



# ELI NEWS

English Language Institute • University of Pittsburgh

10-

17-19, Volume 60 Issue 7  
Parkvale Building, Room M13, 200 Meyran Ave • Pittsburgh PA 15260

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ELI Activity:

## Arabic-English Language Social Hour

The ELI has partnered with the Arabic program in the Less-Commonly-Taught Languages Center (LCTL) to offer an Arabic-English Language Social Hour, our last Language Social Hour for Fall term. This is a great way for native speakers of Arabic at Pitt to meet and hang out with domestic students at Pitt who are interested in learning about their language and culture.

Arabic-English  
Language Social Hour  
Monday, November 4  
4:30 to 5:30

Global Hub, first floor of Posvar  
Refreshments will be served

The event is free and open to all Pitt students, faculty and staff, but advance registration is required. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/Arabic-English-Hour-Fall2019>. If you have any questions, contact Rob at [Rob.Mucklo@pitt.edu](mailto:Rob.Mucklo@pitt.edu)

ELI Activity:



Join the ELI on Saturday, **October 26**, as we go to Kennywood Amusement Park. Not only will we get to enjoy roller coasters, including the world's tallest inversion loop on a roller coaster, and other thrill rides,

we'll also get to experience Phantom Fright Nights. During Phantom Fright Nights, the park is decorated for Halloween, with ghosts and zombies wandering the park, a haunted house, and more. There's even an "IT" 4D movie experience and a haunted hospital to tour. Phantom Fright Nights are not recommended for children under 13 years of age.

October 26 is college ID Night, so tickets for this are only \$18.50. That's a significant savings of the regular \$32.99 price of admission. You cannot purchase these tickets in the ELI main office or online; you can only get this discounted rate by purchasing your ticket at Kennywood on October 26 and showing a valid university ID. Please email Rob at [rom17@pitt.edu](mailto:rom17@pitt.edu) to let him know if you will be participating in this activity.

On October 26, we'll meet at the ELI at 5 pm to catch the 61C at 5:15 pm. The park opens at 6:00 pm and closes at 12:00 am. Rob will leave the park at 10:00 pm, but students are free to leave whenever they like.

To watch a short video from Kennywood's Fright Night in 2018, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y3onohqg>.

ELI Activity:



The ELI will again have our annual Halloween Party! The party is scheduled for **Friday, Oct. 25**, from 6:00-9:00 pm. There will be pizza, candy, pumpkin carving, traditional Halloween games, prizes for the best Halloween costumes, and more!

Tickets for the party are \$5 each if you pay by 4:00 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 22. Tickets are \$10 each if you pay after that time. The ticket price will help compensate for the cost of renting the hall, food, candy and prizes. Guests are welcome to join our party. Adult guests pay \$5 each (\$10 after Oct. 26). Children are free, but please tell the main office how many children will attend. You can sign up and pay in the ELI Main office. Please bring the exact amount, cash only. There are no refunds.

Start planning your Halloween costume now. You can create your own Halloween costume or buy one at any retail store (including Target, Walgreens, CVS, RiteAid, etc.). The ELI has some Halloween costumes that we will loan to students. (We do ask for a \$20 deposit for costumes. When you return the costume, you get your money back.) Look for more information about how to rent these costumes in next week's ELI News. Costumes are not required, but they are encouraged. It's fun!

The ELI Halloween Party will be held in the basement hall of First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh at 159 North Bellefield Ave. We are using the church's space because they have a large kitchen we can use for carving pumpkins and a stage we



can  
use  
for

the costume contest. Halloween and Halloween parties are not religious activities. If you have any questions, please contact Rob at [Rob.Mucklo@pitt.edu](mailto:Rob.Mucklo@pitt.edu).

## [www.facebook.com/PittELI](http://www.facebook.com/PittELI) **Halloween Costumes**

The ELI Halloween Party is quickly approaching! Start planning your Halloween costume now. You can borrow a Halloween costume from the ELI, design your own Halloween costume, or buy one at any retail store (including Target, WalMart, Walgreens, CVS, RiteAid, the Halloween store at the Waterfront, etc.). Costumes are encouraged, but not required... although even ELI teachers dress up! If you want help with costume ideas, feel free to ask your teachers, conversation partners and/or Talk Time leaders.

### **Borrow a Halloween Costume from the ELI**

The ELI has some Halloween costumes that ELI students who will be attending the Halloween party can borrow. You can come see the selection in M15 from on **Thursday, October 17, 3:50-5:30 pm**. Costumes will NOT be available outside of this time. Students will be asked to make a \$20 deposit when they borrow the costume. Please bring the exact amount in cash. When students return the costume on Monday, October 28, or on Thursday, November 5, the \$20 deposit will be returned to them. (Students may keep the costumes until Nov. 5 in case they want to attend other Halloween parties.) Contact Rob at [Rob.Mucklo@pitt.edu](mailto:Rob.Mucklo@pitt.edu) if you have any questions.

## **Spooky English Idioms**

This week, we wanted to share a few English idioms in the spooky spirit of Halloween! These idioms consist of scary things that we associate with Halloween and the month of October, such as skeletons, owls, and ghosts.

**Skeleton in the closet**– something you don't want anyone to know about because it may bring shame or embarrassment to you or your family

Ex. Dropping out of college might be a skeleton in David's closet but he's working very hard to graduate now.

**A ghost town**– a place that has been abandoned and there are no longer people living there

Ex. There are lots of students at the ELI for the Fall term, but when students go on vacation, it is like a ghost town.

**Makes one's blood boil**– something that makes you really angry

Ex. It will really make your teacher's blood boil if you don't do your homework!

**A night owl** – someone who likes to be awake and active at night

Ex. Maria is a real night owl! She stays up until 2:00 AM every night practicing her English.

These idioms and more can be found at: <http://onlineenglishlessons.eu/wordpress/2011/10/3-5-phrasal-verbs-idioms-and-sayings-forhalloween/>.

## **International Education Week**

The University of Pittsburgh joins colleges and universities from all over the nation to celebrate International Education Week. For one week every year, the U.S. Department of State and the U. S. Department of Education join with Pitt's University Center of International Studies to produce, support, and coordinate international activities campus-wide. This is a chance to expand your awareness and knowledge of global events and issues, collaborate with and learn from students all over the world, gain new cultural understanding and perspectives, and experience a small slice of the life and diversity

within Pittsburgh and out in the wide world.

Events during this week include, but are not limited to: Language Partner Match, World Brew, International Student Career Conference, and Global Trivia. See [www.internationalweek.pitt.edu](http://www.internationalweek.pitt.edu) for more information and a schedule of events.

## **World Brew: A Global Tea Party**

Tea is an important drink in nearly every culture around the world. Celebrated for its healing properties, tea is the perfect way to begin or end your day. At this International Week event, you'll have the chance to enjoy both hot and cold teas and light refreshments from all around the planet. You'll also be invited to create your own custom blend as a souvenir.

## **Language Partner Match**

The University of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce its Language Partner Match, a program designed to improve your second language and make new friends at the same time. On Thursday, October 17, 2019 from 2-4pm, stop by the Pitt Global Hub (located at 230 S. Bouquet St.) so you can be matched with a Pitt student who wants to help! The goal is to partner you with someone who shares your interests, so you build a friendship while getting personalized language tutoring.

## **Pitt Student Health Service – No Show Fee**

If you are sick, you can schedule an appointment with Pitt's Student Health Service. Call 412-383-1800 to schedule an appointment. If you no longer need your appointment, you must cancel it at least 2 hours before your appointment time. If you do not cancel your appointment at least 2 hours before your time, your Pitt account will be charged a \$10 No Show Fee. Please remember to

cancel your appointments at the Student Health Service if you do not need them.

## **Lest We Forget: A Tribute to Holocaust Survivors**

2019 marks 74 years since the end of World War II, and the population of Holocaust survivors is dwindling. To preserve their stories, "Lest We Forget" is coming to the pathway from the Cathedral of Learning to Heinze Memorial Chapel from October 18- November 15, 2019. This traveling art installation features 60 life-sized portraits of Holocaust survivors, including 16 from the Pittsburgh area. The portraits were taken by German-Italian artist Luigi Toscano, and have been features in some very important places, including: the headquarters of the United Nations, the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, and other sites in Austria, Belgium and Ukraine.

It is intended to raise awareness of the hate and bigotry that unfortunately still exist in this world.

This exhibit comes at a crucial point in Pittsburgh's history, as the community joins together in remembrance of the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting one year ago on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **Pitt Proud: Homecoming Week & ELI Windows**

Over the next few days, the University of Pittsburgh's Paint the Town Young Alumni and Student Committee will paint some of the ELI's classroom and office windows with Pitt symbols, icons, and slogans in celebration of Homecoming Week. Thanks to their efforts, the ELI will proudly be ready to cheer loudly for Pitt!

So what is Homecoming Week?

"Homecoming" is an annual tradition in America when high schools, colleges and universities invite their alumni to "come home" and celebrate Fall festivities. In true

Homecoming tradition, most American football games and festivities occur upon the team's return from their longest road trip of the season, complete with their Marching Band and sometimes the school choir or Colorguard or Dance Teams.

The idea is to inspire pride in alumni for the communities and schools in which they've participated, and to cheer on current students as they play American football on their home turf, crown a Homecoming Queen and her Court, and sometimes attend a banquet in their honor.

After the game and half-time show by the Marching Band, Colorguard or Dance Teams and Cheerleaders, there is usually a Homecoming Dance. This dance is typically formal or semi-formal, and is one of the most-attended dances of the academic calendar. Some students even rent limousines for that extra touch of glam on their way to the dance!

The University of Pittsburgh's Homecoming Weekend starts on October 25<sup>th</sup> this year. Look for more information on Pitt's Homecoming events in the next issue of the ELI News!

## **Niagara Falls Trip Refunds**

ELI Students who attended the Niagara Falls Trip on October 13, 2019 will receive a \$35 refund for the trip. Because so many students attended the trip to Niagara Falls, the cost of the bus was cheaper per student. To get your cash refund, please go to the ELI Main Office (M13). Jean will give you \$35 cash and have you sign a paper to confirm that you have received your \$35 refund. The ELI is able to give \$35 refunds for the Niagara Falls because the cost of the trip was less than anticipated.



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Follow us on Twitter at @UPITT\_ELI

## **ELI Storytellers Series**

One of the benefits of studying at the ELI is the chance to meet and to learn from people with diverse backgrounds and experience. The ELI Storytellers Series gives students an opportunity to share their stories with classmates.

Speakers give a 10-15 minute presentation, followed by a question and answer period. The talks are scheduled during the 12:00 or 1:00 lunch break or after classes at 4:00.

The series is open to all ELI students, and it is a great way to get extra speaking and listening practice outside of class. Your English doesn't have to be perfect! This is a great opportunity to challenge yourself and share your story with ELI friends, teachers and classmates.

How about you? Do you have an interest or a skill you would like to tell us about? Have you accomplished something special or done something fun and exciting? Would you like to share information about your culture or hometown? What is your story? If you are interested in giving a short presentation, email Heather at [hlm44@pitt.edu](mailto:hlm44@pitt.edu).

## **Midterm Grade Report Reminder**

If you have not yet received your Midterm Grade Report, please stop by M13 (Main Office). They are waiting for you to pick them up.

Students with unpaid tuition will not receive their Midterm Grade Reports until the ELI and Student Payment Center can verify that tuition has been paid in full.



## **Quote Corner**

"There are many talented people who haven't fulfilled their dreams because they over-thought it, or they were too cautious, and were unwilling to make the leap of faith." – James Cameron (*Terminator* movies & *The Titanic*)

SOUND OFF: Do you agree with Mr. Cameron that people don't chase their dreams because they are scared or insecure? What is stopping you from achieving your dreams? What are you doing right now to make your dreams come true? What will you do in the future?

## ELI Idiom of the Week



An **idiom** is a phrase or expression whose meaning might not always be clear from the words that make it up.

*“Put your head in the sand/bury your head in the sand”*

to ignore an unpleasant situation and hope it will stop if you do not think about it

You will never solve your problems if you just put your head in the sand. You have to do something about them.

adapted from [www.ldoceonline.com](http://www.ldoceonline.com)