



High-tech Electronics

By: Yawen Karmen Situ (ESL 33B)



Having high-tech electronics, especially an Apple product, such as iPhone, iPad, iPod, or Mac-book, nowadays seems to be a trend. Almost everyone has one of those fashionable electronics, and they seem to be must-have accessories. Most students on campus can do many cool things with these electronics, such as playing games, surfing the internet, chatting with friends, and listening to music. Students who already have high-tech electronics still want to have better electronics when they come out. Students who do not have these latest electronics want to get one very badly. In fact, these high-tech electronics have both positive and negative effects on students.

Advanced electronics make students lose their focus in classes. For example, students play games on their iPhones/iPods in class, as a result, making them absent-minded. Games and music on iPhones/iPods/iPads could be a huge distraction to students during and after classes, causing them to miss the important parts of lectures. Moreover, most students are sometimes not satisfied with what they have and always want better products so they can show off to their classmates. As a result, this trend creates a somewhat negative competition for commodities among students. Students potentially can spend a lot of money buying electronics that harm them academically if not used properly.

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Sagging Pants Trend -A Sound of Protest

By: Mirhamid Salek (ESL 33B)

In ancient days, people wore clothes because they wanted to protect themselves from the cold weather. From those days, a couple of functions have gradually been added to the primitive usage of wearing clothes. Clothing has shown some aspects about people, such as belonging to a social class, level of literacy,

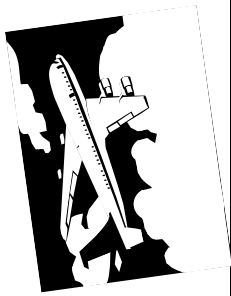
point of view about life, and even mental situation. In addition, dressing has been a sign of protest against social and traditional limitations in the society, like what hippies did in the 1960's. Nowadays, it seems that a special style of dressing is promoted in the U.S. by youth, mostly African Americans, that shows a kind of anger about their conditions and unaware-

ness about standard traditions. This new clothing trend is called "sagging pants". Regardless of efficacy and capability of "sagging pants", some of the young people try to complain and fight against the laws, by choosing this style.

The origin of "sagging pants" comes from the idea that people who are interested in (continued on page 7...)

Moving Away

By: Antonius Tambunan (ESL 33B)



Moving away is hard, and it is going to be harder if we are not prepared. Some people who prefer to stay rather than to move are usually the ones who are not ready. Because moving is such a big decision, there is some preparation that we can do in order to be ready.

First, set up a plan before deciding to move away. Do not wait until the last minute to make a decision because people usually make a bad decision when they are in a rush. For example, you know you will be moving to a new place within a few months, so you should do some research about the place you are moving to. Find out who you are going to move in with, or what kind of transportation that you are going to use. If you cannot do all that in one day and make the decision, then you should forget about moving away.

Another preparation that we can do is to talk about it with someone or family who already had the experience. Listen to their opinions or

point of views about moving away. Some of the opinions might



be bad, but some might be good. Instead of judging these opinions about moving, make the best out of them. Therefore, discussion is important.

The last thing we need is to prepare ourselves mentally and physically. Physically means we have to be in good condition and healthy when it is time to make the decision of moving away. Delaying the decision when one is sick is a good thing because nobody can think right when he/she is not 100% healthy and in good condition. In addition, mentally means we have to prepare our mind for the worst thing that could happen when we decide to move. It is very rare that something bad might happen, but we still need to consider this case. In general, physical and mental preparations help to start a new beginning.

In conclusion, these preparations should help us to get ready before deciding to move away. We have to do some research, discuss it with someone who already had the experience, and most important, prepare ourselves physically and mentally. Even though some people still think that moving away is hard, these preparations should come in handy.



Iranian New Year (Nowruz)

By: Imelda Esmaeili

Instructor: Melissa Michelson

Nowruz is the name for the Persian New Year. According to the Iranian calendar, *Nowruz* in Farsi means "new day" and is the beginning of a new year, which starts with the first day of spring. *Nowruz* usually occurs on March 21, but sometimes on March 22 or 23.

Nowruz is originally known as a *Zoroastrian* festival, and the holiest of them all. It is also believed that *Nowruz* was created by *Zoroaster* himself. *Zoroaster* was the main prophet in Iran before Islam.

In the ancient times, the Iranian Empire was very vast. Therefore, *Nowruz* is still celebrated in many different countries and is a holiday for them.



These countries are: Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

People in Iran celebrate the *Nowruz* to the fullest, and they start their celebration in *Esfand*, which is the last month of the Iranian calendar.

Iranians start cleaning their homes and start visiting one another starting from the oldest person in the family, relatives and friends. These visits are the most important tradition they have for *Nowruz*. The visits are short, around 30 minutes, because we have to visit many people in a few days.

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PURPOSE OF EDUCATION

By: Yung Chan (ESL 33B)

Instructor: Jorge Ribeiro

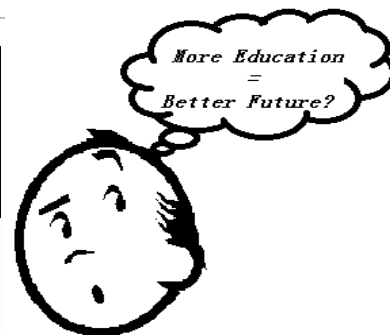
The purpose of students, who are studying in colleges or in universities, is to explore their interests in different career areas and to get as much experience as possible before they enter the working world. However, many students tend to be influenced by their parents and materialistic concepts, so they take action toward their future by categorizing whether their major or career allows them to earn a lot of money or be accepted by other people such as their friends and parents rather than choose a career based on their own interests or what they enjoy doing. An education should be based on the individual's will rather than the parents' desires, a high paying career or even what our social life suggests.

Students who choose their future career by focusing mostly on the earnings of the jobs are influenced by today's world, which often relies on money for a living. With technology advancement and invention every day, such as the latest cell phone model and the latest laptop, it suggests most of the students pursue jobs that allow them to earn lots of money. However, money

should not be the important part when it comes to deciding our future career, because not everything can be bought with money.

Some parents want their children to study the majors or pursue the career they want their children to, because the parents believe that it will be better for their children. However, that concept is not necessary true. There is a friend of mine, who is an international student. His major was mechanical engineering. However, his parents did not agree with the major he chose. They thought that he should major in Economics because it suits him better. The next day, my friend came and told me he was upset with his parents' decision, but then he could not go against his parent's words. Parents should try to understand what their children want to become in their future instead of forcing them to go against their own will.

The major we choose in college has a huge impact in our future life. It is true that the degree we get out of college does not mean that we have to get a job or career in that major area.



However, we should look for a major that is interesting to ourselves. First, if we choose a major that we love to study, we will be concentrating and focusing on classes because we love what we are studying. Secondly, if later on in our life, we find a job that interests us, we will enjoy working on our job everyday and earn money at the same time.

Every one of us should have our own choice to reach our future. We should find a major with our own interests instead of getting influenced by our parents or today's world. A friend of mine, whose name is Gu Wen, was the valedictorian of the Pasadena City College graduation in 2009. He once told me that we should follow our dream in choosing our major. He told me not to change my major because of what my friends or my parents want. There is something unique in each of us and we can reach our destiny if we believe in ourselves and not to give up no matter what others say.

Iranian New Year (Nowruz)

(Cont. from page 2...)

By: Imelda Esmaeili (ESL 420) Instructor: M. Michelson

Some of the *Nowruz* celebrants believe that whatever someone does on *Nowruz* will affect the rest of the year, so if someone is warm and kind towards their family, relatives and friends, that year will be a good year.

The last Tuesday night of the year is called *Chaharshanbe Suri*, which means Wednesday festival or the Persian festival of fire. On this night, the tradition is that people go into streets and start fires and



jump over the fire. This festival is the celebration of the light (the good) winning over the darkness (the bad). Also on this specific night people serve different pastry and nuts known as *Ajil-e-moshkel-gosha*, which means problem-solving nuts, which is the way of showing appreciation for the previous year's happiness and health.

Continued on page 4...

Summer in Cuba

By: May Ling Lopez (ESL 33B)

Cuba is the one of the largest islands in the Caribbean. The island is shaped as an alligator, from the east to the west. If you want to visit Cuba, I would recommend doing it during summer time. The combination of lovely beaches and bright sun will drive you to a joyful paradise of distractions and relaxation. There are many places you can visit once you land at Havana airport. Just don't forget to grab a map and a car that will set you free from buses. Your first stop should be old town Havana, whose music and culture will connect you with our ancestor's music and their



life style. Also, "Vinales" is a town of creaking rocking chairs where people will greet you as one of the family. This city was founded in 1875, and is characterized by its quiet, unhurried street lined with rustic pine trees. Camaguey, located in central part of Cuba, is a city where the first colonist arrived and is well known as the place where pirates used to hide their treasures. The city was built strategically with narrow streets with the appearance as labyrinths, so pirates could not escape and were finally surrounded.

Cuba is very diverse; people love



to welcome everyone to enjoy our culture and its music. Places, such as Havana, have a great variety of music. Old town Havana invites tourists to visit "The Tango House" where everyone is called to dance tango and whose repertory has the most prestigious group of musicians and dancers. Moreover, the mix of salsa, cha cha cha, Latin jazz, Nueva Trova, Afro Cuban and much more will spice your day and night in Havana. There are so many places you can enjoy on your trip to Cuba.

Cuba is a place where joyful moments are there to be discovered. If the feelings of a nice vacation come to you, you will find a place to stay in Cuba!

Iranian New Year (Nowruz)

(Continued from page 3...)

By: Imelda Esmaeili (ESL 420)

Instructor: Melissa Michelson

In *Nowruz*, almost all celebrants set a special table called *Haft-sin*, which means seven 'S's. The *Haft-sin* table includes seven specific items that start with "S". These items are: *Sabzeh* (wheat, barley or lentil sprouts growing in a dish, symbolizing rebirth), *Samanu* (a sweetpudding made from wheat, symbolizing affluence), *Senjed* (dried fruit of oleaster tree, symbolizing love), *Sir* (garlic, symbolizing medicine), *Sib* (apple, symbolizing beauty and health), *Somaq* (sumac, symbolizing (the color of sunrise), *Serkeh* (vinegar, symbolizing age and patience).



The celebration of *Nowruz* ends with *Sizdah-be-dar* (meaning passing the thirteenth day) which in fact is passing the bad luck of the thirteenth day, and is mostly done outside of the homes and outside in nature which is accompanied by throwing the *Sabzeh* (which is grown for *haft-sin*) in running water to get rid of the demons from the household.

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Imagine one day, changing your life completely. First, you move to another country with different customs, traditions, food, and a new language that you have never spoken in your life. On top of those drastic

changes, the career you worked so hard for is not valid in the new

country. This was the change I went through when I came to the United States. I would like to share my experience as a professional immigrant in the United States and provide some helpful tips that can help you as much as they have helped me.

One of the most difficult challenges for me was the language because before I came here, I had never spoken English. I remember my first week in the United States. It was frustrating because I did not understand anything anyone said. I wanted to run and scream, but what encouraged me to continue was desire to make my new life here with a wonderful person, my husband. The next Monday I started to study English as a second language at

the CEC (Continuing Education Center), and I remembered saying to myself, "I can do this!" At the beginning it was so hard and even now, but the difference is that I can see my progress in English and I want to continue learning it.

A Professional Immigrant

By: Angela Martinez (ESL 122)
Instructor: Shelagh Rose

One year and four months later, I finished the ESL courses at Community Education Center, and I transferred to Pasadena City College through the PCC/CEC Bridge Program which is a special English program for students who studied at the CEC. Now, I am taking ESL Level III at PCC, and I am thrilled to study at this school because the teachers are highly qualified and the school gives me a lot of tools to improve my English. For instance, the Reading Center, Learning Assistance Center and ESL Center are places where you can read English books, watch movies, and improve your English vocabulary that can help you to accomplish your goal as a professional.

Most of the professionals who come to this country do not continue their careers because they do not have the opportunity to study as I have, or because it



takes time to achieve their dreams, and they prefer to do something that is faster, or they ignore their profession because they have an alternative career. As a professional immigrant, we have a useful option that helps us to continue with the career we used to have in our original countries. If we want to be evaluated for PCC and granted credit for coursework completed in another country, we need to go to the L building and inquire at the Information Desk about Foreign Transcripts for AA/AS Degrees. If you do not want to transfer to a 4-year institution, I recommend looking through the internet for agencies where you can apply for evaluation of international credentials. I do not know how many units or what kind of degree they will give you for your foreign degree, but I am sure you will receive at least some credit that will help you towards a new future in this country that is now your new home.

PROVERBS AROUND THE WORLD

From: Mona Elzein (ESL 420)
Instructor: Milessa Michelson

China



1- A man should choose a friend who is better than himself. There are plenty of acquaintances in the world; but very few real friends.

2-A bird does not sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song.

3- A clever person turns great troubles into little ones and little ones into none at all.

Japan



1- Fall seven times, stand up eight.

2-You can't see the whole sky through a bamboo tube.

3- Vision with action is a daydream; action without vision is a nightmare.

Saying Goodbye

By: Tigran Avdalyan (ESL 33B)

As I have moved many times in my life, I can say that saying goodbye is one of the hardest things to do. I'm sure that many of you who are reading this have moved to the U.S. and before moving you have said goodbye to your relatives, friends and loved ones.

I was informed that I would be moving to the U.S. five days before the day of my departure. So I decided to use the first two days for preparing my luggage, the other two days for saying goodbye to all of my relatives (because I have many of them), and the last day for my friends.

The five days went by so fast, and now I'm in the United states, sharing a short story from my life with you and thinking of the time when I'll be able to go back, give a big hug to all of them who know me, and to tell them how much I love them, and how much they mean to me.

Saying goodbye is one of the hardest things in this life, but it is always followed by new "Hello's". We say goodbye not with the fear of never meeting again but with the hope to meet again.



My name is Sotheavy Kry, and I am from Cambodia. I have been living in the United States for a year and a half. I came here by winning the Electronic Diversity Visa Lottery, and I am the only one in my family who is now living in California. I was unhappy when I first arrived here because it is a new place and a new life. I didn't know what I should do first. I just knew that I wanted to study in order to receive a Bachelor Degree from the United States. The first school that I entered was called Community Education Center (CEC), which is part of PCC. It has the noncredit classes. I studied there for three semesters, but I was worried

every day because I needed the credit classes in order to transfer to a university. However, I had to attend CEC because I didn't have enough money to afford my tuition at PCC. I heard PCC has financial aid for students who have low income, yet they require a U.S. Diploma or the equivalent of a high school. I was disappointed because I don't have one, so if I want to receive the financial aid, I have to spend over two years to earn a high school diploma from the U.S.

I was deeply unhappy, and I was sad almost every day. It felt like the U.S. was a hell for my new life. One day, when I went to school, I heard they had a special program for the high school students who were allowed to ask questions about the college program or what they wanted to know about studying in college. At that time, I was an ESL student, so they didn't allow me to join this program. Fortunately, I just kept asking and telling

them that it was important to me for it can change my life. Actually, they were friendly and kind people, so they allowed me to participate. I only had one question to ask and that was if I had my high school diploma from Cambodia, would I be able to apply for the financial aid. I was delighted when they answered "Yes." They accepted all the high school diplomas from different

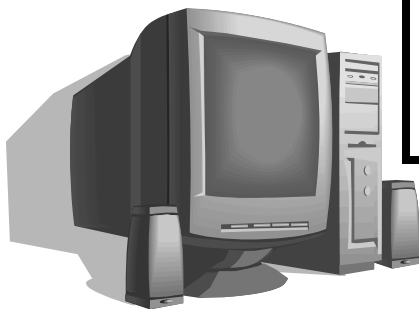
countries. After that, I came to PCC, for I received my financial aid and became the happy girl as I

used to be when I was in Cambodia. Finally, now I know what my goal is, and I will fight for it by studying hard at PCC in order to transfer to a university in California. In the end, I thank PCC for helping me to change my life and making me a positive member of society. My effort showed the results of how I worked for my future and I hope all the immigrant students, even the American students, make a strong effort to achieve their goal.

PCC Changes My Life

By: Sotheavy Kry (ESL 122)

Instructor: Shelagh Rose



Despite these disadvantages, high-tech electronics could be useful to students. Students can bring their notebooks to class and take notes on their computers, which could be more effective and save paper. With the computer and WI-FI on the phone, we can have internet access any time, which is more conven-

High-tech Electronics

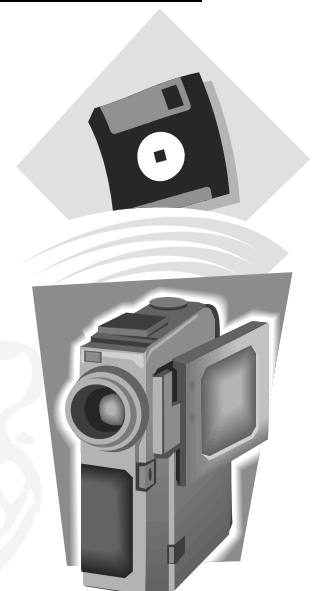
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By: Yawen Karmen Situ (ESL 33B)

ient for looking up something on line for academic questions and research. Computers and high-tech electronics can potentially provide students with a lot of academic information if used correctly. For example, students can have more opportunities to finish studying, researching, and doing homework and projects more effectively.

Every coin has two sides. If used correctly, high-tech electronics could be a great tool. If used incorrectly, technology could be abused,

and in turn, could become a huge addiction and distraction. As a student, one has to understand the advantages and disadvantages that these high-tech electronics bring. We must avoid abusing technology to the extent that it becomes a distraction. Instead, we have to be able to take advantage of technology in a positive way to help us do better academically.



Sagging Pants Trend-A Sound of Protest

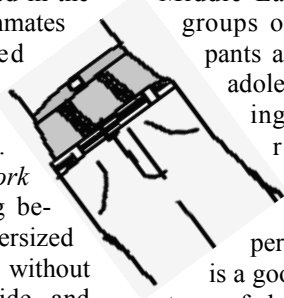
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By: Mirhamid Salek (ESL 33B)

this fashion do not like to obey the laws. Prison is where the sagging pants style has its roots. "An accepted theory about this trend is that it originated in the prison system due to inmates not being allowed belts" (Calypso). Belts can be used by prisoners for violence. According to a *New York Times* article, "Sagging began in prison, where oversized uniforms were issued without belts to prevent suicide and their use as weapons" (Koppel). There is another theory about the origin of "sagging". This comes from the culture of people who live in the ghetto. The saggy pants show off a symbol and "claims this authentic, hard, ghetto manhood" (Jones). Historical and social studies emphasize that the groups of people who have provided this fashion have not respected roles.

Protest mentality is high in youth. Young people

are ready to fight against anything that they do not like. Generally, young people could be revolutionary. Youths have a great role in recent protest movements in North Africa and in Middle East countries. Although some groups of young people wear sagging pants as a protest, a smaller group of adolescents use this trend for dressing up. Actually, it could be a reflection of their mindset.



Finally, the type of artists, mostly Gangsta rappers, who encourage "sagging", is a good reason to confirm that this type of dressing is a sign of conflict between the user and the community. The offending style was the hip-hop-influenced saggy-pants fashion, popular primarily among "young black men who let their pants drop and expose a few inches of their boxer shorts" (Florin). Gangsta rap is a subtype of hip hop. "Gangsta rap is a genre of hip-hop that reflects the violent lifestyles of inner-city youth" (Adaso). In fact, young people who wear sagging pants listen and sing along with rap music. They have a similar approach for fighting against social structures.

In our time, like in the past, people choose their clothes to show their standing in social interactions. Weird dressing like "sagging pants" is not a selection for people

who have proper manners in their life. Citizens who like this not so normal clothing are not satisfied with their situation and their community. Although these people are successful in showing their annoyance, they do not explain how they want to change their conditions. Is sagging pants a good way for any change in the protesters' conditions?

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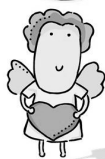


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Loving him from a Distance

By: Jhuliza Marcelo (ESL 33B)

One cardinal rule in friendships, never fall in love.

I know a cute guy from work. It's funny because he was just another ordinary boy to me until I finally talked to him, got to know him and eventually fell in love with him.

I was one of the new girls from my workplace. Everybody was nice to me so

I couldn't help but be nice to them. Though everyone treated me well, one turned out to be extraordinary and showed me that I'm more than welcome in the company. Well at least to me, it seems that way, but then, I must have misread that one.

It's funny how one person is ordinary to you one day and the next day he's all that you can think of. Andrew is one of my work mates. Technically, he

is one of my superiors and pretty much does his job well. I have high respect for people who work hard; maybe that was one of my reasons why I like him. In my first few weeks, we talked a lot over the phone. I even stayed up to 5 am in the morning because that's simply his sleeping pattern. Though tired from my day's activity, I didn't mind staying up that long because he

proved that he was never a boring person. Honestly, that was the first time I stayed up all night like that on the phone with a boy. And I was happy I did it. I thought we had something special, but then it was one of the hard-ness realizations I had yet to learn.

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PASADENA CITY COLLEGE

THE GLOBE

Be part of the team

The Globe is looking for writers for the May 2011 Issue! Please send your articles to pcc_spring2011@yahoo.com. Last day of submission is May 2.

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Loving him from a Distance (Continued from page 7...)

By: Jhuliza Marcelo (ESL 33B)

Somehow I lost Andrew along the way. The kind of lost where I didn't know what happened, what I did or said that made him turn away from me. I wanted him to be honest. I tried very hard to get him to talk to me about it but he wouldn't answer any of my calls and text messages. As much as I want to talk to him at work, I couldn't because we were so busy doing our respective jobs. I realize that no matter how persistent a person could be, eventually at some point, they too will lose patience. I grew tired of reaching out and so I let it go even though it left me hurt and confused.

After a few weeks of ignoring each other and just talking about work, he finally talked to me. I never expected that but I was glad I didn't give in that easily. My dormant feelings suddenly fired up again when he started flirting with me. I could still remember that day, what I was doing, how he smiled at me with his boyish charm, and how my entire surroundings became blurry.

It's true that love makes you blind. And that day was another proof that my love for him exists. I saw only what I wanted to see. It made me un-

derstand only what I wanted to understand. I took Andrew back like nothing had happened before, or like there was never that awkward-ignoring phase in our friendship-co-worker relationship. I might not have given in wholeheartedly on the first days he was back to talking to me again but eventually I let my guards down exposing my vulnerable self again to him. I was high again in loving him secretly. But as I thought things were going great again, he was back to ignoring me and treating me differently in a sort odd of way. I later found out that he had a girlfriend. When I learned about it, my first instinct was to cry, but then I was glad enough that I could hold it back. Though my heart's been breaking inside, outside I was doing a good job on displaying a perfect picture of myself and showing that I never learned of his relationship with another girl. But deep inside, I'm not hurting anymore, I'm already dead.

It's been a month now since that remission. I use the word remission because I'm the rebound girl. The back up. It hurts a lot that I am only the second choice. And what hurts the most was that I tried every possible way I

could tell him that he was something to me and make him love me but he made sure to show me that he's not close in doing so.

Love is a strong word; it could do a lot of good and bad things to a person's ego. I've learned to move on because of anger and rejection. I forced myself to focus on valuable things like my job and school. Andrew is still the same. But I've never talked to him yet about the recent remission stage in our friendship-co-worker relationship. Maybe I'm still buying time. Or maybe I'm still healing. But one thing is for sure, I still love him from a distance.

