

# The ESOL

# Ambassador

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### The ESOL Ambassador

The ESOL Ambassador is a quarterly publication of the Sylvania ESOL Department. Essays are written by students at all levels of the program and submitted for publication by ESOL instructors.

Subscriptions: The ESOL Ambassador is distributed to various individuals and departments at PCC. If you wish to receive issues regularly, please contact Sarah Bailie at CT 206 or by email at [sarah.bailie@pcc.edu](mailto:sarah.bailie@pcc.edu).

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*Special thanks to all teachers  
who contributed  
student work.*



## ESOL Level 1 Students Write about their Homes

My name is Jin. I live in Portland now. I live in a medium-sized house with my husband and two children. My mother lives in an apartment in Seoul, Korea. My sister lives in Seoul, too. I like to go to the movie theater, drink coffee, and walk the street with my mom and my sister.

My daughter's name is Inoo. Inoo is 12 years old. She has one brother. She likes to watch cartoons and play tag.

Written by: Seh Jin Hong

My name is Nayely. I'm from Mexico but I live in Tualatin, Oregon, now. I live in an apartment with my husband, my son, and my daughter. My mother lives in a house with my sister and nephew. They live in Mexico.

My sister's name is Vivi. She is from Mexico. She is a teacher.. Viv is 36 years old. She has one brother and two sisters. They live in Atlanta, Georgia.

Written by: Nayely Cortes

My name is Linda. I am from China. I am married. My hair is black and my eyes are brown. I live in Oregon now. I live with my husband and my children.

My children's names are Miranda and Guoming. They are students. Miranda is 11 years old. My son is 7 years old. We live near a park and my children like playing in it. We're very happy here in Portland.

Written by: Linda Tang

My name is Yevhenii. I'm from Kremenchuk, Ukraine, but I live in Portland, Oregon, USA now. I live in a medium-sized house with my mother and her husband. My father lives in Ukraine. I really miss home in Ukraine.

Written by: Yevhenii Syrotenko



My name is Zonyu Li. I'm from China. My birthday is October 15th. I'm 18 years old. I like to watch anime, read, and cook. My favorite colors are black, white, blue, and gray. I want to travel around the world. Maybe it's just a dream. I really like Chinese food because I like spicy food. Now I want to eat hot pot.

My family has three people, my stepfather, my mother, and me. My stepfather's name is Jack. He is from Springfield, Illinois. He likes to read and learn about other cultures. My mother's name is Min. she is from Sichuan, China. She likes to cook and play mahjong with her friends.

Written by: Zongyu Li

This is Tome. He is a student at Beaverton High School. He speaks Vietnamese and English. He is from Vietnam. He likes to play soccer and anime. He is my son. He lives in Beaverton with my family. We live in a medium-sized house. I am very happy with my family.

Written by: Loan Do

My name is Ivan. I'm from Russia but I live in Lake Oswego, Oregon now. I live in a medium-sized apartment with my wife. My wife and I are retired. We came to Oregon because here lives our son with his family.

My son's name is Mike. he is a programmer. He lives in Lake Oswego, Oregon, too. He lives in a house with his wife and his son. Their house is not far from our apartment. His wife's name is Rita. She is an accountant. Their son's name is Tomas. He goes to the elementary school. He is in the first grade.

Written by: Ivan Golovnykh

My name is Klavdia Golovnykh. I live with my husband in an apartment. Our apartment is old. It is on the third floor and has two bedrooms and two bathrooms, a big living room, a dining room, and a small kitchen. The apartment has a balcony. My address is 71 Oswego Summit. My son lives in a house. His house is near my apartment. I have a grandson. He is seven years old. He goes to school in the first grade. The apartment is near a park. I like to walk in the park. I like to plant flowers, but I do not have a garden. We have very friendly neighbors. I like my apartment.

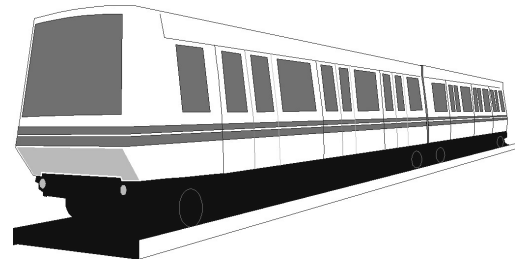
Written by: Klavdia Golovnykh

## An ESOL Level 2 Student Writes about his Apartment

### My Apartment

My apartment is in Tigard. It is medium size and is new. It is white inside and blue outside. The apartment has two bedrooms. I have one room and my brother has the other bedroom. I like my apartment because it is near the transit center and the mall. I also like it here because rent is very cheap.

Written by: Daniel Alexande Linares Ostorga



## ESOL Level 2 Students Write about People Who are Different from Themselves

### Svetlana and Jorge

My name is Jorge and my girlfriend is Svetlana. We love each other, but we are different in many ways. For example, I like to be outside on hot days. Svetlana doesn't like to be outside on hot days. I like to watch scary movies. Svetlana doesn't watch scary movies. She likes cartoons. I love to eat meat, but she loves vegetables. My girlfriend loves to cook. I don't cook. She likes to take showers with cold water. I don't like cold water. I like to go to the gym, but she doesn't like the gym. We are different, but we love each other.

Written by: Jorge Hernandez

### Grandpa and Grandson

My name is Lada. My grandson is Patric. We are very different. For example, I like to listen to classical music. Patric doesn't like to listen to classical music. He likes rap and hard rock. I like to play chess. Patric doesn't like to play chess. It's not interesting for him. Patric likes to speak English. I like English too, but I don't speak it very well.

Written by: Lada Markley

### Ana and Marcelo

My name is Marcelo and my wife is Ana. We have some differences. She likes loud music, and I like soft music. I like to fix cars, but she doesn't like to help me. I like to walk in the afternoon. Ana doesn't like to walk. She likes to watch TV in the afternoon. I like vegetables. My wife doesn't like vegetables. She likes to go to the store, but I don't like to go. I like to clean the house. She doesn't like to clean the house. I like to cut the grass, but she doesn't like to do yard work.

We are the same in some ways, also. For example, my wife likes to dance, and I like to dance, too.

Written by: Marcelo Parra Cruz

ESOL Level 2



## ESOL Level 3 Students Write about Their Native Countries

### Kurdistan

Kurdistan is in the north of Iraq. Its borders are Turkey to the north, Iran to the east, Saudi Arabia to the South and Syria to the west. Erbil is the capital. The population is over 5 million. Kurdistan has four cities which are Slemani, Duhok, Kirkuk and Halabja. Kurdistan is so cold and rainy in the winter but the summer is very hot. The spring is a very nice time to go for a picnic. The people there are very friendly.

Written by: Ihsan Omar



### Guatemala

Guatemala is in Central America between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. It borders Mexico to the north and west, El Salvador and Honduras to the south, and Belize to the east. Guatemala City is the capital. The population is over seventeen million. Guatemala is the country of eternal spring. It has more than twenty volcanos and beautiful lakes. Two of the major cities are Quetzaltenango and Alta Verpaz. It has two seasons in the year, summer and winter. Agriculture and tourism are two of the major industries. I don't know the population. I love Guatemala.

Written by: Lenin Guerrero



### The Beaches of Guerrero State

Guerrero State receives hundreds of tourists per year. Tourism is the major industry. The beaches of Guerrero are some of the most famous in the world. Such as Acapulco, Zihuatanejo, and Ixtapa. Also, the tourists do a lot of water sports. There are many nightclubs where the tourists dance and eat. So many residents work in tourism. I love my home country but now I can't go there. Maybe I will go there later. In conclusion, the beaches of Guerrero State are the most well known in Mexico and in all of Latin America.

Written by: Isidoro Victoriano





## Mexico

Mexico is located in the southern part of North America. It is bordered by the United States to the north, to the west by the Pacific Ocean, to the southeast by Guatemala, Belize, and the Caribbean Sea, and east by the Gulf of Mexico. Mexico is the sixth largest country in America, with a population of 120 million people. Mexico has 31 states a federal district that is also a capital. The major cities of Mexico are Guadalajara, Monterrey, Puebla, Toluca. Mexico is the land of extremes, with high mountains and deep canyons. There are deserts in the north and dense rain forests in the south and on the coast. Mountains cover much of Mexico, the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range in the east and the Sierra Madre Occidental in the west. Mexico has seven main climate regions: tropical wet, tropical wet and dry, semi arid, arid, humid, subtropical, and mediterranean.

Written by: Nancy Trejo

## Iran

Iran is a country in southwest Asia. Its borders are Azerbaijan, Armenia, Turkmenistan to the north, Afghanistan and Pakistan to the east and Turkey and Iraq to the west. Tehran is the capital of Iran. Iran's population is 80 million. Iran has a diverse climate but generally the weather is hot and dry. Iran has beautiful beaches. There are two mountain ranges. There are several deserts and there is a gulf in the south. There are many forests in the north. Tehran and Mashhad are the two major cities or biggest cities. Oil, petrochemical, natural gases, and tourism are the most important industries in Iran. Iran is a powerful country in Asia.

Written by: Maryam Bazrafshan

## My Home Country

Vietnam has a lot of bays and there are many famous foods. Pho is a famous food in my country. In Vietnam there aren't any deserts but there are many forests. Vietnam has 70 million people. The weather in my country is very hot in the summer and there is a lot of rain in the spring. In Vietnam there isn't any snow so there is no winter in my country. The streets in my country are so narrow that people don't drive cars. They drive mopeds. Vietnam has the biggest cave in the world. It's called Son Doong. The famous bay in my country is called Ha Long Bay, so there are many visitors every year.

Written by: Mai Vo

## ESOL Level 3 Students Write about Important People in Their Lives

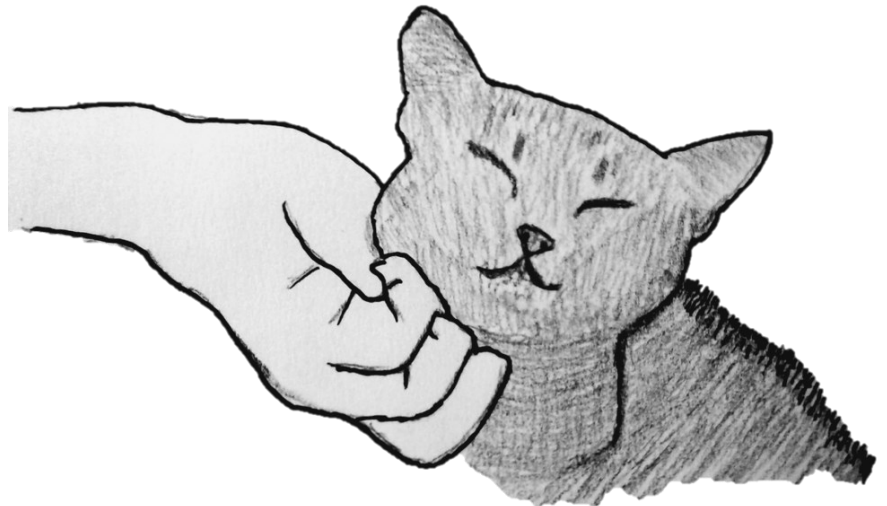
I have a best friend. Her name is Maria. She is from Mexico. She has three children, one boy and two girls. She worked at Ametek company together with me. She is very beautiful and happy. If you didn't know something or needed something something explained, she helped everyone. When you talked with her she was very friendly and so nice. But my company closed. She had to find another job. She didn't go to school. Sometimes on the weekend, we went out together. We ate a lot of food and saw very funny movies. Sometimes, she sent me a picture about her family. She usually called me if she had time. I want to call her and meet her again. She always is the best friend. I will never forget her.

Written by: Kim Cao

I have a husband. His name is Donald. He is very kind. He speaks Cantonese and English. He works at a computer company. He drives to work every day. Before he goes to work, he drives me to school. On weekends we go to supermarkets to buy meat, fruit, and vegetables. On Saturdays, we go to restaurants to have brunch. Although he works very hard, he also takes me to visit places in Oregon. For example, he takes me to Mt. Hood, Multnomah Falls, and Spirit Mountain Casino.

When I came here, I didn't adapt to the cold weather. He bought some clothes for me. Portland's other name is the "Rose City." There are a lot of flowers in Portland. My nose is allergic. He bought medicine for me. Although I'm by myself in Portland, I feel very warm.

We have a male cat. He is very shy. We like him. My husband takes care of him on Saturday mornings. I help my cat comb his hair. We get along well. I love my family.



Written by: Qili (Maggie) Yan

## Happy Days

### The Day I Got My Citizenship

The day I got my citizenship was the best day of my life. I was very happy to become an American citizen. My husband and my daughter were there, and my daughter was a year and a half old. I dressed her up very nicely for the occasion. My husband was very happy for me, but he was so anxious to get there because of parking. That day, there were three hundred people getting their citizenship at the same time. When we got there, parking wasn't easy to find. Near the entrance, there were people selling picture frames for our citizenship certificate. The room was large and spacious, with hundreds of metal folding chairs. People dressed up nicely, and drove clean and classic cars. I felt very happy inside of me. Then people started sitting down. They read an oath to the Constitution for everyone to repeat, and that made me feel so important and so big. I told myself that my life was about to change by being an American citizen. That day, I knew that I would have a better future in America, so that was the best day of my life.

Written by: Ngone Vaught  
ESOL Level 4 Writing



### My Childbirth

I have unforgettable memories when I gave birth to my first baby. It was a snowy day and five days before Christmas. First of all, it was a time to know how much my husband loved me. He sat up with me and shared my pains all through the night while I was in labor for 10 hours with my baby. It made me ease my pains and feel better. What is more, I could realize his love again. Also, I cannot forget the time I met my baby for the first time. When I saw his face, he was gorgeous and marvelous. He had a few strands of hair, thick lips, a flat nose, and a wrinkled face. He looked like a tiny angel. He cried loudly, but he stopped crying as soon as I started to hug him. Besides, I felt that I had a real family when I hugged my husband and baby. I felt a shudder and my heart overflowed with joy. I made myself a promise to love them forever. That day is my magical day.

Written by: Sunmi Min  
ESOL Level 4 Writing

## The Birth of My First child

I have many picture sin my mind about the day when I gave birth to my daughter. It was April, so she was like the spring in my life. On that day, I went to the hospital with my mother and my husband. I saw the doctor. Then after the examination, he told me that the baby had a weak pulse, so I had to get a caesarean section. After I woke up from the anesthetic, I saw this small beautiful baby girl. Her health was good, her hair was black, and her eyes were large and black. I felt great joy. She was my daughter. She was crying. She needed me. I love my daughter. I'm proud of her. I remember this day every year.

Written by: Nashaa Aldhahi

ESOL Level 4 Writing

## Excitement of 'First'

One, two, three, four, . . . eleven! There are eleven people in my family in all. After four siblings and I became grown-ups, it was more complicated for my family to meet all together, and I was supposed to study in the U.S. in six months. That was why we went on our trip. My family's first trip became the happiest time for me. Jeju Island is the place that is the biggest island in Korea and a popular tourist attraction like Hawaii. We finally arrived there. All the members in my family looked completely happy. My five-year-old nephew started singing in the car, and we started singing along with her. Music is really powerful. It made our family members just one. We also saw extensive and beautiful beaches out the window. After a while, we arrived at one of the sights. Seongsan Sunrise Park is located at the eastern tip of Jeju. To go to the peak, we climbed for thirty minutes. We took pictures several times at the top of the mountain. At first, my dad closed his eyes, and then a butterfly flew toward us. It was so funny. We were so hungry due to hiking a long time, so we ate black pork belly, the main dish of Jeju, at a famous restaurant. Its various side dishes were also very delicious and fresh. We didn't stop eating although we were full already. All day we were together. It was time to make our relationship even more glowing.

Written by: Sungmin Yoon

ESOL Level 4 Writing



## My Graduation

I have wonderful memories of my graduation day. To graduate from high school means a lot for a young guy in Paraguay. Normally, male students leave school early to go to work. My parents were very proud of me. They invited all of my aunts, uncles, and my grandfather. My aunts and uncles came with presents, but the biggest present was from my grandfather. He gave me some money to start college. At the ceremony, I walked with my mom in front of the whole community to receive my diploma. As I was walking, I was thinking about how after 12 years this is the last time I would wear my school uniform, which was black dress shoes, dark blue pants with a black belt, and a white shirt with a simple black tie. The ceremony was in the conference room. It started at 5:00 p.m. and finished two hours later. After that, we walked to the gym, where we had dinner with our invited guests. When the dinner was over, the DJ announced the 21 new graduates. We stood up, held hands, and sang a friendship song. Most of us had been together since first grade. It was an emotional moment for all of us. After that, we made a toast with apple cider and started dancing. Soon many of the other people joined us on the dance floor. We danced until the sun came up. I had so much fun that day. That is why it was one of the favorite days of my life.

Written by: Euclide R. Galvez

ESOL Level 4 Writing

## Special Rooms

### My Living Room

My favorite room in my house is the living room. Most of the room is occupied by a large brown couch. In front of the couch, there is a coffee table that I made by hand using three different kinds of wood. There are two windows in the room. One of the windows looks out to the front yard, and the smallest looks out to my neighbor's house. On the wall with the small window, there is a fireplace with black framing surrounded by light brown tiles. There is a wood mantle and on top of it my TV. Also on that wall, there is a dartboard and a frame with three dried butterflies. On the right side of the couch, there are five pictures on the wall of family members and some of my wife and me from our wedding. On this wall, there is a map of South America, too. I like to sit on the couch, read a book, or watch sports And movies. I like to play card games on the coffee table and play darts with my friends. That is why I like my living room.

Written by: Euclide Gálvez

ESOL Level 4



## My Kitchen

My favorite place in my apartment is the kitchen because there are several things that make me happy. When you go into my kitchen on the right side, there is a white cabinet and a white refrigerator near the walls. I print a lot of food and fruit photos and stick them on the refrigerator door to make my refrigerator look nice and very cute. Next to the refrigerator, there is a light brown wooden table with five leather chairs. Opposite the table, there is a clock hanging on the walls. Under the clock, there is a big photo frame. There are a lot of fruit and food cartoon photos inside the photo frame. They make my kitchen look fresh and colorful. On the left side of the clock and photo frame, there are two white cabinets. Inside the cabinets, there are a lot of snacks, instant noodles, and bakery equipment. Next to the cabinets, there is a cooking stove with an oven on the bottom. There is a white cabinet, a dishwasher and a sink. Above the sink, there is a big window. There is an old glass bottle with flowers on the window shelf. I can see the neighboring house and view outside. I like the view the most when it is snowing. I feel relaxed when I'm cooking some food for my brother and my sister. I like to spend time in my kitchen.



Written by: Phantira Chaipatikul  
ESOL Level 4 Writing

## My Favorite Room

My favorite room in my house is the living room. The living room is a very comfortable place for me in my house. There is a new dining table with four chairs on the right side of the living room. They are made of dark brown wood. There is a gorgeous balcony on the left side of the living room. The balcony has a nice view. I can't take a rest there now because it is still too cold! I want to drink some coffee at the balcony when the weather gets warmer. There is a big gas heater next to the door of the balcony. It is too old, and it's not enough to warm the whole house, so I bought a new heater. There is a window on the wall, and there is a big sofa under the window. There are two striped cushions on the sofa. The sofa is bigger than my bed when I pull out the bed, so sometimes I take a nap on the big sofa. There is a black floor lamp next to the sofa. The lamp has three bulbs. It makes my living room very bright. I spend most of my time in my living room. This place is very warm and comfortable. It makes me very happy.

Written by: Kyungbin Woo  
ESOL Level 4 Writing

### My Favorite Place

My favorite place at my house is not inside of my house. It is outside. I live on a blueberry farm, and the field of blueberries is across from my house. I like to go to the field in the summer to walk. It takes me 45 minutes to travel around the field.

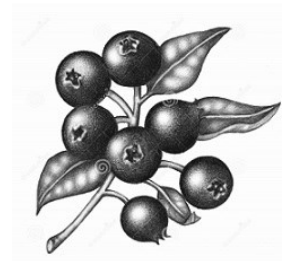
The reason why I like to walk in the field is because I like the forest. The forest makes me feel calm and peaceful. There is also a river. It is about 200 feet wide and three miles long. In this river, it is easy to spot beavers swimming. When I walk in the field, I find different kinds of blueberries. Some are sour and others are sweet.

The most interesting thing about the place is that when you go into the forest, the only sounds you hear are the water of the river flowing and the sounds of birds singing. I also see bees collecting pollen, which they make into honey. The field has four corners. In each one, you find boxes of bees. In these boxes, you can find the honey of the bees.

The sun, which helps the bees to work together to ripen the blueberries, looks beautiful in the forest. I love the smell of the fruit when it is ripe. I would not change anything about this place. It is perfect. I love it.

Written by: Lilian Magallanes

ESOL Level 4 Writing



### Spring in Portland

Spring in Portland is the time where the bright light of the sun reflects on people's faces by surprise. Although the earth seemed dead for two seasons, the blooming of the flowers shows that the earth is still alive. And the mood of the people changes everyone's smiles, and they greet their neighbors happily. The color of the earth becomes breathtaking and the butterflies seem like they will continue to dance forever. However, the good spirit of spring ends gracefully during summer with the wonderful hot weather.

Written by: Muna Hurrui

ESOL Level 5 Writing

## An Interview with former ESOL Student Nghia Huynh

Nghia is a former ESOL student who has had many interesting jobs and volunteer experiences at PCC. In his interview he discusses his journey and gives advice to current ESOL students.

*When did you start studying at PCC and what ESOL classes did you take?*

- ◆ I started at PCC in the fall of 2014. I took writing, reading, and communication from level 5 to level 8.

*Tell us about your involvement in PCC activities. What kind of jobs did you have? And what kind of volunteer work did you do?*

- ◆ Wow. It is a long question. Hahaha.
- ◆ In the fall of 2014, PCC did not have any Vietnamese club, even though we had a lot of Vietnamese students on campus. I talked with my friends and we created the Vietnamese Student Association Club at Sylvania Campus. Also, this school year I got the chance to interact with the International Student Association club as co-coordinator.
- ◆ As for jobs on campus, I have been a chef in the cafeteria grill, a barista in Juice It Up, a dishwasher working behind the scenes, a checker at the ESOL Tutoring Center, and a technician in the Language Lab. Currently, I am working for Associated Students of PCC (ASPCC) as an International Student Ambassador.
- ◆ While studying at PCC, I have volunteered in several different organizations: PCC's Disability Services (note-taker), PCC talent show, Scholarship Squad table, and the Oregon Food Bank. These volunteer services provide me with opportunities to contribute to the community and to help others.

**"If you interact with your instructor during class time, you will remember that information longer. "**

*What advice do you have for ESOL students to be successful in their classes?*

- ◆ My advice is to always stay active in class. If you interact with your instructor during class time, you will remember that information longer. Do your homework as soon as you can after class, so when you have questions, you can go to the ESOL Tutoring Center to get help.

*How are non-ESOL classes different from the ESOL ones?*

- ♦ In non-ESOL classes, some instructors talk fast, and use a high level of English. To deal with this problem, my advice is to read your assignment before class, so you can search the meaning of a new word. When I misunderstand a concept because the instructor talks quickly or uses new words, I usually stay after class or go to his or her office to ask. Most of the time they are happy to explain again.

*What advice can you give ESOL students if they want to be involved in PCC?*

- ♦ PCC is a safe and inclusive campus. However, I always want to have more cultural events on campus. For example, I really want to have a Brazilian event on campus, but I do not know many friends from Brazil. I am afraid my event will give out the wrong information about the place I haven't lived in. Hence, if you have an idea for an event that you would like to see available for ESOL students at Sylvania campus, please send me an email\*. We will see if we are able to make it happen.

*What is ASPCC?*

- ♦ ASPCC is the Associated Students of PCC at Sylvania Campus, also known as the Student Government. Student leaders represent the student body. We help improve student's life on campus: such as clubs, events, the canteen program, as well as the ASPCC Book Exchange. If you are interested in knowing more about ASPCC, you can find us at CC101. \*smile\*

\*Email: [nghia.huynh1@pcc.edu](mailto:nghia.huynh1@pcc.edu)



### What Are the Qualities of a Good Teacher?

A good teacher needs to have certain qualities to be successful and make her students successful too. First, a good teacher explains the lesson really well. The teacher needs to make sure the students understood the lesson. During the class period, the teacher needs to ask the students questions about the lesson to make sure the students understood the lesson. Next, a good teacher should be nice. The teacher should have a good mood in the class because this makes the students feel relaxed and comfortable. Lastly, a good teacher should not give a lot of homework. Giving lots of homework does not make the students more successful but paying attention in class and studying at home makes the students learn the lesson. In short, these steps show the qualities of a good teacher.

Written by: Maryam Alzeheri  
ESOL Level 5 Writing



### How to Be a Good Student

There are many ways to study well, but I think the 3 steps below will help you study successfully. First, you need to make some goals for every term. These goals will keep your mind on the right way all term and save a lot of your time. It's really helpful to begin a great term. Many successful students said that preparing for new lessons (such as doing your homework, previewing new readings) is very important because you can remember new knowledge in your class. It's also useful when your teacher wants to give you quiz, and you are ready for it. The final tip is practicing knowledge after classes. Reviewing your lessons helps to make you remember them deeply. I hope that these tips will help you become a good student.

Written by: Hyo Lee  
ESOL Level 5 Writing



## How to Annoy People from Venezuela

The people from my country, Venezuela, have a particular way of viewing life. They always have something to do. No matter how tired they are from work, studying, or how many problems they have, they never lack the courage to enjoy the weekends and get together with family and friends. Like other Latinos, they are friendly, cheerful and talkative. Perhaps, because of this, they have received a Guinness record award for being the happiest population in the world. After learning how fun my people are, you need to remember that it is still possible to annoy my country's friendly and outgoing people. How? Only follow these simple tips.

First, be very picky and do not try to taste the food and the local drinks while you are there. Surely every time you meet someone, and they realize that you are a foreigner (and believe me, from my own experience the accent always gives you away) you will receive a ton of invitations to drink local coffee, beers or rum (popular liquor) and eat delicious arepas (type of bread that's made with corn flour), and try the famous tequeños (like cheese sticks). Venezuelans are very proud of their food. If you do not accept anything to eat or drink, they will think that Venezuelans food is not enough for you.

Next, prepare yourself to be apathetic to the expressions of affection that you may receive when you arrive. Venezuelans like to hug and kiss on the cheek. How sweet my people are! Please be strong. They will embrace you. Even if they see you three times during the day, you will receive the same warm expression of love as the first time. And when Venezuelans say goodbye, they will do it like you are part of their family and you are going on a Long trip.... although they know they will see you again in a few hours, but if you do not return any signs of affection this will make them feel uncomfortable and sad. Well done!

And finally, when you go out with Venezuelans, plan everything in detail or do a strict schedule about things that you are going to do with them. My people normally like to go out and decide where they want to go, or what they want to do later. They are so spontaneous, but if you are not, they will feel stressed and feel as if their world is in reverse.

I hope you can resist the charm of my people. I wish you success in this difficult but not impossible task. I know if you put into practice what you learned here, it will be the perfect way to drive Venezuelans crazy in their own country.



Written by: Rasec Urbina Benton

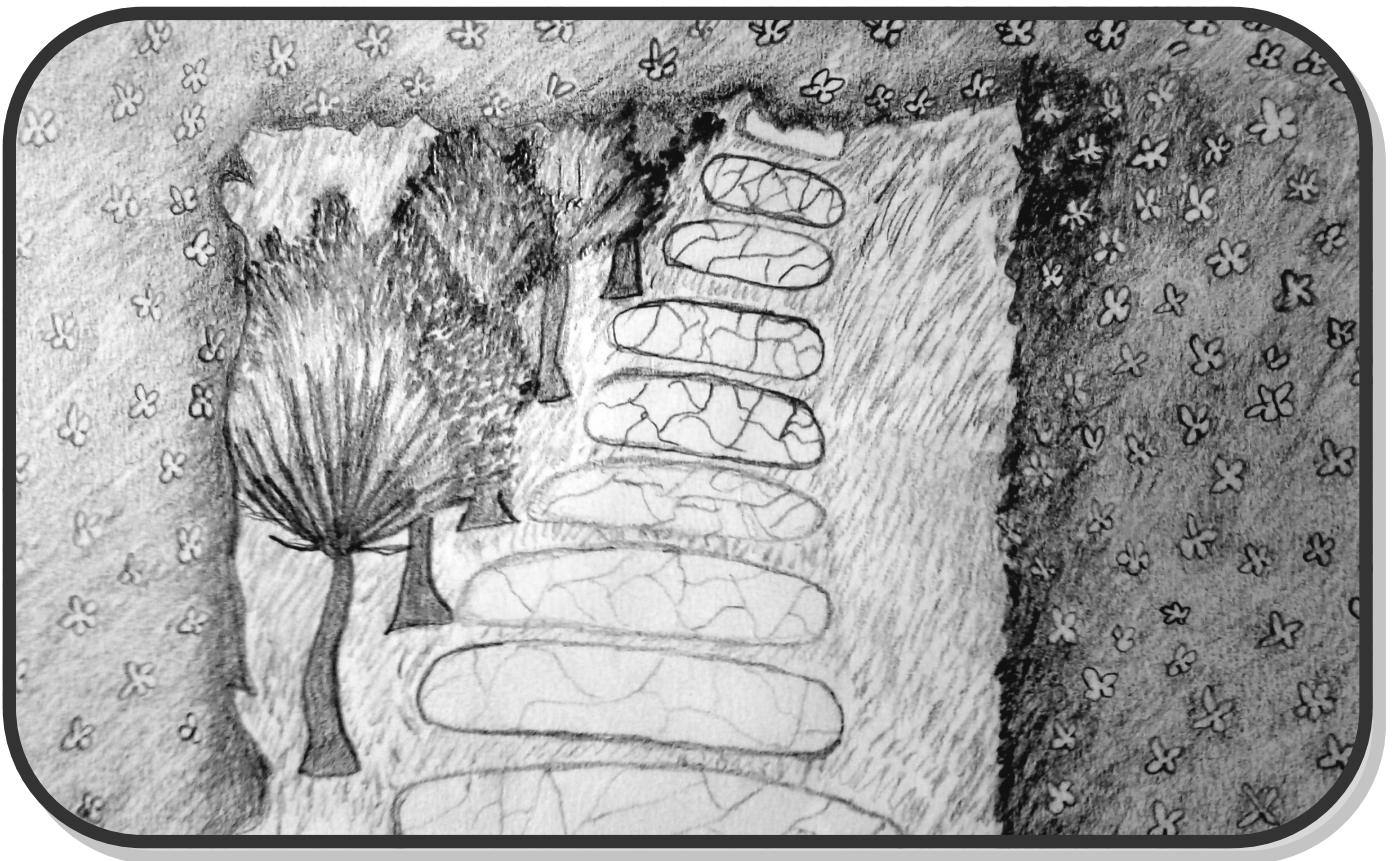
ESOL Level 6 Writing

### My Childhood House

Everyone has a place that brings them inner peace and comfort. My childhood home was that place for me. During my life, I lived in many houses, but my childhood house was different and special. I still remember every spot in the neighborhood, every room inside my house, and every tree in the garden.

My home was built in 1951 from special rosy blocks on top of the highest mountain in my country. Near to it, there was a huge mosque and three ancient churches. My favorite part of the day was when I used to sit and listen to the prayer call from the mosque while the church bells rang at the same time; it was magnificent. Every day, in the evening, my mother used to hold my hand and go on a walk. I can still sense the warmth of her silky hand wrapped around my little hand while I watched her angelic face. When I remember that time, I feel sad because I miss her.

My childhood home was a two story house. Every story consisted of four bedrooms, two bathrooms, one guest room, big kitchen, a dining room, and a huge living room with an overlooking balcony. My two favorite things in my childhood home, were the windows and the balcony. The windows were very big, and their frames were made of wood. They were designed neatly and accurately. My second favorite thing, that I still miss, is the balcony.



I always liked to sit there in the morning to listen to the most beautiful concert in the world which was the sound of the air shaking the leaves of the trees mixed with the singing of the birds. This concert was charging me with peace and love to begin my day.

The words fly from my mind when I try to describe the garden; it was as beautiful as a piece of paradise. It was filled with ancient trees which surrounded my home. There were two special trees that I loved. The first one was a jasmine tree which was planted by my great grandmother. It was very big and covered with white roses. This tree was very close to my bedroom window. In summer, when the windows are open, the smell of the jasmine flowers spread all over the house. My second favorite tree was the berry tree. In my country, this kind of tree is different from berry trees in Europe and America. Berry trees in my country are very tall with thick branches, and there are many colors for berries: pink, red, blue, red, and my personal favorite was white. In summer, I spent most of my time with my cousins on that tree playing and eating the most delicious and sweet berries in the world.

Everything attached to my childhood home is still alive in my mind and heart. My neighborhood, my old rooms, and my beautiful garden. My nostalgia for all these things makes tears fall from my eyes when I remember them.

Written by: Maha Qumuq

ESOL Level 6 Writing

**On Feb. 23, the students in the Reading 7 class met with the Anthropology class to share information about their culture. Here are some of their impressions.**

On Feb 23, 2017, our instructor organized a meeting with the Anthropology class. I was excited about the students' questions. Maybe I was less nervous than my other classmates because I had already done this kind of meeting in my communication level 6 with the Psychology class. It was a spectacular opportunity to talk with students who were excited to ask us some questions. I could see passion in their eyes! Their questions definitely gave me the impression that they were enthusiastic about meeting us. I asked each student I met the same question: “Why did you choose to study Anthropology?” The first student I talked with was originally from India. She was fascinated about the Middle East civilization and history, so this was one of the reasons that made her choose this field. She told me that she wanted to explore more about my country and was excited to learn about our rich-long history. Another student told me that he chose this field to study because he is seeking to understand how culture and biology work together to shape our lives. I believe this is the important thing about understanding any society. One of the students I talked with has lived in many different countries. His goal is to find out evidence about how the human body was created, and how it will return to Earth after death. The last student I talked with was interested in learning how the societies vary, and what they have in common. I'm interested in that as well! I really liked how every student had prepared unpredictable questions which made me consider many aspects about my culture differently. They greeted us warmly. All students I have talked with asked me what people say to greet each other in my country and tried to say it after me. I can tell how they were effectively communicating and adapting easily with us. One day they are going to help us understand more about where our cultures might be going in the future, because they will anticipate future trends based on past growth. Finally, even though the meeting time was one hour, I have got an educational experience talking with Anthropology class and I would like to do it again.

Written by: Nahed Alshamleh





Last Thursday, our teacher took us to the Anthropology class. It was my first experience communicating with native speaker students. At first, some of us felt nervous. Then, we talked and exchanged information about our culture and lifestyle. We felt comfortable and enjoyable. Some of the questions they asked me were about the difference of living in my country and Portland. I asked them about how they chose their major, too.



This activity was helpful for me because it increased my confidence to communicate with native speaker students. Moreover, I made a new friend and learned some information about American lifestyle. I love this activity and appreciate our teacher who gave us a chance for good activity.

Written by Preechaya Sathirathiwat

In the Reading 7 class, I talked about my country, Japanese culture with Anthropology students. It is called speed culturing. I didn't know what speed culturing was. My teacher explained that it is like speed dating, but it was not dating. We shared our cultures with one-on-one conversations. I talked with six American students, and I learned three interesting things in the class. First, I learned that every country has different superstitions. One student asked me about Japanese superstitions. In Japan, when I wear new shoes, I start wearing it in the morning. If I want to start wearing it in the afternoon or evening, I have to write "X" sign. If you don't do it, it will bring bad luck. And American superstitions, if you break a mirror, you will have bad luck for 7 years. This made me scared to use a mirror. I don't learn about American superstitions in classes, and I wanted to know it more. Secondly, I learned about my culture through this opportunity. All students asked me "How are you?" But in my country, I think I don't ask "how are you?" so often. And when I tell them my country, they say "manga or anime". I thought manga and anime represents Japan lately. I take off my shoes in Japan, but some cultures don't. One student asked me why I do that. But I don't know the reason because it is my custom. I wonder why we do it, too. It thought it is cool. Finally, I thought talking about cultures is a wonderful topic when I talk to someone for the first time because there is a number of things we can talk about. We can talk about food, clothes, lifestyle, comparing cultures, and so on. It is interesting to tell and learn about cultures. I couldn't stop talking with them. It was a great opportunity to talk with American students because I felt these things. I enjoyed telling them my culture, and I would love to do speed culturing again.

Written by: Megumi Susa



## The New Leader and Old Leader

If the leader of a country is a positive person, he or she will lead and improve the people and the country together. This year, things are turning out contrary to the way one wishes because the most extreme president has appeared in the United States. I have stayed here for a year, and I caught sight of abnormal things happening when Trump became the new president. Although Obama and Trump are both American presidents, their strategies are really quite different.

The first difference between Obama and Trump is discrimination, which people argue always happens in every city. Obama was the first black president in the United States, and he paid attention to the heart of every person. He not only supported all races, but also took care of disadvantaged social groups. He even promoted homosexual marriage because he thought people could choose the person who people wanted to stay with forever. During his presidency, he loved and cared sincerely for everyone, so he obtained high popularity from the people. On the other hand, Trump has some irrational speech in public that is full of discrimination. He can't accept different races, so he doesn't like the people who have different colors of skin. Opposing homosexual marriage is one of his new policies, so he wants to weaken homosexual protections. The new president only considers white Americans, so he will bring terrible disputes in the United States. Discrimination has been like air spreading throughout the United States.

Also, immigration is a quite serious problem in America, but the two presidents have opposite policies of dealing with this situation. People want to immigrate to America, which is full of freedom and dreams, and Obama approved people who move to the United States. If people came from the country which had wars, they could apply to stay forever. Because people who have a green card, they could stay here as long as they want. Therefore, immigration was very universal in the past. It becomes a big difficulty now. For the purpose of terrorist attack (such as ISIS), so Trump issues strange policies that prohibit Muslims who come from seven countries. He also doesn't want to solve the refugee problems, so he bans them. He even wants to build a wall to stop Mexican immigration. If Trump is the president in the United States for a long term, immigration will become an impossible mission for everyone.

Finally, people can't survive without money, so the two presidents have the personal way to manage people's business. Obama sincerely hoped this country became better, so he pushed everyone to have a job. He didn't limit the investment of companies because he thought People have freedom of businesses. He supported the Trans-Pacific Partnership because promoted the abolition of tariffs. Although nobody encouraged the Trans-Pacific Partnership in the United States, he had not given up. On

the other hand, president Trump is the real businessman; he uses strange ways to promote business. He recalls companies back to America, so nobody can earn money from Americans. He will increase taxes for people who invest in other countries because he doesn't want to increase the income of other countries. Trump uses extreme policies to boost business, so he will affect business in the world.

Obama and Trump are both American presidents. However, their address discrimination, immigration, and business are not the same. When Obama did policies, he considered everyone who lived in the United States. On the other hand, President Trump does everything that is only good for the richest Americans. If people stay in this situation, it will become an unfamiliar country. In order to protect American's future, we should gather the power of everyone to refuse unreasonable policies. Through the sounds of different groups, we have to express dissatisfied mood from people. The government will pay attention to the people, and Trump will change his unreasonable policies. Because unity is the strength, we shouldn't give up our hope.

Written by: Daisy

ESOL Level 7 Writing

## Political Similarities between the United States and Korea

There was a Women's March in Portland on January 21. According to the local news, about 100,000 people gathered. I joined lots of different people, young and old, chanting, "This is what democracy looks like," holding various home-made signs. It showed all different voices. Even though it was a women's march, I could see lots of men, whole families, and even animals. There were many signs about women and equal rights for all minorities but also signs opposing Trump, the new president of the United States. Watching these people, I thought about other protesters thousands of miles away in Korea, millions of people at night every weekend holding candles and protesting against Park Geun-hye, the current Korean President. There are many similarities between the presidents and political situations in Korea and the US.

First, both presidents are from conservative parties: the GOP and the Saenuri Party. According to election analysis reports, more than half of Trump supporters are conservative white people without a college degree. Most of Park's supporters are low income, less educated older people who are living in the countryside rather than in cities. There are not only these supporters, but also the most privileged and wealthiest supporters standing on the other side.

Second, Trump is famous for his unique speaking style. There are many fractured, unfinished sentences. He talks about different ideas and thoughts incoherently. His speech is disordered and he rambles on. He lately has kept creating problems with the media calling major news companies fake news and not answering questions. Ms. Park is second to none for the same issue. The Korean people don't understand Ms. Park's speech even though it is spoken in Korean. She disregards basic Korean grammar and speech. Even though it is Korean, it must be translated into proper Korean again. It is ironic in that the recordings and notes of her Blue House aides have now become good evidence toward her impeachment. Questioned why they had recorded everything, including phone conversations, Ms. Park's aides said they had to do it to figure out what the 'VIP' wanted to say.

Ms. Park is nicknamed 'no communication.' When she gave press conferences, she only read prepared speeches and answered questions submitted in advance. She doesn't answer any questions on the spot. She recently had an interview with one small internet TV show, which has been favorable to her, excluding all major public broadcasting companies such as JTBC, KBS, MBC, SBS, etc. She and her defense counsel team criticized media, insisting her innocence.

Third, their policies are mostly for the wealthy people, rather than for the other average people. Korea's policies have been chaebol friendly, which means giving favors for conglomerates. The Kore-

-an government deducted astronomical corporate taxes insisting it would let big companies create more jobs and investments. It didn't happen, but companies enjoyed huge profit increases anyway. On the contrary, small companies and general household financial status seriously were weakened. Consumer spending has been greatly reduced. Many individuals and small companies became bankrupt and credit delinquents.

The Korean government also reduced welfare money for senior people of low income families. Free school lunch money was cut regardless of the civic organization's opposition. Instead, recent news showed that the government planned to support 55 million dollars every year by 2017 to support \$210 for each student for the horse riding experience program. This policy is only relevant with children from wealthy families because the participants also have to copay \$90. The crucial part of this policy is that Choe Sun-sil, President Park's long time friend, got all the benefits from this policy. Choe established several related companies to get all the profits importing about 10,000 horses from Germany and running the youth horse riding programs. This is only a drop in the bucket. Korean people got shocked again when Choe and her relatives accrued possibly about 10 billion dollars by bribery and influence peddling.

The Trump administration has been only one month now. However, when we look at Trump's cabinet nominees, mostly billionaires and mega millionaires, their policies might be very similar to the Korean government's policies. Priorities of businessmen are different from the average American people. The wealthy have more interests to tax cut and deregulate rather than welfare for average people.

Actually, Trump is more like two combined Korean presidents: former businessman President Lee Myung-bak and current President Park Geun-hye. Lee is suspected of using his power for his own interests, and Park is regarded as incompetent president, a puppet of her friend Choe Sun-sil. Even Korean people refer to these two Korean presidents as one person, like Lee Myung-park-geun-hye administration.

Koreans elected Mr. Lee, the former CEO of Hyundai Engineering and Construction as a president hoping he would revive the economy so their difficult financial status could be better. Their hope turned out to be an illusion. Against Korean people's expectations, he and his collaborators spent tax money to increase their private wealth and profit through many construction projects. The 4 Major-River-Refurbishment Project turned the rivers into ideal breeding grounds for bacteria-creating green algae. Korean people call this 'green latte'. Businessman presidents' policies, such as easy dismissal policies, low minimum pay, and privatization of public health insurance and state-owned enterprises, are for the benefits of small groups of privileged people.

As shown above, there are many similarities between the recent Korean and US presidents and

political situations and even much more. Ms. Park is now waiting for the final impeachment decision of the Constitutional Court. Political instability and turmoil are continuing because Ms. Park refused any investigation hoping the impeachment would be turned down. However, Koreans expect they will finally have her impeached and elect a new president. They hope the new president will root out all the corruption and irregularities. Furthermore, by confiscating hidden misappropriated money to the national treasury, they hope he can cut out the very roots of the resurgence of corrupt force. If the president's impeachment is turned down, millions of people will take to the streets to protest all across the nation. Lately watching Trump in the news, perhaps Donald Trump will come to share the same fate as Park.

German jurist Rudolf von Jhering said the following in his book, *The Struggle for Law*; "Each citizen is a warrior born for the sake of rights in society. He who sleeps on the right is not protected. And that the struggle for rights is an obligation not only to oneself but also to the social community." On the streets of Portland and Seoul on a cold rainy and snowy day, I saw brave warriors, men and women, young and old, and white and people of color together, marching for justice and rights. "This is what democracy looks like." "This is what America looks like." I still hear that clearly.

Written by: Haejung Min

ESOL Level 7 Writing



### New Year's Eve 2016

I will never forget about New Year's Eve 2016. I got a feeling of anxiety in the pit of my stomach. I was controlling myself not to think negatively. When people ask me about my New Year's Eve, there is a flashback to a scene of fear and concern.

This was my first time to spend New Year's Eve in America. I was very excited to celebrate New Year's Eve with my friends, especially those whom I hadn't seen for four months. But unfortunately I had been sick since Christmas day, so I knew that I needed to cancel. I wasn't expecting that I



was sick, so I started feeling miserable and alone. Especially because nobody was in my home. At the same time my phone rang, and I answered the phone.

The call was from my previous host mother. She said to me, “Can you watch the kids right now?” with a serious voice. I paused for a few seconds, and said to her, “Right now?” When I looked at the clock, it was almost midnight. She said, “My husband was hit by a car.” I totally understood what she said. But my brain shut down. And I said, “Sorry?” Then she repeated again, “My husband was hit by a car.” Finally my brain understood what she said, and suddenly I couldn’t stop worrying about him. But I noticed she was very worried about him. All I could do for her was say, “Yes, of course.” in a calm voice. I answered to her, “Yes, of course.” And I left my home as soon as possible to get to their home quickly.

While I was on the bus, I hoped that things would go better than what I was worried about. About 20 minutes later, I got to their home and opened the door. The host mother was standing there. When I saw her face, she looked calmer than I was expecting. She said to me, “Everything is going to be OK.” After this, I regained my composure. I should have settled down, but clearly I wasn’t good at it. I still don’t have any idea how she kept herself calm. That was the only way I could imagine she could be calm otherwise she wouldn’t be able to handle that situation. After she left the house, I went to the kids’ bedroom. They were sleeping very well like angels. At the same time I thought everything should be fine. While watching the kids, I was waiting for her call.

In the morning, I got a phone call from her. My hands were slightly shaking. She said, “He is OK don’t worry, Marina, thank you for coming to watch the kids.” I was almost crying to hear that. All the stress that I’d had for a half day was relieved instantly. The next day he had surgery for a right hip fracture and left ankle fracture. After that, he was discharged to home. When he saw me, he said to me, “Thank you for watching the kids while I was in the hospital.” That day he came back home, their neighbors came home to make sure if he was doing OK. While I was there, I heard that they were asking my host parents what kind of help they could offer. One of the guys said to my host mother, “If you need help with anything, we could help.” Then the neighbors went back to their home.

It’s been a long time since I’ve seen people help each other as their neighbors. The thing that happened to the host family wasn’t good at all, but I could see the bonds and warmth through people helping each other. Every New Year’s Eve, I will remember this memory, especially the warmth of people. And this reminds me that everyone needs help from everyone, so I’d like to help people when they need it.

Written by: Marina Tatsuoka

ESOL Level 7 Writing

## New Blessing

Have you had the feeling of a new blessing in your life? If you have, did you notice the change that happened in your life after this blessing? I remember when I experienced this feeling when I had my first child! I had my first baby girl on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016. I remember when I took my wife to St. Vincent Hospital in Portland for delivery. It was Wednesday evening, but she was delivered on Thursday at 5:20 PM!

My wife and I were very excited and almost ready to welcome our first baby in our life, but the baby was not ready yet because she stayed inside her mom more than 40 weeks! My wife's doctor decided to induce my wife to deliver when she completed 41 weeks. We went to the hospital and they started to induce my wife and monitor her belly.

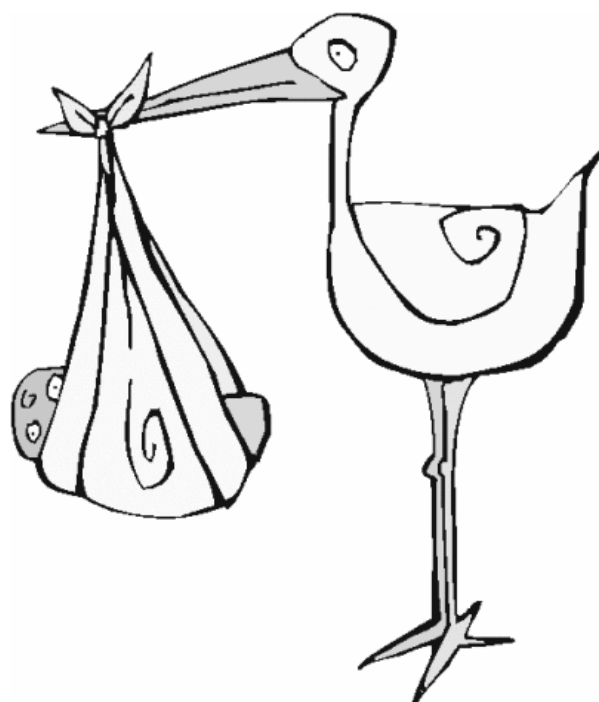
The induction was slow to the point that it didn't work on my wife until the morning! I remember when I slept on the couch in her delivery room. I was nervous and worried, but I hid my feelings in front of her. I pretended that I was relaxed and calm. I wanted to give her strength and confidence that's why I wore a smile on my face all the time.

Suddenly, the pain started and my wife's face turned as yellow as my t-shirt! The nurses and the midwife started to get ready for the delivery moment. They gave my wife some pain medication and encouraged her to breathe well and start pushing! The midwife found out that she couldn't handle it well because the pushing affected the baby's heartbeat! They called the doctor to help in the last minute of the delivery. She came and she was very professional! She encouraged my wife to push in the right way and use the correct breathing techniques.

At last and after a hard time pushing, my angel came out. And when we heard the baby crying, we cried with her as well. Our crying was so different. It was the first time in my life to experience the happiness tears!

After this day, I am feeling more responsible and more independent. My baby girl totally changed our lives. We turned out more cooperative and much united as a family. Having a baby at home added more happiness and joy. She is really a new blessing!

Written by: Mohammed Salim  
ESOL Level 7 Writing



## My Happiness

There are many people in the world who think they can buy happiness by money. Although happiness cannot be bought by money, it can be anything like popularity, respect or wealth. Happiness is difficult to define because it means different thing to different people. Nobody can understand or experiences another's feeling. I find happiness in my family, my job and taking English classes.

The first and main part of happiness is my family. Over half of the entries in my journal involved some interactions or thought of my family. A couple of examples include having Friday lunch with family. Every Friday our family gathers for lunch after offering afternoon prayers. We all spend the rest of day together. I have 4-year daughter Alvina Akmal. She is my whole life. When I see her happy, it makes me happy. I always try to spend all my day with her because I am so far from my parents and siblings. My husband has a busy schedule but when he comes home I make sure his time is stress-free. I share jokes with him, because as I mentioned when I see my family happy its makes me happy. I am even taking Math class in this semester because my husband likes Math.

The second thing which makes me happy is my job. I am volunteering in Pre-School three days. Pre-School is a place where parents usually drop their kids and leave for work. I usually spend 4 to 5 hours there and help the pre-school teachers. The feeling that I could be of any help to the teacher and parents makes me feel proud and happy. We can find happiness everywhere if we want to. The little things which I do in my job gives me a lot of satisfaction.

Lastly, taking English classes makes me happy. When I came to US in 2014, I didn't know how to speak English. I faced a lot of difficulties. One day I went to a doctor, I was sick but I couldn't explain myself. So I decided to take English classes, and now I am in writing 8 and I feel so good. When I speak English with my husband's friends or colleagues, I feel so proud of myself.

My definition of happiness is simple, keep a good relationship with your family. Be honest with your job and studies. Everyone wants their teachers and their colleagues to appreciate them, so if we will do those little things in our life, we will be so happy.

Written by: Fnu Shahzia

ESOL Level 8 Writing

## The Other Half

“...And they lived happily ever after.” When I was a child, I liked to read fairy tales books about princesses and princes. My favorite one was Cinderella. I imagined that I, like Cinderella, got married a handsome, rich and a brave prince. At that stage of my life, those characteristics described the ideal husband who will make me happy. After some years, my expectations changed dramatically, and my description of the perfect husband was different. Some days ago, I texted my neighbor Vanessa, and I told her that I needed to interview somebody in order to make an assignment for my Writing class. “The topic is the definition of a perfect partner,” I told her. “Are you going to make a recording?” she asked. “No,” I replied. I just need to take some notes. “I am going to stop by your place tomorrow,” was her answer. Vanessa and I have been neighbors for twelve years, and it was the first time that we talked about “girly stuff”. I was very impressed that we have very similar ideas of the qualities and virtues that a good husband needs to have. Sharing the same religion, having a good sense of humor and being a responsible provider are some of the attributes that describe our perfect “other half.”

“I can’t imagine living with a man who is not Christian,” Vanessa said. Sharing the same idea of God is so important to Vanessa that when Tim (her husband) asked her for a date, her answer was another question. “Are you Christian?” she asked. “Yes,” Tim replied. Then, she accepted to have a date with him. “What would have happened if his answer had been ‘No’?” I asked her. “Then, I would have looked for another man,” she answered laughing. Honestly, I was impressed with her answer, because I always thought she was more liberal without this kind of prejudice. However, I would have done the same. “Why was religion so important in choosing your husband?” I asked her. Vanessa gave me a very good reason. She said that raising kids is a shared task, and both mom and dad need to agree in the spiritual and moral values that they inculcate to their children. Otherwise, kids may be confused if the mother’s beliefs and actions are different from those of the father. I have never thought how my life would be, if I had gotten married with a non-Catholic man. However, I agree that it is easier raising kids in a home where there is no conflict about what is better to celebrate, for example, Christmas or Hanukkah.

A perfect partner also has to be a responsible provider. Vanessa believes a wife is a multi-tasking person. “She needs to be a good spouse, mother, and an excellent home manager,” she said. “I agree,” I told her. “Therefore, if a wife is in charge of so many things to do, having a man who knows that he is the principal provider for the family, and he does everything he needs to assure that you and your kids will have what you need to live well; you can focus on most important tasks as raising your

kids,” she added. I recognize that Vanessa is right. Since we got married, my husband has been the only one working outside home. Because he has done a very good job I had never have the need to work. On the contrary, I have had the fortune to be at home caring for my family.

Finally, according to Vanessa’s definition of a perfect husband, having a good sense of humor is also important. Vanessa mentioned that her husband has the ability to make her laugh even in the tensest situations. She remembered how at the beginning of her marriage she got mad if Tim laughed during a discussion, because she thought he was making fun of her. However, she has learned that the best frame of mind to take decisions and solving problems is when we are happy. From now on, I will try to follow Vanessa’s advice, but honestly I think it will take a lot of practice until me and my husband could change our habitual way to solve our discrepancies.

When we finished our talk, I felt like my relationship with Vanessa has changed from being just neighbors to starting being friends. With almost twenty-five year marriage, my friend has a clear idea of what she wants on her life, and she is convinced that Tim is her perfect half. I completely agree on the definition of Vanessa’s perfect husband. In addition, I will say that for me it is also important that my perfect partner do not forget to show his love with little details. For example, giving me giving flowers or opening the door of the car for me. A long time ago, a friend of mine told me, “If you want to have a perfect husband, you need to be a perfect wife.” My friend was right. I think that having a happy relationship not only depends of one part. Both parts (husband and wife) have to work every day giving the best of them and consider each other as the center of their lives. In this way, they could be a perfect wife and a perfect husband.

Written by: Isabel Garduno

ESOL Level 8 Writing



## Generation Gap

A school is like role playing of life. In the US, according to IES, Institute of Education Sciences, “In fall 2016, about 50.4 million students will attend public elementary and secondary schools.” Also, IES says that “The number of FTE public school teachers in 2015 was 3.1 million, ...” FTE means full-time-equivalent. Everyone has had the experience of attending a school. This can be considered that there are four different of generations in a school. Since school has people of various ages the same as real life, people encounter generational gap problem. Study.com explains that a generation gap means various opinions, values, worldviews, attitudes, and outlook between people of different generations. At school, learning about relationships is one of the most important things. This topic is a serious issue for students and teachers. During school life, students experience the generation gaps and learn to be a member of society. Therefore, people need to know about generation gaps at school which are between teachers and students and between older teachers and younger teachers.

There are several categories of generation gap in the U.S. in education. The first is the generation gap between teachers and students. In almost all situations, the teacher and students ages are from different generations. They grew up in different social circumstances and were raised by a distinct generation. As a result, sometimes they encounter the situation where they can't understand ideas or the behavior of one another. Some older teachers think that using a phone for class notes or a dictionary is unusual. Conversely, students don't think this way. According to Azadeh Aalai (2016), for students “... their phones often seem to be like additional appendages, seemingly fused to their hands or on top of their desks as if it is the most natural attachment in the world for them.” So, the students cannot leave this in the classroom. The cell phone is a part of the student. Besides, they have different way of thinking. For example, some teachers think after entering and graduating from a university, students can get a job. However, students think it's not true because nowadays there is no guarantee that the students will find a job after graduate from college. What is more, students have a great job without needing to go school in some situations. There are many types of jobs in the world. Some people need only a laptop and internet to work. They don't need office or a boss. For this reasons, students think that they don't need to go to a college. Thus, each generation has their individual way to approach life.

Secondly, there is the generation gap among teachers. In school, there are many teachers who just graduated from a university to older teachers who have had a long career. They are both current teachers, but they also grew up different society and has faced diversified opportunities. According to Dirk Van Damme (2014), newer teachers learned fresh information at their university but don't have



enough experiences. Veteran teachers learned about education at the university a long time ago but become skillful with deep experiences. Different environments produce different thoughts. They might complain about how to teach students, treat students, and class management. Younger teacher may think the older teachers are old-fashioned people. Meanwhile, older teachers think younger teacher don't have common sense, their manner of speaking is not good, or their behavior is rude. In fact, they have a different perspective about work.

In the final analysis, difficulty in the generation gap is misunderstanding everyone because each generation has different ideas about the same thing. However, they should try to understand. Students have a flexible ability to accept new thing, newer teachers are open to change their mind compare to veteran teachers, and veterans have a lot of experiences. So, there is even the generation gap between these three, they can support and help each other with something that is lacking. Consequently, it is important to know about the generation gap at school. This is divided into two types between teachers and students and older teachers and younger teachers.

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Written by: Kanae Koki

ESOL Level 8 Writing

