My Sister

Today I would like to write about my sister. My sister’s name is Sina Khem and she is 23 years old. She is 5 years older than me. She works at Neeka Limited in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Neeka Limited is the place that sells computer electronics. She is a hard worker and was a good student. She graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree in marketing a year ago. She is the person in my family who has helped me a lot. First of all, when I was in high school I was not good at mathematics. I did not know how to do it and I got low score too. My sister was worried about me so much because it was the last year that I had to finish high school, but she was good at mathematics when she was in high school. Secondly, she helped me to do my home work at night and she tried to explain to me how to do it well. Then she gave me a lot of advice when I was in high school because she wanted me to graduate like her and get a good job my future. After that, she said, “No one can help you in your future”. She wanted to remind that I have to do it by myself. I like her so much because she is the one who helped me when I had trouble with my studying. She often hung out with me and paid for food or bought me some clothes. My family loves her too, because she is a good child and a good student. Finally, I graduated from my high school because I tried to study like she told me. I hope you enjoy reading about my lovely sister. – Lina Khem, Cambodia
**My Father**

My father helps me with my life. My father's name is Hussain. He is a fisherman. He works hard. He is 45 years old. He helps my family. He has 3 boats. He has given me what I need all 19 years. He gave me a car. He helped me if I was sick. He helped me to come to the USA. He gave me money for school. I love my father and I miss him. – Ali Alhalal, Saudi Arabia

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**DARKLIGHT SAVINGS**

Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday, November 3rd, 2013. Don’t forget to set your clocks Back "One Hour" the night before.

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**Important IELC Fall 2013 Dates**

**Sept. 9th, 2013**

New Student Testing
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

New Student Orientation
1:00 – 3:00 PM

**Sept. 10th, 2013**

New and Returning Student Orientation
8:00 AM – 12:00 noon

Campus Tour
1:00 – 2:00 PM

**Sept. 11th, 2013**

First Day of Fall Classes
8:30 AM – 3:25 PM

**Nov. 11th, 2013**

Veteran’s Day
(No School)
Six Flags Magic Mountain

I went to Six Flags Magic Mountain with my friends by a school trip. I was excited very much. A day before the trip, Tina Praew and I bought some snacks. We were going to eat them at the theme park, but we couldn’t. I was refused to enter the front gate because I had snacks. The security guards didn’t allow me to bring snacks in the theme park. I had just snacks, but my friends had snacks and even some food for lunch. We were embarrassed. We didn’t have any choice. We should eat them or throw them away. We ate some of them and gave the rest to some children who were in front of the gate, and then we could enter the front gate. We rode a lot of the rides. I loved that kind of theme park in Korea, so I enjoyed the rides very much. Six Flags Magic Mountain was really good by comparison with Korean theme parks. I felt like I was flying in the sky when I was riding the rides. Specially, I loved the rides named ‘Scream’ and ‘X2’. They were amazing. I wish I go there with my friends again. - Jane Lee, South Korea
The History of Labor Day

September 2nd, 2013

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country. - dol.gov

Veteran's Day

November 11th, 2013

Veterans Day is an official United States holiday which honors people who have served in armed service also known as veterans. It is a federal holiday that is observed on November 11. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed Armistice Day for November 11, 1919. In proclaiming the holiday, he said "To us in America, the reflections of Veteran's Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations." - Wikipedia.org

My Classmates They Help Me in Classes

In my new intensive course of English at moments I've needed help from other people to understand some things. When this happens my partner helps me to understand. For example, if I don't understand, my classmate Lina explains it for me that means it can happen in class or maybe for any homework. On occasion, the teacher asked me a question and I'm not sure about the answer, they tell me to look at this. Here is the answer, and I appreciate that. This help is very important to me because I would not fall behind. I want to keep up with everything. I think that they know that the beginning is not easy and I know that for this reason they help me. - Rubia Gallardo, Venezuela
IELTS
IELTS is the world’s most popular high-stakes English language proficiency test. In 2009, over 1.4 million IELTS tests were given across the globe. IELTS results are recognized by over 6,000 universities and colleges worldwide - 2,500 of which are in the USA, including all Ivy League colleges. The IELTS test is easily accessible, with availability in over 130 countries. IELTS is the original integrated test, assessing your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. As preferred by many candidates, the IELTS test is paper-based. It is also the only test that offers you a one-on-one interview, so that you can demonstrate your speaking skills in a real life situation. The IELTS test takes 2 hours 44 minutes to complete and your result is valid for two years. www.ielts.org
--- International Student Guide to the USA 2010 Edition

TOEFL
The TOEFL® test measures your ability to use and understand the English language as it is read, written, heard and spoken in the university classroom. The test, often referred to as the TOEFL iBT™ test, is administered 30-40 times a year at more than 4,500 secure testing sites around the world. It is accepted by more than 7,500 universities, agencies and other institutions in 130 countries, including the top universities in the U.K, Canada, and the U.S. In order for the TOEFL iBT™ to measure how well you read, listen, speak and write in English, and how well you use these skills together, you'll be asked to integrate these skills for the test. For example, you may read a passage or listen to a lecture, and then write or speak about what you learned. Test fees range from US$150 to US$225, depending on the test location. Registration is available 3-4 months before the test date, so be sure to register early to reserve your seat. Your scores will be posted online within 2 weeks after the test date. They are also mailed to the universities or institutions you selected. ETS offers several test preparation resources to help students prepare for test day. These include the bestselling test-prep book The Official Guide to the TOEFL® Test, and TOEFL® Practice Online a complete practice test that simulates the real TOEFL iBT™ test. To learn more about the TOEFL® test and to register, visit www.toeflgoanywhere.org
--- International Student Guide to the USA 2010 Edition

Don't Forget To Bring Your Passport When Taking The TOEFL - It Is Required!!!
To Prepare for Homesickness
Students recommend buying international phone cards as a ‘must-have’ because talking to loved ones can really strengthens you through hard times. Also, bringing some memorabilia, photos, posters, music, or artwork from your country can make the transition as smooth as possible. The more you can imitate the feeling of home in your room, the better you will be able to cope with homesickness. You can also keep yourself occupied with studies, work, by hanging out with friends, or volunteering in student or community organizations. The busier you are, the less you will think of home.

Be Patient and Open-Minded.
It takes time to "use" a new language, "slang", or to get used to the food, customs, and "live in a culture". "Don’t hesitate to ask questions. Americans are always friendly and willing to offer help". "Those who are ashamed to ask will eventually lose their way". Don’t be afraid to talk to people. Try to initiate a conversation at appropriate times. Sometimes simple American greetings like "what's up?" or "what's cooking?", and a "high-five" gesture can go a long way in "fitting-in". It shows your effort of learning the culture.

Survival Tips for International Students

When you feel "overwhelmed", you should talk to people. Speak one on one especially with someone who has the time and patience to listen, and then gradually into groups where you will meet new people". Or you may want to "hang out with people from a common background, other international students who can empathize with your feelings". While designing the orientation program, the International Programs Office should provide relaxation sessions such as social/tea/coffee hours, movie night, or "buddy night" for international students. – Internationalstudentguidetothousa.com

Stay Active and Healthy
Get Involved, and be Inclusive.
Although you may feel comfortable speaking your language, hanging out with friends from your own country, and participating in the international student organization, try to include Americans in your activity or discussion. Speak English when there are other students around, and avoid building an "exclusive club" of your group. Be proud to be your cultural ambassador. Americans are eager to learn from you about your culture. Eat, sleep and exercise to stay both physically and mentally healthy. This will sustain a positive attitude while adjusting and adapting to a new culture.

Lastly, remember that you come to study in the States "not only for grades and degrees, but also for a social life and community, and learning the culture". Allow yourself to be integrated into an on and off campus community, and participate in departmental and student activities, registered student clubs, and other volunteer organizations. If resources are available, take advantage of the time you are in the States, go travel and see different parts of the United States. This will enable you to enjoy your experience!
My Journal

Last weekend, I went to LA with my brothers. We departed from Bakersfield very early because we had to open our restaurants at lunchtime. When we arrived in LA, we bought many ingredients and we met my brother's friends to have breakfast together. After we finished our businesses, we went back to our city. During the way, our car accidentally ran out of gas. We stopped at the Pyramid Lake. My brother (Alex) and I blamed my older brother (Jimmy) for this accident because he didn't check the gas before we went to LA. He said that he forgot, but I think he talked about another person too much. However, he always forgets something easy. Thus, he didn't concentrate on the car. After we parked the car, my brothers decided what to do with this situation. We had to call the Triple A for our gas. We lost $86 for the new member for 1 year. We waited for the gas about 1 hour, but I was happy because we stopped at the nice place. I looked around that place. Everybody was enjoying, but Jimmy was very moody. However, I didn't help him. Alex and I spent the time taking the pictures and having fun. Finally, The car from the Triple A came. We got the gas and we went back to Bakersfield. Thus, we opened the restaurant late. For the next time, I will check the gas myself and I hope that I won't have to call Triple A again.  

- Tanawat Phromma, Thailand
**Last weekend**

Before the weekend Jerilyn and Whestley from the Partnership Group invited IELC student to go to Ventura Last Saturday, escaping from the heat in Bakersfield. Therefore, I went to Ventura with Jane, Fahad, Abdul and Daisy. We had a lot of fun! The temperature there was 67 degrees, much cooler than Bakersfield. The water temperature was cold. I have never seen before because in Thailand the water is warm. Even though water was cold, we enjoyed playing in the sea very much. We played boogie board, buried Abdul in the sand, Whestley taught me how to surf, but I couldn’t do it because the waves were not too strong. If I have a chance, I will try to be a surfer again. After we finished playing in the sea, we went to the pier, took picture with Ventura sign and had dinner. We walked around downtown for about one hour. We were very tired after that, and we went back to Bakersfield around six o’clock. This is a first trip with my IELC friends. I enjoyed it a lot. Everybody had a great time. I also like the weather there, which made me feel that I didn’t want to come back to the heat in Bakersfield.

- Tanutporn Ponjaroenrat, Thailand
List of Good Study Habits

Go To Class: Always, always attend class. You don't know what you will miss from your next lesson if you are not present in class. Attending class could save you from missing out on a "surprise" test or clues to your mid-term exam.

NO Cramming: Trying to get the most of any subject into your brain right before a test is not going to work. Instead try to study a couple of hours a day and be sure to be rested.

Read Before Class: Reading today's lesson before each of your classes gives you an advantage over the other students. The information will be fresh in your brain and you will be able to understand better what is going on in class.

Prioritize Your Tasks: The student with good study habits prioritizes what is most important and starts working on the project way before it's due.

Do Your Homework At School: Doing your homework at school is more comfortable and doable than waiting to get home to do it. Once you are at home you want to rest, right? Well, try completing your homework before getting home.

Talk to Your Teachers: Teachers are not that bad, in fact they could help you pass the subject if you talk to them and explain what the areas on which you are having trouble are.

Join Study Groups: There are many ways of getting most of your studies; one of them is joining study groups. These study groups are super beneficial to get most of your questions answered.

Beat Procrastination: Procrastination is a major issue for students but once you get passed it you will be more productive.

Clutter Free Study Space: Always make sure to study in an area that is free of other books, papers and distractions. Clean up your table and make sure you only have what you need to work on in front of you. Nothing else!

Prepare For Tests Ahead Of Time: If a test is coming up in two weeks then start reading your material today. Read one or two pages daily... when test time comes you will just know the test or exam is nailed!

Know Your Schedule: Become familiar with your schedule. Be aware of what's coming up next, classes, tests, exams, projects. This will keep you on track big time. -squidoo.com
Thanksgiving
November 28th, 2013

Thanksgiving Day, is a holiday celebrated in the United States on the fourth Thursday in November. It has been an annual tradition since 1863, when, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelled in the Heavens", to be celebrated on Thursday, November 26. As a federal and popular holiday in the U.S., Thanksgiving is one of the major holidays of the year. Together with Christmas and New Year, Thanksgiving is a part of the broader holiday season.

The event that Americans commonly call the "First Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World in 1621. This feast lasted three days, and was attended by about 53 Pilgrims and 90 Americans. The New England colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating "thanksgivings"—days of prayer thanking God for blessings such as military victory or the end of a drought. -Wikipedia.org

My Father Helps Me

I become happy when my father helps me. I will write about it in four steps. First, my father helped me learn to drive. He was patient. Second, he likes to be happy. He helped me to travel abroad and to complete my studies. Third, he helped me solve homework. Fourth, he helps me if I am not happy and it works, so I am happy. Thank you for listening. - Ibrahim Ghaban, Saudi Arabia

My Father Helps Me

Today I will write about my father. He is of average age. He's working with the government. He cares about his family. I love him so much and I miss him. From the first day I came in to the world my father helped me many times, with food, clothing and studying. First I will write about food, he provides healthy eating with all kinds of fruits and vegetables, everything. Second I will write about clothing, he takes the best and most beautiful clothes. Finally he has helped me with studying from the beginning. So far my father has helped me until now, which is why he sent me here. He is a good person who loves me and is the one who advises me. - Galal Muharram, Yemen
Things to Do in Bakersfield

Bakersfield Museum of Art
1930 R ST., Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone 661-323-7219

Movie Theaters in Bakersfield

- Edwards Bakersfield Stadium 14
  9000 Ming Ave, Bakersfield, 93311
- Bakersfield Valley Plaza 16
  2000 Wible Road, Bakersfield, 93304
- Bakersfield Movies 6
  4200 California Ave., Bakersfield, 93309
- Maya Bakersfield 16 Cinemas
  1000 California Ave., Bakersfield, 93304
- Regency Theatres East Hills Mall
  3100 Mall View Road, Bakersfield, 93306

Indoor Go- Cart Raceway
6901 District Blvd, Bakersfield 93313
661-859-1294

Bowling

AMF SOUTHWEST LANES
3610 Wible Rd, Bakersfield
(661) 834-2695

AMF WESTCHESTER LANES
1819 30th St, Bakersfield · (661) 324-4966

AMF Bowling Centers
3610 Wible Rd, Bakersfield · (661) 834-2695

“Indoor Ice Skating”
1325 "Q" Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301
661.852.7404
IELC Students
Summer 2013
IELC Summer 2013 Demographics

During the "Summer Quarter 2013" the IELC had a total of 15 students from 7 different countries.

China - 3  
Cambodia - 1  
Yemen - 1  
Saudi Arabia-6

South Korea - 1  
Venezuela - 1  
Thailand - 2

My Weekend

I went to Ventura with my friends and classmates this Saturday. We had two cars, because our group had nine people. It took us about two and a half hours to arrive at the beach in Ventura. The leader of this trip was Jerilyn who set up the English Club in CSUB IELC for international students. She drove her car and she prepared lunch, drinks and snacks for us. Another driver was a volunteer in the English Club who named Welthly. He brought his surfboards and taught us how to surfing.

We enjoyed our happy time at the beach, even though it was cloudy and cold on Saturday. We spent more than three hours near the seaside and then walked to downtown for shopping. I saw several second-hand stores in Ventura. I haven't seen this kind of store in China. Goods in these stores were cheaper than new, and some of them even looked like new. I thought it was a useful way to reduce wasting goods.

It was the first time I went out without my family and all my companions were foreigners. It was a challenge for me, but I did well. I'll never forget this day. I love Ventura and I love all my friends. - Daisy Shao, China