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# CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies



The Frederick L. Jenks

Center for  
Intensive  
English Studies

at The Florida State University

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## Sensational Summer Session

*A welcome from our director, Dr. Patrick Kennell*



Welcome everyone to

summertime in Tallahassee. This is sure to be a very exciting summer here at CIES. Many of you who are returning will find some new faces and have some teachers whom you have probably never had before. Summer is usually the time of year where college campuses are quieter and less busy. However, we've got over 120 students this session, so there will be as much going on this session as every other time of the year. We have activities planned every week, and lots of these activities will be outdoors. Even though the weather is hot, you'll have lots of chances to stay cool during our trips to the Rez, Wakulla Springs, and Panama City.

We also have over two dozen new students this session. These students come from Asia, Europe, Africa, and South America. If you see an **unfamiliar** face, talk to them! Not only will this improve your English, but you may get a chance to meet someone from a place that you don't know much about.

And always remember, here at CIES we are a family. All of you are members of that family, and we want everyone to have a truly awesome academic experience here. This Nole News is a great way to find out what is going on here at CIES, and I hope you read it carefully every week. If there are problems that you may have, please let us know so we can help you make the most of your time here in Tallahassee. I look forward to getting to know all of you.

### Perfect Attendance ☺

Each session at CIES moves very quickly; it is important that everyone come to class every day. We love it when students come to class and there are 8 students who came to class every day last session. Lacey Moret and Dr. Kennell would especially like to congratulate the following students on their perfect attendance during Spring II session:

Sajjaa Abahussain  
Ghadeer Aldahlawi  
Saeed Aldahlawi  
Ahmed Alghamdi

Manal Alamri  
Duo Chen  
Rikako Hiraoka



### Time to go bowling!!

Our first activity this session will be a trip to Crenshaw Lanes here at the Oglesby Union. After a long week of class, this is a great way to relax and chill with some of your new and old friends. We will all meet at **Crenshaw at 1pm this Friday May 1**. You may want to wear a pair of socks since you'll be renting bowling shoes. Don't forget to grab a quick lunch after reading class and before bowling. You don't want to be hungry when you go bowling! If you have any questions, ask Jen Dickinson.



### Getting to Know: Calyn Stringer

There are many people who enjoy calm and relaxing lives. Calyn Stringer is the opposite – she is someone who **thrives** on having many things to do and helping people everywhere she goes. Calyn has been at CIES for 3 ½ years, and many of you have had her as a teacher. She is a very organized and **efficient** teacher, and her classes always have lots of energy. Calyn and her husband (Kenley) have traveled to international destinations, but they're both originally from Tallahassee. She actually met her husband when she was in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. However, it wasn't love at first sight – Calyn didn't like Kenley when she first met him. It wasn't until college that she changed her mind, and now they have been married over 4 years. Calyn does volunteer work with her church, and always helps



out with CIES river tubing, volleyball and 4<sup>th</sup> of July events. During her free time she reads and sometimes shares her favorite stories with her reading classes. (Her favorite class to teach, however, is grammar.) Calyn is also an avid jogger, and Jen Dickinson makes Calyn ride her bike often. This past year has been a very busy year for Calyn. Several months ago she and her husband **adopted** four children who had originally come from another home. Most married couples have one kid at a time, but Calyn went from having 0 children to 4! Calyn is getting ready to have a baby in July, so she will then have 5 children. Calyn's little children have lots of energy and are full of love. If you see her kids at a CIES event, you should dance with them; they really love to dance and move!

## Do you drive to Campus?

**VERY IMPORTANT.** If you drive to campus, please attend an important parking meeting on **Wednesday at 3pm in the computer lab.** The parking rules at FSU will change next week. Please bring your car's license plate number & other information (make, model, year, and color) to the meeting. See the notice at the front desk for more information.

## Happy Birthday

Jasmine Carnell (April 29)  
Obaid Aldousari (April 29)  
Ali Alfaraj (May 5)

## Culture Question

*Question: What is a good amount to tip at a restaurant in America? Should I always tip?*

A: Although there is no law about tipping servers at a restaurant, it is a practice that you should always do!! If you are at a restaurant where you sit down and food is brought to you, it is expected that you will tip between 15% and 20%. The exact amount is up to you. If the service is **exceptional**, you may want to tip even more. Most people will make the amount of the tip add up to an even dollar amount. If your lunch bill is \$11.65, you might tip \$2.35 cents which will round up to \$14.00. If you are at a restaurant where you do not order sitting down or at a buffet restaurant, you do not have to leave a large tip. At most restaurants like this, you would

probably tip a dollar or two. Even if your service is terrible, you should still leave a small tip. Most American servers at restaurants get paid very little money, so it is important to at least leave a little something. If you leave a 10% tip, that will suggest to the server that he or she should work on their waitering skills! One final thing to remember is that the tipping percentage varies amongst US cities. If you visit a larger city like New York or Los Angeles, it is customary to tip between 20% and 25%.

## Language Question

*Question: When should I use commas in the middle of the sentence?*

Answer: Commas are difficult for native English speakers. There are times when it is difficult to determine if you use a comma or not, but there are a few simple rules. This week we'll talk about coordinating conjunctions – Rule #1.

1. Two complete sentences: If you have one sentence that has a subject and verb in both parts of the sentence and is connected with *and, or, but, yet, or so*, then you should use a comma. Ask yourself: 'can the part before and the part after the comma stand alone?' If the answer is yes, then use a comma. If not, then do not use a comma.

COMMA ☺:

- We could go out tonight, or we could stay in and watch a movie. (2 complete sentences combined with 'or')
- The Nole News is such a great newsletter, and I think the editor is a smart guy. (2 complete sentences combined with 'and')

NO COMMA ☹:

- Sarah will visit Seattle next week and see her sister there. (Even though we use the word 'and', the second part of the sentence is not a complete sentence, so we do not use a comma.)
- He's an awesome singer but not a good dancer. (The second part of the sentence after 'but' is not a complete thought.)

Some sentences will start with an adverb or use subordinating conjunctions. We'll talk about commas using these words next week.

## Language Puzzle

Modals are verbs that can tell you more about the speaker's attitude about the main verb. Modals can be used to express ability, possibility, permission, and necessity. They can be used in past, present, and future contexts. Find the modals scrambled below: (Courtesy of Mignon Fogarty – The Grammar Devotional)

doulc \_\_\_\_\_ lashl \_\_\_\_\_  
himgt \_\_\_\_\_ oldwu \_\_\_\_\_  
stmu \_\_\_\_\_ ntonca \_\_\_\_\_

## Quote of the Week

We must come to the point where we realize the concept of race is a false one. There is only one race, the human race.

–Dan Akroyd



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This week's vocabulary:

**unfamiliar (adjective)** – not familiar; not knowing about; strange

**thrive (verb)** – to be fortunate and successful; to grow well; to flourish

**efficient (adjective)** – satisfactory; not wasting time; competent; capable

**adopted (verb or adjective)** – to choose or take as one's own; to take and raise the child of other parents

**exceptional (adjective)** – extraordinary; unusually excellent; wonderful and rare