Happy Birthday U.S.A.

Independence Day marks the U.S.A.’s 240th Birthday

There are many holidays that are celebrated throughout the year in the US. The holidays that are considered the most distinctly American are the 4th of July (Independence Day) and Thanksgiving Day. The 4th of July is when we celebrate the Declaration of Independence, a document that was written to say that America would be a separate nation from Great Britain (England). This document was presented on July 4, 1776. The British disagreed with the document. A long war was fought between the British and the Americans. Finally, America won the war and George Washington became the first president of the U.S.

The 4th of July holiday is often a long-weekend for most people, so people will go visit their friends and family who live in other places. Activities usually include a cookout/barbeque as well as outdoor events like playing sports and going swimming.

We love celebrating Independence Day here at CIES! You will notice that there are American flags and different kinds of decorations all over the building. Take plenty of pictures of this holiday – it would be a great thing to share with your family back home and explain what America is all about.

Because of Independence Day, many businesses will be closed. Most businesses that are ordinarily open on Monday will be closed. CIES as well as the entire FSU campus will be closed on Monday (July 4). Banks and the post office will also be closed. The bus routes may not run as usual this entire weekend, so plan ahead and run your errands in advance. Even though some shops and restaurants may be closed, most stores (including those in the mall) will be open. This is a good weekend to buy items because there are many excellent sales.

Most importantly, there will be a costume contest. We ask all CIES students to wear red, white, and blue clothes on Friday. We will be judging to see who has on the best outfit!

Quote of the Week

Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.

- Thomas Jefferson

Save the Date: July 8 TUBING

As many of you already know, our biggest event of the session is coming up next week! On Friday, July 8, we will be going to the Chipola River to go tubing! We will leave after class that day at 12:30. This is a great chance to spend time with both your friends and teachers. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board and indicate whether or not you need a life jacket. If you cannot swim or do not swim well, you should wear a life jacket to be careful.

Happy Birthday!

Mo Zhou (June 29)
This week’s vocabulary:
- distinctly (adverb) – uniquely; particular to a certain person or place
- errand (noun) – a task that involves a chore or task (such as getting groceries, going to the pharmacy, etc.)
- costume (noun) – clothing that is worn for a particular event or holiday
- tip (noun) – a small and useful piece of advice
- invert (verb) – to switch two things; to change the order of two things

Culture Question

Question: I want to travel to another city, but flying in and out of Tallahassee is so expensive. What should I do?

Answer: This is a question that everyone who lives in Tallahassee has. Here are the best tips to give those of you who would like to travel.

(1) Buy your tickets in advance and check with multiple airlines. Delta, American Airlines, and United all serve Tallahassee. However, United Airlines is partnered with an airline called Silver Airways. Check both airlines’ (United and Silver) websites, because one is often cheaper than the other.

(2) Try to avoid peak travel times. If you are planning a trip after fall semester, plan in early December and not late December. If you are planning a trip in August between Summer II and Fall I, try to search using many different dates!

(3) Other airports are cheaper than Tallahassee. Tampa and Orlando are often affordable, but they are over 4 hours away from Tallahassee! If you calculate the cost of gas to get there (2 round trips equals 1000 miles of driving), it is often cheaper to fly from Tallahassee. Jacksonville is only 2.5 hours away, and it is often even cheaper than Orlando. Another idea is Panama City airport and Albany, Georgia – both of those airports are around 2 hours away. If you have a friend, they could possibly take you to one of those two airports. It is often easier to ask a friend to drive 2 hours instead of 4!

(4) And, as always, plan ahead! If you are traveling internationally from Tallahassee, be sure to arrive early even though your flight from Tallahassee isn’t direct to another country. Sometimes the people at the airport will be very strict about this!

Language Question

Question: Do you always switch (invert) the subject and verb after a WH-word?

Answer: Nope! Not always.

Anytime you are trying to find out specific information in English, you ask questions that start with a WH-word. Some examples are who, what, when, where, why, and how. After these question words, you will switch the order of the subject and auxiliary verb. Auxiliary verbs include modals, the verb ‘be’, and they also include ‘do/does/did’ which are used with questions.

Statements:
- I went to the park.
- Vicky is typing a textbook.

Questions:
- Where did I go?
- What is Vicky typing?

However, you can only have one question in any given sentence! For example, take this sentence:

Could you tell me where can I find the bathroom?

Is this sentence correct or incorrect?

It is incorrect. The words that make this sentence a question are ‘could you’ – the second question is an embedded question and DOES NOT INVERT the subject and the verb.

The correct way to write this sentence:
Could you tell me where I can find the bathroom?

Also, if your sentence is a statement (and not a question) you do not invert the subject and verb.

These sentences are all incorrect:

1 - I wonder what can I eat for dinner tonight.
2 - I need to figure out where am I going for vacation.
3 - Can you tell me who is my teacher?

Write the correct sentences below:

1 -
2 -
3 –

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