



IELP Speaks: Voices from around the World



a product of
the Intensive English Language Program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Volume 2

Fall 2004

Edition 4

What're these?

Each box represents an American idiom or expression. Can you guess what they are? Use the position of the words to help.

1
It is j
u
s
t

2
Men
Men
Men ÷ 2

3
Yo_{ur} Mind

For the answers, look on page 8.

The Director's Corner

by Dr. Alan D. Lytle

During this last year IELP underwent the accreditation process for reaccreditation through AAIEP (the American Association of Intensive English Programs). This organization certifies that a program has a solid curriculum, has a strong faculty with credentials, and has procedures to help its students. I am happy to report that IELP received the reaccreditation through August 2009. This is a wonderful thing for IELP!! I would like to thank the teachers and the faculty because without them, IELP would not be the terrific place it is to study English!

Arkansas Facts

Information is from the Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism

Has Little Rock always been the capital of Arkansas? Arkansas Post was the capital of the Arkansas Territory from 1819 until 1821, when the capital was moved to the new town of Little Rock. Little Rock has been the capital for all but two years. During the Civil War, the Confederate state government was located at Washington in Hempstead County. Old Washington Historic State Park preserves that building and offers insight into a nineteenth century community. For more information on Little Rock, visit <http://www.littlerock.com/>



The Clinton Presidential Center

The William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center and Park officially opened on November 18, 2004. It is the 13th of its kind in the United States and includes the Clinton Library and Archives and the Clinton School of Public Service. To learn more, visit <http://www.arkansasglobe.com/>

The Intermediate Class Learns the Etiquette of Thank You Notes

During the Fall 2004 semester, the Intermediate class learned how to write thank you notes according to etiquette style. Gavin, one of the IELP teachers, worked with the students on this. Following are examples of letters that they wrote:

Dear Jim's class,

Thank you for inviting us to the talent show. That's a very great and wonderful performance. We enjoyed the show very much. We were happy because all the students were together.

We really liked the salad, gifts, earrings, and those songs. We hope next time you can come to see our talent show and we can do as well as yours. We really appreciated that you performed for us.

Thanks to every student for spending time to prepare.

Sincerely,

Hero, Eric, and Erica

Dear Friends,

Thank you for inviting us to watch your talent show. It was a great performance for us. We have good memories and we will keep them forever. Everybody really prepared.

We hope to meet again in another show. Thank you again for perfect activity.

With Love,

Vania and Gerel

Dear Foundation Class,

Thank you for inviting us to enjoy your Talent Show. It was very, very, very, wonderful time. The song was sweetness. The making was amazing and was useful for us to make something. The food was very delicious. We were enraptured and the music video was good.

It was wonderful to spend time with your class and we are looking forward to seeing your class again at the Pot Luck party.

Thanks again for the Talent Show.

With Love,

Apple and Sang

Dear Jim's class,

Thank you so much for the grate invitation to talent show. It was really special for us to be there and looking this beautiful talent show. It made us feel inspired.

It was wonderful to see so many talents and we're looking forward to seeing your next talent show.

Thank you again for the invitation to talent show.

Sincerely,

Nelly and Yeong

Travel Tips

The following travel tips were written by the Intermediate class.

Traveling tips for visitors to Taiwan, South Korea, China, Thailand, Bulgaria, Turkey, and Mongolia

Turkey

If you are going to Turkey on vacation, you should stay in a Turkish hotel. Usually, hotels are moderately priced and have a free breakfast. There are also a swimming pool and a gym. But lunch, dinner and alcohol drinks are not free in hotels.

If you want to travel in Turkey, you can travel by bus. Buses are usually comfortable and have free drinks and breakfast. But you should watch your luggage. It is not safe to put your luggage in the luggage area.

It is OK to take pictures in churches, mosques and historical places.

Turkey offers visitors good shopping, but it can be expensive, especially if shop for clothes. Also, if you don't like something you bought, you can't return it. You never return clothes.

If you want to eat out, you can see different restaurants and different food. But you shouldn't leave a tip for waiters or waitresses. Also, some restaurants serve alcohol with food. You won't be able to eat pork in Turkey and Turkish restaurants don't serve pork.

Kahraman Aslan

Thailand

Thailand is "The land of smiles". If you have ever been to Thailand, you must understand why people call Thailand "The land of smiles". The main reason is that Thai people are so friendly and want to their hands to you. People travel, go shopping, go to restaurants with Thai smiles. A Thai smile has several meanings. Usually we use a smile to greet people. Sometimes, we smile to say "Thank you". Sometimes we smile to answer questions or to avoid answering questions. And sometimes we smile for no reason, just to make people feel good. So, you can be happy in "The land of smiles",

just like I am.

Thai people love and deeply respect our king, and this love and respect are unique. That's why, don't say anything disrespectful about our king.

Buddhism is the main religion in Thailand. There are about 32,000 temples in Thailand with 200,000 monks serving there. Many of these monks are ordained for life. The temples are open to all visitors. It is worth remembering a few things when visiting temples. Disrespect towards Buddha images, temples or monks is not taken lightly. You have to take off your shoes before entering a temple and also, a Thai house. Make sure you are appropriately dressed: long pants are acceptable, but not shorts or sleeveless shirts. Monks observe strict vows of chastity and they cannot be touched by women. You may photograph monks, temples and Buddha images, except for the Emerald Buddha. The head is the most respectful part of a human body, that's why Thai people don't touch older people on their head. You also shouldn't point to things with your foot because it is the least respected part of a human body. It will be considered impolite.

If you go shopping, you can pay less if you bargain, especially in Bangkok. The price depends on your bargain skills and the mood of the seller. But patience and a smile will always get you a better price in Thailand.

Pornpimon Satirapatanagul

South Korea

Let me introduce South Korea. There are some interesting places to visit there. If you are going in summer, you should go to Je-ju Island. It is so beautiful. The island is surrounded by beaches and there is a Mount Han-la. It is a beautiful mountain that used to be a volcano, just like Mount Fuji.

You should also go to Mt. Kumkang. It has 1,200 peaks. But it is located in North Korea, so South Koreans cannot go there. If you are there, be friendly and take your camera to take some pictures.

Sang Eui Lee

Be #1 at IELP!

Mongolia

The Mongols gained fame in the 13th century under Genghis Khan. They conquered a huge Eurasian Empire. Therefore, many people like traveling to Mongolia. Any time is a good time to go to Mongolia. Here are some traveling tips for Mongolia.

First of all, try not to get lost as there are a lot of street names and signs.

There are now over 60 different hotels in the capital city. There is no official classification for these hotels at present, and we hope that there will be one soon. Hotel room prices range from \$15 to \$360 per night. There are also a few small and cheap guest houses for backpack travelers. On the outskirts of the capital there are a few “ger” camps which offer a more traditional style of accommodation.

The capital city Ulaanbaatar is one of the few places in the world where you can stop any car to give you a ride. Potentially, every car in the city is a taxi. They’ll charge the same rates as taxi, around \$3 per km. You don’t need to leave tips in bars, cafes and restaurants in Mongolia.

Finally, the discussed above traveling tips are the most important ones, and I hope these tips will make your traveling easier.

Gerel Altangerel

Taiwan

When you visit our country, there are some important things to know. They are as follows:

- Don’t swim in the ocean from August to October. People believe that the gates of Hell are open during this time and you can be possessed by the souls of evil spirits and ghosts.
- Do not stand under a tree and take pictures of it at night as it is believed that ghosts live under the tree and you can disturb them.
- If you go to a temple during your visit, don’t point to statues of gods. It is considered disrespectful.
- If someone gives you a present you can’t open it in public. You have to take it home and open it there.

- Never give a clock as a present in Taiwan. It is considered bad luck. In Chinese the phrase “giving a clock” means to attend to a dying person.
- If you visit someone in a hospital, you can’t wear white, black, or dark clothes because people wear these colors to the funeral.
- You should not stare at people you don’t know. It is considered offensive and people may even start a fight with you.
- You should not eat anything or chew gum in subway. The police can arrest you and give you a ticket.
- It is a custom to leave some food on your plate on Chinese New Year.

Shu-Ping Yeh, Sung-Ming Yeh, and Yung-Hsiang Lin

China

When you visit my country, there are some important things you should know.

One of the most important things to remember is, you should try to taste the snack of different place. We have different kinds of snack all around China. For example, Nanjing’s snacks have a long history, and the Temple of Confucius is the origin of Nanjing’s snacks and also the place where most of the snacks with a district local flavor are to be found.

If you are a man, another thing to keep in mind is do not try to get the ball which is made in colorful silk when you travel in some national minority area. It is a kind of form to decide the groom. The girl stands on the porch of second floor will throw a ball which is made in colorful silk to the people downstairs. All of the people are male. The girl would get marry with the man who gets the ball. If you have family or you do not like the girl, please not try to catch the ball. Otherwise you must take her home. This is not just a game.

One thing visitors do not realize is you will scare the people who never go out of his village if you take a photo of them. They have never seen a camera, they think you take their souls, and they will die in a minute.

If you come to China during the January or February, you will be able to spend the Spring Festival with Chinese family. The dates for this annual celebration

are determined by the lunar calendar rather than the Gregorian calendar, so the timing of the holiday varies from late January to early February. Far and away the most important holiday in China is Spring Festival, also known as the Chinese New Year. To the Chinese people it is as important as Christmas to people in the West.

Of the three major beverages of the world—tea, coffee and cocoa—tea is consumed by the largest number of people. If you travel to China, you should try the Chinese tea culture.

If you have a fish on the table with Chinese people, and you are traveling by plane or ship, you can not turn over the fish when you finish one side of it. It means bad luck or disaster if you turn over the fish.

If you have chance to pay a visit to China, I hope these tips will be helpful to you.

Xi Chen

Bulgaria

If you go on vocation to Bulgaria, you should take a camera with you because there are a lot of nice places to see.

If you visit a popular monastery in Rila during winter, you should bring more warm clothes. You should also be very nice to people and treat them with respect. You should behave appropriately when you go to church. If you want to travel in Bulgaria, you can take a bus. It is better to buy the bus ticket in advance to make sure there is a seat for you on the bus.

It is a custom to put a candle in front of an icon in a monastery or church for good health. You can also wish for something during the service as people in Bulgaria believe that these wishes can come true. Religion plays an important role in Bulgaria and people treat it with great respect.

If you can't speak Bulgarian, you have to speak English, because English is very popular in Bulgaria and a lot of people can speak English.

Ivanka Davidova

IELP - UALR

An Essay

My Great-uncle's Life

by Kahraman Aslan

My mother's uncle was born in Gumushane in 1899. His name was Meulut. He had a very difficult life. He started working when he was 10. His job was 1000 miles from home. Ten years later he came back home. Then, he got married to two women and had 13 children (8 daughters and 5 sons). Shortly after, he needed more money as ten of his kids got sick. They became blind and they also couldn't walk. So, he really needed more money and his wives didn't work anymore.

When he was 30 years old, he had two jobs. He groomed horses. He got a little bit more money. Ten years later he started studying Koran and shortly after, he got a good job. He memorized Koran and started working for the mosque. His life improved a lot.

One day he came home from work and he was very tired. All the family went to bed early. Next morning, he woke up early. But while he was asleep he saw a dream. In this dream five of his kids died. As soon as he woke up, he went to check on his children. Five of them were dead. Nobody knew the cause of death. He couldn't do anything after that.

Two years later, five more of his children died on the same night and on the same day. So, he had only three children left. His wives died in 1995. His only hobby was to read Koran. He read Koran every day for two hours.

After his wives' deaths, he lived with his last son in his son's house. He died on October 1, 2003. He was the oldest person in my country who died at the age of 104.



Movie Reviews

***Seven* (R, 127 minutes) ***1/2**

Brad Pitt, Morgan Freeman, Gwyneth Paltrow, Kevin Spacey. If you love thriller movies, *Seven* is a beautiful example of a creepy story because during the movie, the atmosphere is always dark and grotesque. This film speaks about two cops. One is a new young detective and the other is a veteran detective who is about to retire. They work together on a strange case because there is a serial killer who designs his murders to represent one of the seven deadly sins. At the end of the movie, when they catch him, he finds a way to punish the person who is guilty of wrath.

Monica Portigliotti

Ghost* (PG13, 1990, 128 minutes) **

Demi Moore and Patrick Swayze are the stars of this classic romantic film about love after life. They were a couple in love, but Sam was murdered, and then he finds that his death was no accident, because his best friend paid for it. He tries to persuade Molly, his girlfriend, about the danger that she is in, using the body of Oda Mae Brown, a psychic who helps them to communicate each other. This is a great and lovely story, because it helps us to understand how much people can do for love and justice.

Lina Uribe

Freaky Friday* (PG, 2003) ***

Jamie Lee Curtis, Lindsay Lohan, Mark Harmon. A perfect mother and her daughter like rock music. One day they switch bodies. They live each other's life for one freaky Friday. The movie will make your family happy.

Min-ji Kim

The Fifth Element* **

Bruce Willis, Mila Jovovich, Brion James, Al Matthews. The basis of the plot is an eternal struggle of Good against

Evil. On a wall of the Egyptian temple a quirky professor finds a prophecy saying that Evil is sleeping and final fight should take place on the Earth in 300 years. Korben Dallas (Bruce Willis), a former fighter and nowadays a simple taxi driver, and the unique surviving crew member of the alien ship's struggle against the Evil. There are the cascades of the adventures which have been filmed incredibly beautifully and stylishly.

Angela Belov

***Big Fish* ***1/2**

Big Fish is an amazing story of Edward Bloom, a father with a huge imagination, and his son William. William wants to know his father's secrets and discover what is fake and what is real before the cancer kills his father. Tim Burton's realization offers the audience an exceptional movie full of strong emotions and fantastic characters.

Laetitia Bourgeon

Top Gun* (1986) **

This is an action/drama/romance of two students of an elite US flying school who compete to be the best in class. One of them (Tom Cruise) has a romance with the teacher. It's an exciting and speedy movie, together with music from Harold Faltermeyer.

Jonas Hesselgren

***Titanic* (1997)**

Titanic is the story of a wonderful ship, wealthy men, beautiful women and worthless poor people. Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet star in the film. History and the stars of the movie made it successful. In the story Jack decides to go to America for a new life and he meets beautiful and rich Rose on the ship. After, they found an imperishable love in spite of all bad events.

Yasemin Karsan



Notting Hill (PG-13, 1999, 124 minutes) ***

Dong Rib Kim

Hugh Grant, Julia Roberts, Rhys Ifans, Emma Chambers, Tim McInnerny, Gina McKee, Hugh Bonneville. Unlike playing a ‘Sabrina’ in *Pretty Woman*, in *Notting Hill*, Julia Roberts was acting as the most successful and richest movie star Anna Scott who fell in love with a common business person, William Thacker (Hugh Grant). Although no new idea shows in this movie, the charming romantic comedy again proves that love can change everything.

Drumline (2002) ***

Devin struggled to succeed in music without the ability to read a score. He was naturally gifted. As a result he faced a lot of challenges. At first, he was denied the opportunity to play with the band of the school that recruited him. Devin was determined and faced up to his opposition, and started on the road to accomplish his goals.

Hui Li

Hesham Al-Madrahi

Old Boy

Lilja Forever (2002)

Oh Dae-soo was a just common white-color worker who sometimes enjoyed drinking with his friends. One day, somebody kid-napped him, and then he was locked in a private jail for fifteen years. He didn’t know why he was kidnapped, who kidnapped him, or where he was. In the private jail he tried to know why he should be locked up, but he could not find an answer. So, he escaped from the private jail and tried looking for a reason why he was locked up.

The Swedish director Lukas Moodysson has done a great job with this touching but depressive movie. A 14-year-old girl from Russia is forced into prostitution to survive when her mother leaves her. With hope of a better life, she takes the chance to go to Sweden, but there it will only be darker. The movie is in Russian, but it’s possible to have English subtitles.

Petra Kindlund

~~ Important Notice ~~

Effective immediately, any current or former IELP student who refers a **NEW** full-time student to IELP **MAY** qualify for \$100 US. *If the new student is part-time or receives a UALR/UAMS discount, you **MAY** qualify for \$50 US. The new student must do the following:*

*Apply to IELP, submitting all required documents.
Receive his/her I-20, if required.*

*Pay all tuition required by IELP.
Attend classes and take the final exams for the first semester.*

*Receive his/her F-1 visa, if required.
Register for IELP classes, credit or non-credit.*

*Not be put on probation or suspended.
Maintain legal immigration status.*

If the student completes steps 1 – 8 above, you will receive \$100 US or \$50 US, either as a \$100 or \$50 IELP tuition reduction or as a check.

If you are a current IELP student, your IELP tuition will be reduced by \$100 or \$50 for your next IELP semester.

If you are a graduating IELP student, you will receive a \$100 or \$50 check mailed to your US or foreign address.

If you are a former IELP student, you will receive a \$100 or \$50 check mailed to your US or foreign address. This is a one time offer. You will receive the \$100 or \$50 **only** for the student’s first semester at IELP. If the student does not complete all eight (8) steps above, you will not receive the \$100 or \$50 compensation. *This offer does not apply if you are employed in the US and part of your work responsibilities require recruitment for UALR. This offer also does not apply to UALR or UAMS employees unless you were an IELP student in the past.*

Any part of this program is subject to change.

Our Crazy Students . . . IELP Course Schedule

What's that



on their

foreheads?



Spring 2005 January 18 - May 13, 2005
Spring A 2005 January 18 - March 11, 2005
Spring B 2005 March 14 - May 13, 2005
(including 1 week of Spring Break)

Summer 2005 May 23 - August 5, 2005

Fall 2005 August 22 - December 9, 2005
Fall A 2005 August 22 - October 14, 2005
Fall B 2005 October 17 - December 9, 2005

Note: Spring A 2005 and Fall A 2005 cannot be used to progress through the IELP levels and cannot be used for UALR admission.

What're these? Answers

1. It's just around the corner - This means that something is very close to your location.
2. Two and a half men
3. You're out of your mind - This means that you are crazy or have a crazy idea.

Classes

Foundations

Nasebah Alansari Sena Birinci Deray Derim
Ki Yeon Kim Yeon-Hak Kim Chu-Cheng Wang

Intermediate

Gerel Altangerel Kahraman Aslan Xi Chen
Ivanka Davidova Soravit Kwangkeow
Sang Eui Lee Yung-Hsiang Lin Anelia Petrova
Pornpimon Satirapatanagul
Ajimah Sukwatwibul Shu-Ping Yeh
Sung-Ming Yeh

Pre-university/TOEFL

Hesham Al-Madhrahi Angela Belov
Laetitia Bourgeon Maria Gomez
Jonas Hesselgren Kyu Ok Jung
Yasemin Karsan Dong-Rib Kim Ji Young Kim
Min Ji Kim Petra Kindlund Hui Li
Joo Hyun Oh Monica Portigliotti Lina Uribe

We'd love to hear from you!

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