

- Thursday CIES activity
- Notes from the office
- Shout-out to Rebecca Turk!
- Summer CIES Voices
- Language & Culture Questions

CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies



Volume 8, Issue 3



Food Trucks @ Lake Ella

CIES makes a visit to Food Truck Thursday

In the last few years, food trucks have become very popular all over America. Food trucks usually have smaller menus than other restaurants, and they usually specialize in a very particular kind of foods. Food trucks are **mobile**, and they might appear in different neighborhoods in the city on different days. Food trucks are small, so they do not have much room for a refrigerator. As a result, food at food trucks tends to be very fresh and often healthy as well.

There is a food truck tradition here in Tallahassee. Food trucks in Tallahassee gather around Lake Ella every Thursday evening. Lake Ella is a beautiful lake in the center of Tallahassee. Families will go to try many different varieties of food, and they will often have a picnic there as well. Some of the various food trucks at Lake Ella sell food such as shrimp, barbecue, and even cupcakes!

This Thursday CIES will be attending Food Truck Thursday. **We are going to meet here at CIES Thursday at 6pm and then head over to Lake Ella.** If you would prefer to drive yourself, please meet us at Lake Ella at 6:15. Please bring money for food. You may also want to bring a blanket to sit on as you eat dinner. There will also be music being performed. This is a fun activity for everyone!

Notes from the office

* Many of you are going home for the Summer II session beginning in June. If you have studied for CIES for four sessions in a row (since August), you can travel without **restrictions**

If you have not studied for four sessions or more, you must show Lacey a plane ticket with a departure date on or **before June 23** and you can come back to the United States on or **after July 22**. If you do not have the correct travel dates, you cannot have your I-20 signed.

No matter what your situation, everyone must have their I-20 signed before you travel!

** **Does your I-20 have a barcode on the front page? If so, you must see Lacey to get a new I-20.** There is a new version that every student is required to have by July 1. Please see her as soon as possible.

Congrats to Ms. Rebecca Turk!

As many of you know, your teacher, Rebeca Turk, is a very talented **musician**. She plays the guitar and sings many songs. She often plays on the weekends in and around Tallahassee. Her musical ability recently allowed her to travel to Nashville, Tennessee. Nashville is the home to country music, and it is one of the most famous music cities in the United States. When she was in Nashville, she toured many famous music places, and she even

got to be on a TV program called Entertainment Weekly. This was a great opportunity for Rebecca, and it is a great



way for thousands of people to hear her musical ability.

Check out the following link to hear one of the songs that Rebecca wrote and sang:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-376353712/slow-fuse-1>

Calling all writers

Some of you will be leaving CIES next month. If you won't be here next session, we encourage you to start thinking about the things that you have written here at CIES. There is a writing competition at CIES called **CIES Voices**. The next competition won't be until July, but anything that you write this session can be included! Even if you leave, your writing can still be published on the internet and your name **engraved** on the plaque in the lobby. Next time you write something good, be sure to share it with your teacher.

This week's birthdays

Ah-young Kim (May 18)
Bader Alajmi (May 19)
Nhan Nguyen (May 19)
Jen Dickinson (May 23)
Abeer Hashim (May 24)

Culture Questions

Question: Why is sweet tea so popular at restaurants?

Answer: For those of you who have visited any restaurant in Tallahassee, you've probably noticed that one of the most popular **beverages** is sweetened iced tea. Iced tea is fairly common in many parts of the United States, but sweetened iced tea is generally only found in the southern states. Amongst **Southerners** (such as your Nole News editor), it is the most popular beverage with meals.

Outside of the South, some people find sweet tea to taste too sweet. Tea was originally brought to America by the British hundreds of years ago. In the 1800's, iced



tea started being served (likely as a cool treat in hot climates). The popularity grew, especially in the South, and most Southerners found it easier to sweeten the tea before

adding ice. Since sugar doesn't dissolve as easily in cold water, people choose to sweeten their tea while it is still hot and before cooling it.

If you haven't tried real sweet tea (not the bottled kind), you should definitely do it before leaving Tallahassee! It can be found at almost every restaurant. And, if you find it too sweet, you may want to mix it with unsweetened tea. It is the perfect summertime beverage.

Language Question

Question: If I have two words connected by the word 'or' in the subject of my sentence, is the verb singular or plural?

Answer: This is an important grammar question. Let's look at the sentence below using 'and'.

Juan and Ahmed play Frisbee in the park every weekend.

In this sentence, even though 'Juan' and 'Ahmed' are both singular, the use of 'and' makes the subject plural. **Any time there is a compound subject using and, the verb is always plural.**

However, with 'or' it is a little bit different. If both parts of the complex subject are singular, then the verb is also singular.

My brother or best friend picks me up on Wednesday afternoons. (Both words are singular, so we have a singular verb 'picks')

If both parts of the compound subject are plural, then we use a plural verb.

My cousins or my friends always help me when I have trouble. (Both words are plural, so we have a plural verb 'help')

If one part of the compound subject is singular and one part is plural, then the verb agrees with whichever subject is closer.

The twins or Johnny was guilty. (The verb agrees with 'Johnny'.)

Johnny or the twins were guilty. (The verb agrees with 'twins'.)

If these rules confuse you, then simply avoid having a complex subject with 'or' and then you hopefully won't make any errors. 😊

Quote of the Week

Deeds without sincerity are like a traveler who carries dirt in his water jug. The carrying of it burdens him and brings no benefit.

- Ibn al-Qayyim



Center for Intensive English Studies

634 West Call Street

Tallahassee, FL 32306-1127

Phone: (850) 644-4797

Fax: (850) 644-7417

Email: cies@admin.fsu.edu

www.cies.fsu.edu

www.facebook.com/CIES.FSU

Nole News Editor: Andrew Wilson

This week's vocabulary:

mobile (adjective) – the ability to move from one place to another; not staying still

restriction (noun) – something that prevents you from doing something else

musician (noun) – someone who plays, performs, or sings music

engrave (verb) – to have a name carved in metal or another hard substance (usually as an honor or special recognition)

beverage (noun) – a drink, usually a drink that goes along with a meal

Southerner (noun) – describes someone from one of the southeastern states in the US (south of Washington and east of Texas)

burden (verb) – to cause great difficulty or stress for someone; something that is very difficult