



The Student Voice of AFL

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Meet Our New Teacher

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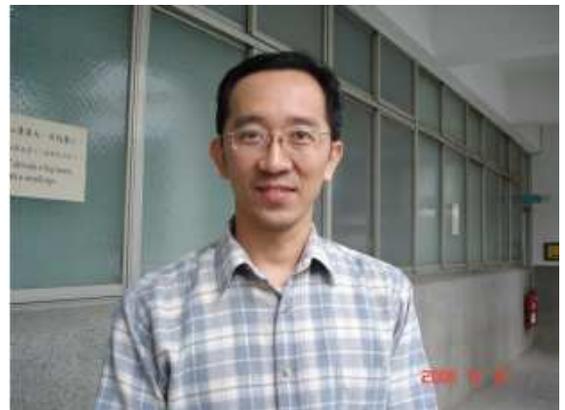
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Teacher's Pet Peeves

1: My name is Chta Wu. I was born in Taipei. I am married with two daughters. I love outdoor activities such as camping, swimming, and traveling. I enjoy chatting with friends, surfing online, hiking on mountain trails, singing and dancing with good friends.

2: I studied for my master's degree at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. I returned to Taiwan and worked as an interpreter for six months before teaching in a junior high school in Taipei. I started my teaching career in college as a full time lecturer. Meanwhile, I took several courses in techniques of teaching and instruction at the National Changhua University of Education.

3: Five years later, my wife and I decided to go back to the United States to study. I studied in the Bilingual Education department at the Texas A&M University at Kingsville. We also brought our daughter with us to the states. She was three years old, a perfect age for learning a second language. Since my daughter attended a pre-kindergarten bilingual program, I got a good chance to observe second language learners' language development process. It's an amazing experience to observe people acquiring language skills. I got my doctoral degree from the Texas A&M University at Kingsville.



4: Now my family has moved back to Taichung, and I started teaching at OCIT. All the faculty members are nice and the students in the AFL department are energetic. I think I will have a wonderful teaching experience here. I've been interested in English all along. After my studies in the United States, my perspectives towards English have broadened. I realized that valuable experience has enabled me to better understand my students' needs. With my dedication and knowledge, I hope I'll be able to improve English education in my teaching career.



Why do you think people visit museums?

by Vincent 語四乙

The term museum, widely known to us for its phenomenal function of collecting some valuable exhibitions, causes our attention thanks in part to its features of demonstrating those valuable things and revealing the information that is hidden by their collections we don't acquainted with. As a result, I hold the assertion that people are supposed to visit museums – on the ground that this notion is apt to create some benefits to be addressed as below.

First of all, let us turn our attention to the aspect of preserving those exhibitions comprehensively and systematically, which is closely associated with whether or not we can better understand the significance of those subjects. That means, when seeing some imperfect and incoherent things, we seem to be not fully aware of the meanings of those things. In light of this, museum can be referred to worth visiting for us – since there are many professional people who know how to prevent the collections, which we tend to see and understand, from some fatal ruins no matter what they are.



The National Palace Museum in Taipei

Equally essential to my assertion is that we are supposed to consider the importance of some professional people who can help answer our questions stemming from what we saw. The truth of matter is, we can secure knowledge from many aspects, such as reading books, listening to speeches, and in particular searching something through internet – a modern technology by which people's life are profoundly influenced; however, provided we don't understand something conveyed by those mediums, what we can do is to find the answers by ourselves – a time-consuming task. As a consequence, when visiting museums, we have access to

better understanding what we want to know by the aids of some knowledgeable people working in the museum.

Above all, another pivotal issue that deserves to be covered is that some unique and rare works by which many people are lured are only displayed in some museums – namely, it is hard for us to appreciate those wonderful, great creatures, which are impressive to us in other places. Thus, to visit museum seems to be second to none in terms of providing us with the chances of accessing those invaluable works by which we may be inspired to create or do something beneficial to us.

Given the points addressed above, which are composed of preserving things comprehensively and systematically, more knowledgeable people we can consult, and providing us with wonderful creatures, I strongly believe that people need to visit museums in the phase of their life, and that many benefits will be secured by means of visiting museums.

Introducing AFL's New Student Office Staff

Maggie



My name is Ya Ting Yang and my English name is Maggie. I am a student from the Department of Financial Economical Law. My hobbies are reading novels and listening to music. Why do I work in the Department of Applied Foreign Languages? Because one day my friend asked me, "Do you want to work in the AFL department? If you want, there is an interview you may try." My English is poor. That's why I got so nervous during my interview. But Jackal told me, "Come here and just work hard and be conscientious. Of course you should learn something. If your English is not very good, don't worry, just work hard and be conscientious. Your English will improve fast." So I accepted right away. It is such a great experience working in the Department of Applied Foreign Languages!

Saying Goodbye to Irene

Editor's note: Irene Lin no longer works in the AFL department, but this article by her was so well written that we would like to include it in this issue of the newsletter and add to it our best wishes.

When you are at OCIT, no matter if you saunter or just fool around, you may see a small girl who has short hair with documents in her hands. No doubt, that's me, Irene Lin.

Most people know who I am, at least they've seen me more than once, but I don't know them very well. That sounds interesting. When working in the AFL's office, there are lots of opportunities to meet many people, including students and teachers, which is what I adore. There's no time to introduce yourself as we walk by. In that case, this is a good chance to give you a brief introduction of myself.



I major in the Department of Applied Foreign Languages, but being an artist is what I want to do, and I take it as my life's goal. It might be exhausting to work in the day and study at the night and afterwards I'll go out with friends, but it helps me feel better. The world is so big that I don't have to be bothered by such matters. Seeing movies is also a favorite way to release myself. Got great stress? I'd love to go to a deluxe restaurant and eat a lot! Sometimes I prefer to be alone so that I can have time to study.

I've learned a lot from working in the AFL's office, such as how to get along with people, processing documents, administering classrooms—even a class. Every job has its own challenge, and I'll take it with my best. It is quite fun to work here, and I'm glad to meet people. By the way, you may say "Hi" to me when you see me next time at school, and I'll return it with a big smile. HOLA!



AFL Student

English Writing Contest by Jennifer 語四甲

My Role Model

Everybody always have dream to be someone they admire. So do I, but I can't even memorize what is my role model at first time when I was a little child. I still try to figure out that, might be it was really stupid.

For now on, my aunt is my role model. Because she is a superwoman to me, and she knows a lot of things. She had been to many counties, and she traveled with her best friend. They all by their own. The most significant is that they never got cold feet. Traveling in the foreign country was really dangerous at that time, and they were just about twenty years old. I want to be like her. My aunt's career is really successful, and her wedlock, too. She works as a manager of development. She has to work with foreign company, that is why she can speak English so well. On the other hand, she is a fantastic aunt, because she is really generous. She treats us as her own child. Every time I saw her sew her, she is always looks so happy and glad. I've never seen her lost her temper or sorrow. She is just perfect.

People live, because they have their goal and ambition. They want to tempt someplace that they dream. I adore my aunt, and I want to live a life just like hers. I know it is not easy to get there, but I always have faith to myself. I need to work harder, even that could be bring a lot of pain. Because "no pain no gain." What I do is what I get I will try my best.

English Spelling Contest by Joy 語二甲



Hey everyone, my name is Joy. I am the only kid in my family, so my mother treats me pretty nice. She sent me to an English cram school when I was ten, and since then I found that I'm really interested in learning English. I always watch English films on TV or sing English songs to make great progress in English. This is why I took part in this competition. I want to improve my spelling skills, and I am really happy to get the first prize. But I think the happiest person is definitely my mom. I hope I can share this "Joy" with all you guys. Thank you very much!

Competitions

English Speech Contest

by Maggie 語二甲

How to get a good grade in a speech challenge? First, you should search for an article that you like and that is about a great topic. Second, try to look up the words in the dictionary that you don't understand. The content of the article should be completely understood by you. Practice it more and put your emotion in this article like the way you regularly talk. My last suggestion is to check your pronunciation. Say it to your English teacher. Maybe you will get good advice on how to make it better.

By the way, when you stand on the stage, don't be nervous. Believe me, a great way for you to get a good score is to relax and adjust your mood while you are facing your audience. Then getting a good grade is easier for you in every future speech challenge.

AFL New Student Camp By Rochelle 語二甲

September 30 is a sunny day. This day is my first time that I am an activity manager and an emcee. I feel excited and nervous. We took about a hundred students to go to Flying Cow Ranch. This is a camp for new students to meet friends and play together. We made ten teams to play many English games, like spelling words, guessing words, dance and conundrum, and so on.

A girl student got sunstroke when we were playing games. I was very worried about her. At last, she was fine. It's very important that we ensure everyone's safety.

Finally, camp was over. Everyone had lot of fun today and were happy to join us. This camp was very successful. We prepared this camp since last summer vacation. It was very busy and hard work, but I had fun doing it. It made me know how to put on good activities and how to plan them. It was a very good experience for me, and I will do even better next time.



The Person from Whom I've Learned the Most

By Natasha 語三甲

I think I've learned the most from my parents. I would like to talk about my mother's cooking. My mother has a good art in cooking. She is a fantastic chef for my family. She can cook many kinds of food, such as stir-fry dumpling, stewed meat with prune, and stir-fry intestine. In addition, she knows how to cook delicious and nutritious food. Everybody likes her cooking.

Next, my mother stays with me when I have troubles. If I have quarrels with my friends or sisters, she will let me know how to make it better. My mother teaches me many things. For example, she teaches me how to put things into perspective. She tells me to look on the bright side. She always knows what I need and forgives me when I break her heart. She is so kind, generous and optimistic, and spends her time on our family. The other person whom I've learned the most from is my father. He is a knowledgeable father, just like our family's library. My father always reads five copies of different newspapers a day. So if we want to know the news, he will be our resource. Finally, my parents love me so much that they spend most of their time and patience to teach me. I think I'm a really lucky person to have the nicest parents in the world.



The Impression of Graduation by Mandy 語一忠

Dear teachers and friends, today we are gathering here to celebrate our graduation. Parting is such sweet sorrow. I think most of us carry sadness and happiness in our hearts at the same time. One part of me is glad because what I have learned here will lead me to a brighter future. For this, I want to thank all the teachers who have worked hard to teach me. They are my angels. Without them I could never love studying as much as I do now. I would also like to say good-bye to my dear friends. Bon voyage. I will remember all of you forever.





My Last Year at OCIT by Sue 語四 A



I am a senior student at OCIT. Seven years ago, I graduated from junior high school and entered the five-year college at OCIT. After five years, I graduated from OCIT. Then I entered into the two-year degree program at OCIT. That means I have studied in the Department of Applied Foreign Languages for about seven years. It may sound like a crazy idea, but I did it! The time has passed so fast, and it is my last year at OCIT now. In the past years, I absorbed so much knowledge and met so many nice people. In my thought, it is absolutely a long but sweet memory. In those years, I learned lessons and grew into a mature lady in this big and warm family—the Department of Applied Foreign Languages. When I think of the sweet memories, it makes it even harder for me to let go. Maybe it is just like the lyrics of the song “Graduation (Friends

Forever)” sung by Vitamin C: “These memories are playing like a film without sound, and I keep thinking of that night in June”. The memories I own will never be forgotten. I won't forget all the laughs and tears in such a long period of precious time. Maybe I have to be ready to say farewell to my dear campus, or I will be misty-eyed then.

Book Review: Love by Design by Jamie 語三甲

Kieran McGovern wrote this story. Actually, I haven't read this kind of novel before. It is a very interesting story, also it is a love story. I think I can't understand what the story means very well because English is not my native language. So I don't know what the author wanted to say, or what emotion he wanted to show. When I finished this book, I love Taiwanese novels even more.

The story starts with a boy named Tom. He didn't pass the exam for college that he would like to enter to become an artist. Besides art, he doesn't like any of the other subjects. Tom doesn't like to study, so he goes to work in a small library. He met a beautiful girl in the library who is named Rita. Rita is good at making clothes, and she is a good designer. She also wants to be a model very much, but she tried many companies and none of them want to put her photo in their magazine. Tom and Rita become boyfriend and girlfriend; they stay with each other happily. One day, Rita has a chance to meet a man named Spooner. He said that he owns a modeling company. If Rita signs a contract and works for him, she will be rich and famous after a few years. Tom needs to sign the contract, too. But Tom doubts that Mr. Spooner is very pure because the contract has so many difficult words he can't understand. So he said that he would

Continued on the next page



Book Review, *continued*

like to take it home and meet Mr. Spooner tomorrow. Suddenly, Rita is angry. She says to Tom, "Don't you want me to be a successful model? Why you don't want to sign the contract? Why you stop me?" Tom didn't want to quarrel, so he signed the contract. Tom was really angry and didn't want to meet Rita for a long time, but he still loved her. During these few months, Tom was concentrating on the college exam. He wanted to enter the college and become a real artist and photographer. On another day, the police found Tom and told him that Mr. Spooner was really a trickster who lies for money. Tom started to worry about Rita, but he didn't say anything to anyone. Tom passed the exam and entered the college he wanted. His good friend Danny wanted him to join a party that was held for freshmen, so Tom went. When the party was about to end, everyone had to take off their mask. Tom suddenly realized that the woman chatting with him was Rita! He was so surprised, and he asked Rita why she was there. Rita said that she passed the exam, too. She wants to learn how to design clothes, and she is a famous model now. Tom loves Rita and Rita loves him, so they get together again!

Teachers' Pet Peeves

What is a pet peeve? A pet peeve is something that makes a person extremely frustrated, or something that a person extremely dislikes. We asked some teachers about their pet peeves, and many teachers said that honesty and respect were very important. For example when students copy other students' sentences, they expect to pass and don't feel ashamed at all. It's not honest. Or when students walk out of the classroom without notifying the teacher. This is not respectful.

Teacher Hu said, "My pet peeve is dog abuse, as I cannot believe that as our best friends dogs have to be treated that inhumanly and cruelly. I wish that I had a chance to pass strict laws prohibiting dog abuse on one hand and to educate knowledge promoting care for lives on the other, no matter if they are humans or animals."

Mr. Bisson's pet peeve is that there are 636 people per square kilometer in Taiwan. It's his opinion that the land being so crowded is the source of many of Taiwan's most commonly maligned problems. For example, Taichung's ridiculous rush hour traffic wouldn't be so bad if there weren't so many people fighting for so little space on the road. Sometimes a person wants to experience solitude in the outdoors but, unfortunately, in Taiwan the accessible outdoor spots are always packed with people.

Everyone has their pet peeves, whether it is cheating, dog abuse, overcrowding, so we should do our best not to be the source of other people's pet peeves.

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