



IELI WEEKLY MEMO



University of North Texas

Intensive English Language Institute

Spring 2, 2009

Week VI: April 27— May 1

A. IELI Activities

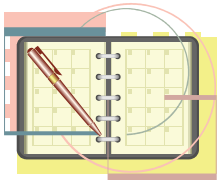
Malibu Speedzone—Friday, May 1, from 6:15 to 10 p.m. Sign up outside Meghan's office (ISB 214) by **Wednesday, April 29**. All IELI students will enjoy one round of mini-golf, one race on the speed track, a \$10 game card, a slice of pizza, and a soft drink. If you would like to play more games or have more to eat, you can purchase them on your own at Speedzone. Non-IELI friends and family are welcome to come, but they will have to pay for their own entertainment at Speedzone. Buses will leave from the corner of Ave. B and Mulberry Street in front of Marquis Hall.

If you signed up and can no longer attend, you must tell Meghan by Wednesday, April 29.



B. Registration

Summer registration:



Blue Pre-Registration forms for Summer 2009 term will be passed out on Monday in Writing classes, except for those students who have only Communication classes.

Payment for summer term classes can be made between **May 5 – May 22**. Payments should be made online or at the Student Accounting office in the ESSC. **Late fee of \$50 goes into effect at 3 p.m. on May 22**. If you need to set up a payment plan, please visit Karolina Sorrells at the payment window in ISB 288.

May Mini-term Information:

Dates: May 18 – June 5, 2009

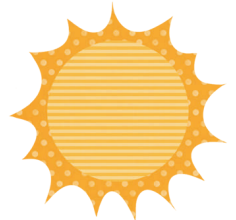
Classes: 5 hours per day for 14 days, with lots of homework!

Levels: 3, 4, 5 and 6 Writing will be offered. We must have at least 10 students for each level to be able to have the mini-term in that level.

To be eligible for the mini-term classes at the end of Spring 2:

1. Students must be ready for Level 3, 4, 5 or 6 Writing, and
2. Students must not have a higher Writing level than Communication Level

To register for the May Mini-term course, please come to the IELI Main Office (ISB 211) on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 8 a.m. Payment of \$1,130.65 should be made **by Friday, May 15, 2009**.



Note:

1. **Students who register for the May mini-term but do not pass their Writing class during Spring II will NOT be automatically registered to repeat the same level of Writing for the May Mini-term.**
2. **There will be only 1 section (14 student max) of each level, so registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.**



E. Graduation



IELI Spring Graduation will be **Friday, May 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** All IELI students are welcome to come and support those who are graduating.

Musicians needed!

Meghan is looking for musicians to perform at graduation. If you sing or play an instrument and would like to perform a short piece during the ceremony, please talk to Meghan in ISB 214.

Photos needed!

IELI is putting together a picture slideshow to play during graduation. If you have taken pictures at an IELI or UNT activity this term and would like to see them in the slideshow, please e-mail them to Meghan.Merchant@unt.edu by Friday, May 7.

D. Spring 2 Exam Schedule

Thursday, May 7:

Friday, May 8:

Monday, May 11:

Exit Composition Final, regular class time

Level 6 Listening Final, regular class time

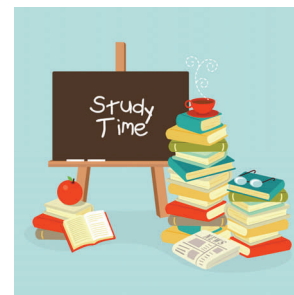
Final Grammar Test

- Levels 3, 4, and 5 — 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Levels 0, 1, and 2 — 1 to 3 p.m.
- Levels 6U and 6G — regular class time

Tuesday, May 12:

Communication Final

- Levels 3, 4, and 5 — 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.
- Levels 0, 1, and 2 — 1 to 3:30 p.m.
- Level 6 reading final — regular class times



Please make travel plans accordingly. No exams will be given early.

E. Reminder

Please keep the IELI Student Lounge clean. Do not leave your trash, food, or drinks on the tables. We want this to be a nice place for students to hang out. Respect your classmates and clean up after yourself.



F. UNT Activities

Doctoral Conducting Recital: UNT Chamber Orchestra—Monday, April 27, at 4:30 p.m., in the Winspear Performance Hall in the Murchison Performing Arts Center. Free. For more information about free concerts in the College of Music, visit: <http://music.unt.edu/calendar>

Local Artists Concert series—Monday, April 27, at 9 p.m., in the Union Syndicate. Come out and watch several local bands perform for free in this special end-of-semester rock concert.

Free movie screening: "Seven Pounds"—Wednesday, April 29, 3 p.m. in the Union Syndicate **and** Thursday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the Union Lyceum. Ben Thomas (Will Smith) is an IRS agent with a fateful secret who embarks on an extraordinary journey of redemption by forever changing the lives of seven strangers.



Track and Field competition—Thursday, April 30, at Fouts Field. This track and field invitational is taking place all day, so stop by and watch.



You Spoke - We Listened!



Last term, all CM students in levels 0-6 filled out a survey about speaking. The survey's purpose was to find out if IELI students are happy with the speaking instruction and practice they receive in their CM, WR, lab, and ASC classes.

Here's what students said:

When asked if the IELI helps students practice and improve their speaking skills, 65 % (194 of out 299 students) either agreed or strongly agreed.

15% of students had no opinion.

20% of students either disagreed or strongly disagreed.

When asked how many minutes a day they speak English outside of class,

64% (190 out of 298 students) replied less than 30 minutes a day.

22% replied between 31 and 60 minutes a day.

14% replied more than 60 minutes a day. Bravo to those students!

Here are some suggestions students gave for how IELI classes can help students improve their speaking skills:

- Make students pay \$1 every time they speak their own language in class
- Do more games in CM class
- Do more grammar speaking practice in WR class
- Watch more movies and video clips
- Give us more opportunity to speak English outside of class (more conversation partners and student activities)
- Do more class surveys at the Union
- Correct our pronunciation more in CM and lab class
- Do more shadowing
- Teach students how to do presentations
- Have class for only speaking
- Bring American students to class
- Do small talk 5 minutes a day in class
- Teach us everyday English
- The student should do it by himself. He should speak English outside of the IELI.



Because of this survey, a committee of IELI teachers is discussing if changes should be made in the IELI curriculum. Some possible changes are to use more video clips in class, give more instruction in how to make a presentation, assign students at least one presentation per term, give students more homework involving speaking (like shadowing assignments), do more class surveys, and be more strict about not allowing students to use their first language in class.

IELI teachers and administrators want to do everything they can to help students become fluent English speakers. We want our students to be able to communicate easily both in and outside of class so that they can make American friends, function in the society, and communicate with their professors and classmates in university classes. However, to become fluent, students must practice outside of class.

Here are some ideas to help you practice speaking English outside of class:

1. Do at least one UNT activity per week. Every week Meghan lists several activities in the Weekly Memo. Choose one to go to every week. If you are shy, ask a friend -who doesn't speak your language- to go with you.
2. Go to all IELI activities and at each activity try to start a conversation with someone who doesn't speak your language.
3. Only speak English while you are at the IELI. Make a deal with your friends to only speak English in the ISB.
4. Get a conversation partner. We now have over 60 American students who lead a conversation group. We probably won't have this program during the summer, but you can ask Meghan about it in the fall.