



# The English Language Institute

# NEWS

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## Greetings From The Director

Through fostering communication and developing positive collaborative relationships within the university and the Valdosta community, the ELI at Valdosta State University is able to offer its students a unique experience. This month we're highlighting a special visit one of our classes made to a local elementary school; the favorable impact this visit had on our students' English speaking skills was only exceeded by the connection they made with the elementary students. This is the beginning of an ongoing partnership that we believe will cultivate international understanding and enhance our students' language skills. We're excited about our program, and we look forward to telling you more about the rewarding opportunities at the English Language Institute next month.



Cheers,

*David Starling*

David Starling, Director

## A Book is Better When It's Shared

New friends were made and great stories shared when an ELI class visited a first grade class at nearby S. L. Mason Elementary School. The children loved the stories and were excited to meet kind and interesting young people from different cultures. The first-graders asked many questions, and our ELI students were able to freely converse in English with interested conversation partners. To prepare for reading aloud, a reading specialist visited the class and shared her expertise. She showed the students how to read aloud for dramatic effect. They focused on pronunciation, rhythm, pacing, and conveying the meaning and energy of their stories. Their efforts paid off, as they did an excellent job reading to the children. Everyone had a wonderful time they won't soon forget.



## Inspiring Places Inspire Writing

Towering ancient cypress trees, hooting barred owls, and croaking pig frogs were the medley of sights and sounds that recently inspired an ELI writing class. The class toured Grand Bay Wildlife Management Area, explored the half-mile boardwalk and observed native plants and animals in their natural environment. After climbing the 54-foot high observation tower, they could take in the immensity of the 6,000 acre area. Their writing teacher used this experience for conversation and description. Upon returning to the classroom, the students' writing and their memories were rich with detail.

## Magic, Adventure and Friends

Sometimes it's nice to get away and have a good time while practicing English skills in a fun and entertaining environment. What better place to do just that than Orlando, Florida and its many theme parks? The ELI and the Society for International Students (SIS) escaped for a weekend to Disney's Magic Kingdom and Universal Studios. While there students could experience the magic of Disney, the thrill of Universal, the excitement of rollercoasters, the adventure of shopping, and the discovery of dining while using English with their friends from ELI and SIS. It was great fun and a great get-away-- we can't wait until the next trip!

## *If you have questions about the English Language Institute at Valdosta State University*

## Contact Us

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