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!

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

Center for Intensive English Studies
634 West Call Street
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1127
Phone: (850) 644-4797
Fax: (850) 644-7417
Email: cies@admin.fsu.edu
www.cies.fsu.edu
www.facebook.com/CIES.FSU
Nole News Editor: Andrew Wilson

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.