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CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies



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An International Campus

Global opportunities here at FSU

Here at CIES, there are

many opportunities to learn and practice English. English classes, conversation partners, tutors, Wednesday Friends Day, and weekly activities are all opportunities to improve your English.

However, there are many opportunities to engage outside of CIES here at FSU. There are many student groups on campus where students with similar interests and backgrounds can meet and learn from each other. For example, there are groups for students from the Middle East, Latin America, and Africa, as well as large groups from many individual Asian countries. These groups often contain members from varying parts of the world. You can find a list of over 50 international student groups at www.global.fsu.edu.

The Center for Global Engagement (see the image above) is a fantastic resource here at FSU. The Center hosts the Global Cafe which happens several times during the semester. This semester there will be food from Guatemala, Mexico, Cambodia, and Vietnam. You can check out the Center's website (cge.fsu.edu) to find out information about the Global Cafe and other opportunities for you.

Remember, there are thousands of students at FSU who want to learn more about the rest of the world and the people who live there. You can help them learn about your culture, and they can help you with your English. If you have any more questions about international opportunities at FSU, feel free to ask any of your CIES teachers or you can also ask Claire Sipple at the front desk.

This week's events

Due to a high chance of rain, the trip to Leon Sinks on Friday January 22nd will be cancelled.

Instead of our Friday trip, we will be attending an FSU basketball game



Thursday night. We will all meet here at CIES at 6:30 Thursday evening and we will go over to the Donald L. Tucker Center (here on FSU campus) and watch the women's basketball team play the University of Virginia. The basketball games at FSU are very fun, and this is a great opportunity to show your school spirit as a Seminole fan. You may want to bring

money in order to buy FSU souvenirs as well as **concessions**.

Be in the news!

Many of you have interesting and inspiring life stories! We have CIES students who are doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, and many of you have travelled all over the world. If you would like to share your story with your fellow CIES students, let your composition teacher know. Composition teachers will nominate students and you can be featured with your picture and story in a future issue of Nole News. We will select students from **diverse backgrounds who demonstrate excellent academic work and dedication in their classes.**

Happy Birthday!

Be sure to send the following students (and teacher) birthday wishes this week!

Saad Almasuod (January 22)

Hyunji Song (January 23)

Dhari Alshammari (January 24)

Candace Warmka (January 25)

Dalal Alnasser (January 26)

Culture Questions

Question: Why do people in America have to put gas (petrol) in their own cars?

Answer: Many years ago, there would always be someone working at a gas station whose job was to **pump** gas. This was called a 'full service' gas station. Not only would the person pump your gas, but they would often wash your windows and perhaps tell you if they noticed any problems with your car. Eventually, as more and more people had cars, gas stations would give you a choice between "full service" and "self service" (pumping your own gas). Gas stations would charge more money for full service. Since Americans don't like to pay extra money, they will most often choose to pump their own gas. These days, you will find a few full-service gas stations, but they are rare. However, if you drive across America, there are actually two states where it is illegal to pump your own gas. In both Oregon (Northwest US) and New Jersey (Northeast US), all of the gas stations are full service. If you try to pump your own gas in those states, you will be told to get back in your car!

Question: Why is it so hot in the building?

Answer: This is the case of many buildings at FSU. During the winter months, the heat will be turned on to try to keep the buildings warm in the morning when it is very cold outside. Since Florida is a sunny state, it usually heats up during the afternoon, but the heat is still on. You will sometimes find the buildings become very hot by the afternoon. We would advise you to wear layers in case you get too hot. Opening the windows can be a problem in some rooms because it lets in **moisture** from the outside. (Similarly, for those of you who study at FSU during the summer, the buildings are often very cold even though it is hot outside!)

Language Question

Question: What's the difference between using 'last year' and 'in the last year'?

Answer: Even though these two expressions are similar, they are used very differently.

"Last year" literally means the year before the present year. Since it is now 2016, the

term last year is a synonym for 2015. Since 2015 is finished, we always use the simple past with 'last year'.

Examples: * He **visited** Germany last year.
* Last year, my family **built** a new house.

"In the last year" is an expression that means anytime from today until one year ago. We can also say "within the last year." We use present perfect with this expression.

Examples: * I **have been** to the movies twice in the last year.
* In the last year, my sister **has** probably **read** over 100 books!

Quote of the Week

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined.

- Henry David Thoreau



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strength. skill. character.

This week's vocabulary:

concessions (noun) – a word used to describe food and drink (most often at sporting events)

inspiring (adjective) – something that gives someone hope and encouragement

diverse (adjective) – coming from many different backgrounds and cultures

to pump (verb) – a verb used to describe the activity of putting gas (petrol) into a vehicle

moisture(noun) – water or humidity in the air