formats

- PDF
- Microsoft XPS
- PNG
- BMP
- JPEG
- HTML
- GIF
- TIFF
- RTF
- ASCII Text
- Unicode Text
- ZIP



https://www.printeron.net/system/printspot/interface/select_file.jsp?url=arc/print&protocolSwitched=true



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!

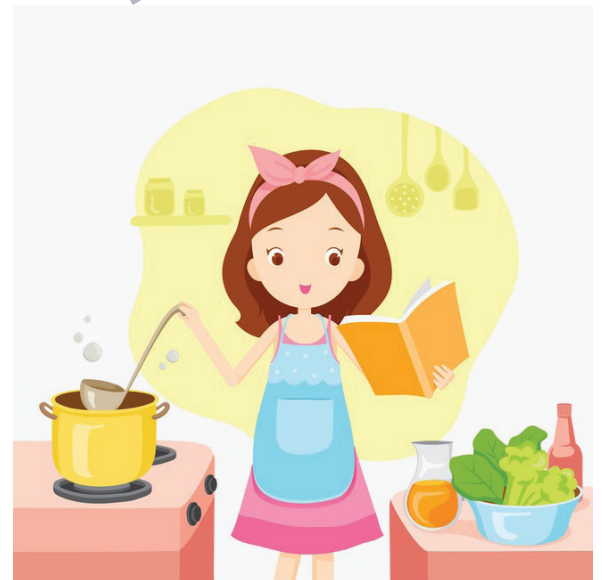
Scallops in Garlic Sauce (Italy)



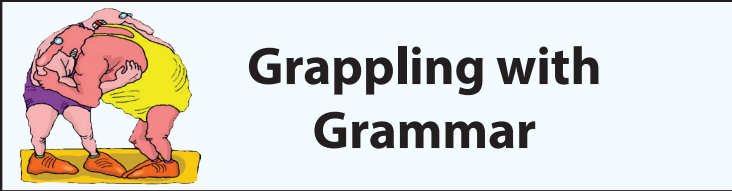
Wash scallops. Drain well. Heat 2 tablespoons margarine in frying pan. Add garlic, paprika, salt and pepper. Stir until well blended. Add scallops. Cook quickly over high heat, stirring frequently, until golden. Remove to warm serving dish. Add remaining 3 tablespoons margarine, parsley and lemon juice to pan. Stir until hot. Pour over scallops. Serve immediately.



- 1 lb. bay scallops
- 5 tbs. Margarine
- 1 large clove garlic
- 1/2 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tbs. chopped parsley
- 3 tbs. lemon juice



Parrot Warbling



Grappling with Grammar

Link Ideas with a Conjunction

Sometimes you want to link two ideas with a second S+V+O combination. When you do, you need a coordinating conjunction. The new formula looks like this:

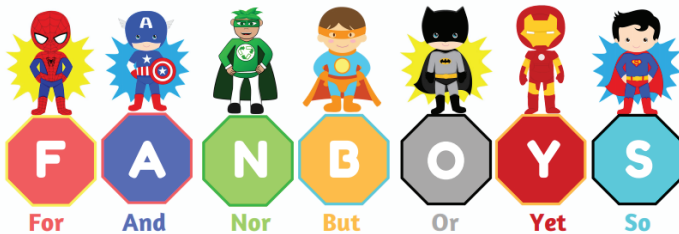
S+V+O, COORDINATING CONJUNCTION+S+V+O

Coordinating conjunctions are easy to remember with an acronymic mnemonic device:

FANBOYS

Co-ordinating Conjunctions

These words connect words, phrases and clauses.



For	Sam drank some water, for he was thirsty.
And	I take milk and sugar in my tea.
Nor	Sara doesn't like apples, nor does she like pears.
But	All the children wanted to eat pizza, but no one wanted to buy it
Or	We could go to a zoo, or we could go to a theme park.
Yet	The weather was cold and wet, yet we enjoyed very much.
So	He is sick, so he is not going to the school.

<https://grammar.yourdictionary.com/grammar-rules-and-tips/11-rules-of-grammar.html>



Idiom--Attic

LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

To let something happen, no matter what happens next.

Ex: I must tell John how I feel about him, **let the chips fall where they may.**

<https://www.myenglishteacher.eu/blog/50-popular-english-idioms-and-slang-words/>

Vowel Pairs

If a syllable or one syllable word has two vowels, the first vowel usually stands for the long sound, and the second vowel is silent.

1- For long a the letters a__e, ai, and ay all stand for the long **a** sound.

word examples: face, play, wait, game.

2- For long i the letters i__e and ie can stand for the long **i** sound.

word examples: bike, bite, pie, lie.

3- For long u the letters u__e, ui, and ue can all stand for the long **u** sound.

word examples: blue, glue, tube, flute, suit.

4- For long o the letters o__e, ow, oe, and oa can all stand for the long **o** sound.

word examples: bone, nose, own, bowl, toe.

5- For long e the letters ea and ee can stand for the long **e** sound.

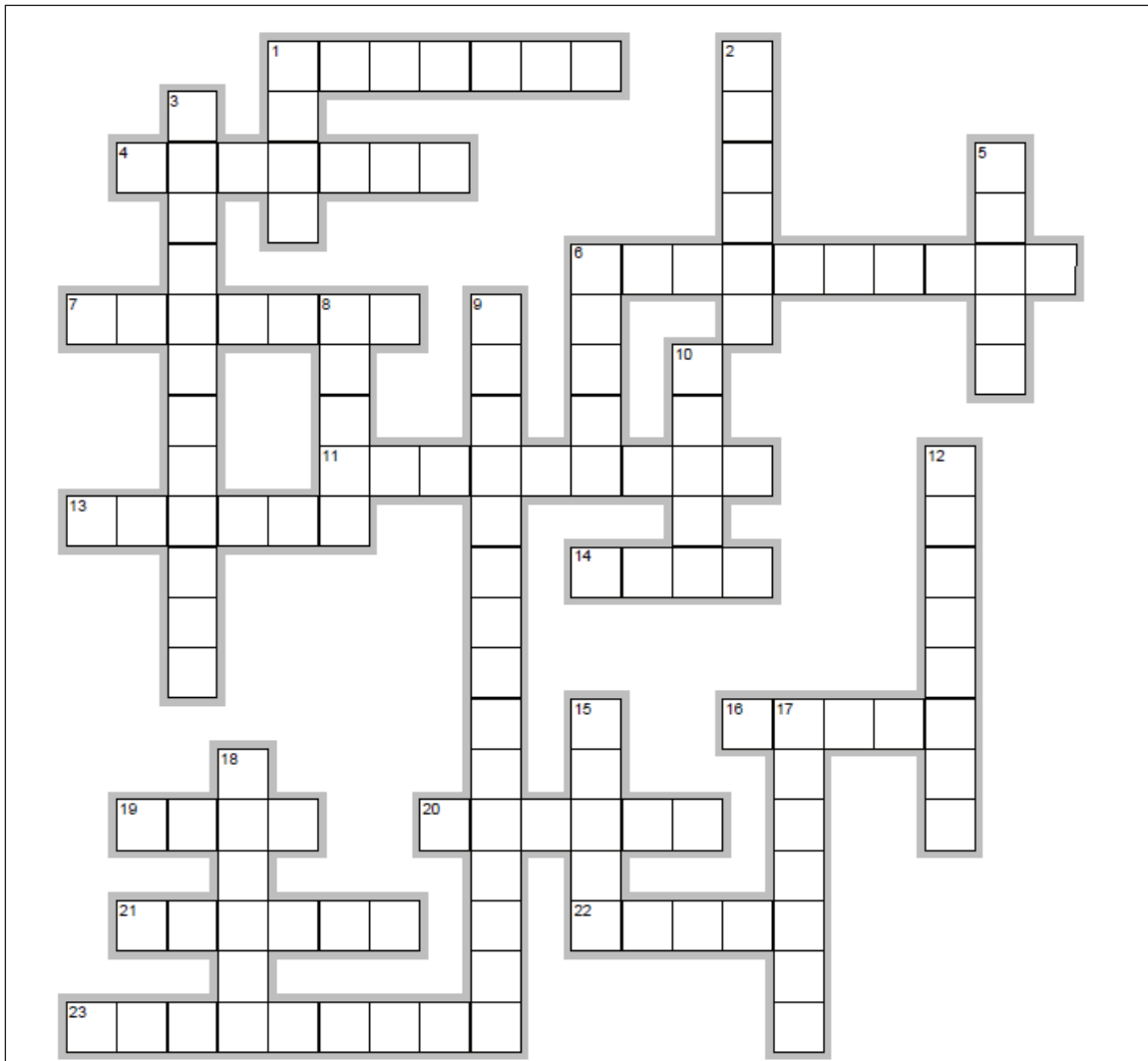
word examples: jeans, seat, beak, east, jeep.

http://www.glencoeschools.org/images/central/phonics_rules





Some More Parrot Fun Stuff



Across:

1. City of Casablanca
4. Prime Meridian
6. Caspian Sea
7. Reykjavik - Capital city
11. Ayers Rock
13. RIO DE JANEIRO
14. Euphrates River
16. The Great Pyramids
19. Lima, Capital city
20. Yucatan Peninsula
21. Northwest Territories
22. Taj Mahal
23. Largest Island country

Down:

1. Timbuktu
2. Petra, City cut from rock
3. Golden Gate Bridge
5. Leaning Tower of Pisa
6. Nairobi, Capital City
8. Mt. Everest (in Tibet and ___)
9. Giant's Causeway
10. Forbidden City
12. City of Karachi
15. Port-au-Prince, Capital City
17. Black Forest
18. Eiffel Tower



USA Presidents Word Search

Find and circle all of the United States Presidents that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell an Abraham Lincoln quote.



- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. WASHINGTON | 13. FILLMORE | 24. Cleveland | 35. KENNEDY |
| 2. J ADAMS | 14. PIERCE | 25. MCKINLEY | 36. L B JOHNSON |
| 3. JEFFERSON | 16. BUCHANAN | 26. T ROOSEVELT | 37. NIXON |
| 4. MADISON | 16. LINCOLN | 27. TAFT | 38. FORD |
| 5. MONROE | 17. A JOHNSON | 28. WILSON | 39. CARTER |
| 6. J Q ADAMS | 18. GRANT | 29. HARDING | 40. REAGAN |
| 7. JACKSON | 19. HAYES | 30. COOLIDGE | 41. G H W BUSH |
| 8. VAN BUREN | 20. GARFIELD | 31. HOOVER | 42. CLINTON |
| 9. W HARRISON | 21. ARTHUR | 32. F D ROOSEVELT | 43. G W BUSH |
| 10. TYLER | 22. CLEVELAND | 33. TRUMAN | 44. OBAMA |
| 11. POLK | 23. B HARRISON | 34. EISENHOWER | 45. TRUMP |
| 12. TAYLOR | | | |



Can I love



Without having
a good reason to
love you other than I just love you.

When everyone tells me to leave.
And when I beg myself to let you
lose. Let you free. I find billions of
reason to go back to you.

Why on earth do I need a reason.
And so what if our fate was not
written for us to stay. And so what
if you were not made for me, and
didn't feel the same way.

As a long as I do. As long as I love
you. Nothing else matters. Till one
day I find a reason to change, but
just not today.

By Aesha Abduljabar

Rigoberto's Riddles

What question can you
never honestly say yes to?

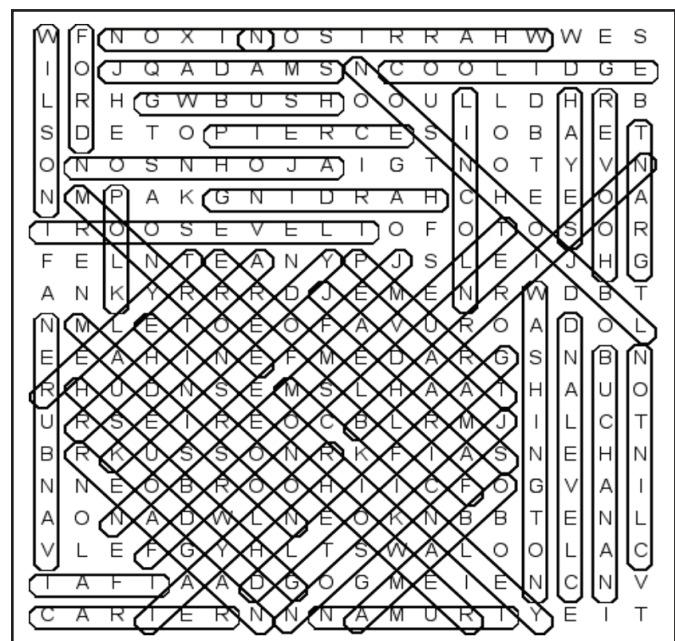
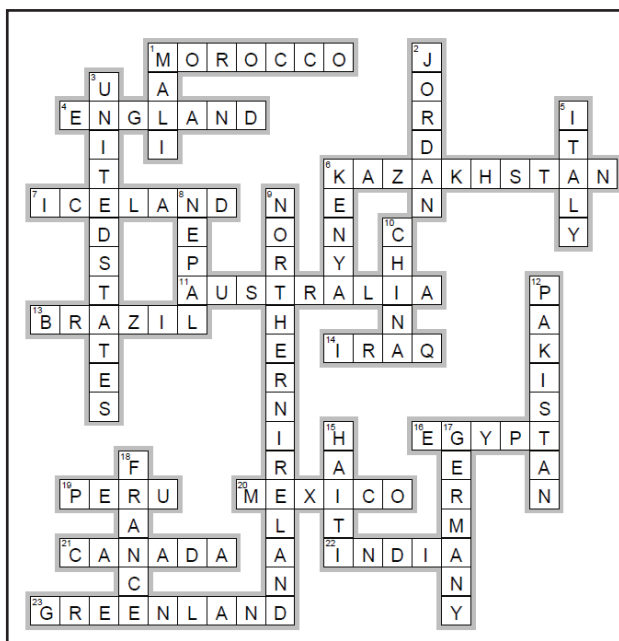


Are you asleep?

Silly Vasily's Chuckle Chamber



Mr. and Mrs. Brown had two sons. One was named Mind Your Own Business & the other was named Trouble. One day the two boys decided to play hide and seek. Trouble hid while Mind Your Own Business counted to one hundred. Mind Your Own Business began looking for his brother behind garbage cans and bushes. Then he started looking in and under cars until a police man approached him and asked, "What are you doing?" "Playing a game," the boy replied. "What is your name?" the officer questioned. "Mind Your Own Business." Furious the policeman inquired, "Are you looking for trouble?!" The boy replied, "Why, yes."





Granny Noetal

*Editor's Note: Granny Noetal is on hiatus at the moment: hiking in Hungary, biking in Burundi, sailing in Singapore, kayaking in Kenya, gliding in Guyana, racing in Romania, fly-fishing in Finland, parachuting in Paraguay, swimming in Switzerland, diving in Denmark, and flying by the seat of her pants wherever she goes. In her place, her great grand-niece **Nanny Noetal** will be running her column with the same insightful advice and tips for ESL students. Don't forget to give your questions to your instructor and she will see that Nanny Noetal will receive them!*

Dear Nanny Noetal,

I am in trouble. I am nineteen years old and I am from Syria. I love someone who has a different political party and religion. Additionally, he is in Syria and I am in the USA. To be honest, I love him so much, but we always fight. His friend said he is sick, and he might die in a year. Actually, I don't know what to do. I only know him from online games. I have never met him face to face. Do you think that breaking up with him is a good idea or what? I don't think I am strong enough to break up with him. So, please help me!

Sedra Mahmoud



My sweet Sedra Mahmoud,

I know it is a really hard feeling. Actually, I need you to think deeply about your future and what is the result of this love. As you said, "we always fight" which means that there is not any real harmony. Do you think you are going to marry him? After all, you only know him from online. Additionally, if he is sick, perhaps his mind is totally different from yours. So, my advice to you, if breaking up will not affect his sickness, do it. Break up with him because your future is here in the USA, and you don't know if he can ever marry you or not.

Sincerely,

Nanny

Interview with Prof. Bouc

Continued from page 1

Center at Al Azher University.

The Parrot: So did you teach students or faculty there?

Brittney: My job was to teach the faculty of the Islamic Studies Dept. and some other faculty from other departments.

The Parrot: So did you spend the whole year there?

Brittney: Actually, no, because the first week of my work, there were some inci-

dents regarding the government there and the security situation wasn't good. On my first day, I heard some strange sounds at night and I saw some people hitting each other and running in Cairo Square the next day while I was on my way to a conference. At the hotel where the conference was, they ordered all Americans to leave Cairo. They took us to the airport and from there to Athens, Greece. At this point, I was not sure if I would get back to my job or to my apartment in Cairo or not. I didn't know what to expect.



The Parrot: How long did you stay in Greece?

Brittney: I stayed there for a week and I loved it, but I was a little confused because I didn't know what was next till I heard from my boss that there was a chance to work in Ankara, Turkey.

The Parrot: So did you fly to Turkey?

Brittney: Yes, I flew to Istanbul and stayed a few days there. It was a lovely place, but it was a little confusing for me too because my job and possessions were still in Cairo. I heard that the Egyptian president was in jail and I didn't know what would happen. I flew to Ankara and I met the staff there and they said that they heard about what was happening in Cairo.

The Parrot: So you arrived in Ankara; how did you find it?

Brittney: I loved Ankara too. I think I loved Ankara more than Istanbul. I lived there for three months. It is very organized and clean. It is not historical. It is new. All the buildings are modern, not necessarily beautiful but convenient. The subway there was wonderful and so efficient. The buses there were on time. But if you look for fun, you can go to Istanbul.

The Parrot: You stayed there for three months; so what happened after that?

Brittney: At the end of April, Mubarak was sentenced, so Americans started to return to Cairo. I returned to my home and job there and stayed there till December. After that I came back to San Francisco.

The Parrot: So what originally motivated

you to work in Egypt?

Brittney: I had applied for a job with the US State Department. I had been selected to go to India, but it didn't work out. Then they selected me to work in Cairo. I loved the idea of working in Cairo. Adventure and desire to learn more. The desire to spread English. I know that there are a lot of people around the world who want to learn English but they don't have access to American teachers. I wanted to help the community there. I don't like to travel just as a tourist. I wanted to go there and help. It is also good money there too! I liked working for the US government and being an agent of peace.

The Parrot: You have good experience at working overseas, especially in the Middle East. How did your experience there help you here in your teaching?

Brittney: It is really helpful for teachers who teach ESL in California and in other states to know what kinds of language programs students are coming from in their home countries. If you are a teacher here and only teach classes here, you don't know any different and you don't know how to be a student outside the US. I am really happy to see how it is different. For example when I taught in Cairo, I saw that the students from Egypt were very confident in talking about their opinions in class.

The Parrot: Egypt and Turkey are both big countries. What did you find interesting in these two countries and how did you handle the difference between the two cultures?

Brittney: I was living alone, not married, so

it was easy for me to live in Ankara, to do shopping and other things, but it was harder for me to do the same in Cairo. In Ankara women dress modestly, but not all of them wear hijabs. In Cairo, I don't think I saw a woman without covering, maybe once a week. For me this was the big difference.

The Parrot: You spent a long time in the Middle East. What type of food did you like the most there?

Brittney: In Cairo I would say my favorite food was sugar cane. It is very very cold. It is green. It tastes like a grass. It is sweet. So delicious. In Morocco, I liked peanuts. In Cairo I liked to eat the eggs there. They tasted really good. Lebanon with garlic and the fish. The worst there was the pizza because when you ordered it, it came with ketchup on top. In Ankara, I ate Iskandar Kabob, which was really good too. The bread with sumac. My favorite restaurant was Iskandar Bingal. I loved this restaurant, and it is a chain so you can find it in different cities.

The Parrot: What is the most beautiful place you might advise us to visit in Egypt or Turkey?

Brittney: In Cairo, the most beautiful place is the Nile, especially when you take a boat. I loved the Mall City Star. Whenever I had extra time, I went to City Star Mall to do shopping. I loved the coffee shops there. They always gave a brownie with the coffee. In Ankara, the central square Kislai. There are great restaurants there and I definitely love the food in Ankara more. I really miss it now.

The Parrot: Getting us back to your work here, what classes are you teaching now?

Brittney: I am teaching Writing 40 and Reading 320

The Parrot: So how do you think that your students describe you?

Brittney: I don't know. I have no idea, but I hope it is good.

The Parrot: Is this your first semester here?

Brittney: No, it is my third.

The Parrot: Did you check *Rate My Professor* to see your students' opinion?

Brittney: I would never do that.

The Parrot: Do you have any specific plans for the future?

Brittney: I would love to get involved working with refugees in Sacramento, especially those who recently arrived. I would love to provide a sort of assistance or help.

The Parrot: There are several organizations here; did you try to talk to them?

Brittney: I worked with them in San Francisco, but now I have two little kids so I don't have a lot of free time.

The Parrot: Do you have any plans for the future to go and work there again?

Brittney: No, because now I have kids and it more difficult to do this job when you have a family.

The Parrot: Thank you so much for your time today. We really enjoyed hearing about your experience in overseas countries.

Brittney: Thank you for being interested!

Parroteer: Elaf Khafaja

Out of the Cage

True Colors Workshop Tuesday, February 19, 2019

2:30 – 3:30pm

True Colors is a career assessment tool to help you know and understand yourself better – what motivates you, why you behave in certain ways, why you have certain attitudes and preferences, and what your core values are. It helps you identify what careers and career environments would be most compatible and fulfilling. It also helps us understand others better, improve our communications with others, and appreciate our differences.

Location: DSPS Conference Room, Student Services Building

Creative Mornings Sacramento Friday,, February 22, 2019

CreativeMornings Sacramento is a place for local creatives to strengthen ties, centralize ideas, and grow our community together. Join us once a month for a cup of coffee and an inspiring talk featuring Sacramento's most inspiring and influential creatives.

Talks are free, but reservations are strongly encouraged. For most CreativeMornings talks, tickets are released on the local chapter's event page. Admission Free (Reservations Suggested)

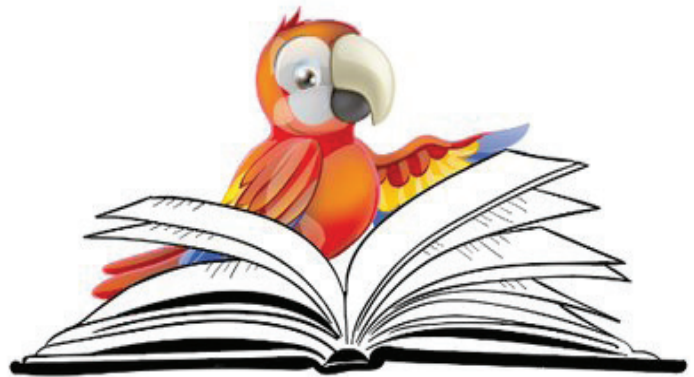
Location: CLARA, 2420 N St, Sacramento, CA 95816

Astro Yoga @ Asha Sunday, February 24, 2019 4:30 pm - 5:45 pm

Fusion of Astrology and Yoga • Free astrology report & chart
Twist your body to align with the stars.



Location: 2421 27th Street Sacramento, CA 95817



Questions/Comments?

Student Editors: **Elaf Khafaja, Alex Grynishyn, & Alaa Shatat**

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

