

**Pasadena  
City College**

# The Globe



What is inside?



## How Budget Cuts Affected International Students

Tansykbayev Adil & Alex Chandra

1. How Budget Cuts Affect International Students?	1-2
2. Me as an English Learner	2
3. How does Color Affect People?	3
4. Superstitions	4
5. Superstitions	4
6. Marijuana is Dangerous	4
7. Making Decisions	4
8. Becoming a Master Student	5-6
9. Leaving Homeland	6
10. I Miss You	6
11. Angkor Watt, Cambodia	7
12. Education the Fundamental of Success.	8

### From the Interview with Dr. Bell and Ms. Yan

Pasadena City College has had two budget cuts between 2011-2012. The first budget cut was exactly a year ago and the second cut happened this February. These two budget reductions, which were around 4 million dollars, affected PCC because in the second budget cut, 46 sections were cut for Spring semester.

It has become harder to get classes which are necessary to finish or are required by universities, and also because of the limited registration time for international students. Tuition fees, which international students are paying, will not change. However, the problem of taking classes still exists and PCC departments are going to change priorities between students with overall high unit rate and low unit rate. This will help students with low unit rate take more classes and graduate faster. The change will affect students who took more than 80-90 units in college, so stu-

dents will have a limit on units they can take or the time of their registration will be changed. As these priorities change, it will become easier for all students to enroll in necessary classes. Because of these changes, it became harder to take classes not just for international students who have to enroll in 12 units in order not to lose their visa status, but also for citizens. The International Student Office, working for international students, is always ready to help students that have problems with enrolling in classes.

### How the International Student Office (ISO) Helps International Students Regarding the Issue

Thanks to the great work of the ISO, PCC does not have international students who have less than 12 units this semester. This semester the ISO helped international students to enroll in classes if their classes were closed or they had problems enrolling for 12 units. Therefore, the

*Globe* interviewed Ms. Amy Yan, who is the ISO director, to get more information about what they had done and if they have any future plans for the coming semester regarding this budget cut. Her concern is to help every international student in the future take 12 units when they enroll at PCC. The plan is not only to make sure every international student has 12 units but also create a schedule of classes that are useful. Ms Yan wants every international student taking classes at PCC to succeed. Every class that she arranges will help international students to get used to the American educational system. For example she is planning to put ESL and counseling in one block, because ESL will help students to improve their English and Counseling will let them know how the American educational system works, how to use the library, and how to find resources for their projects and assignments.

This semester, the ISO had assisted international students who didn't have 12 units. First, Ms. Yan went to individual departments, talked to the Dean, and discussed openings with Dr. Bell, who is very supportive in helping international students. The results were that she got around 25 add codes for students and also many more from the Math department. Math is one of the subjects which most international students need.

International students can always talk to her if they are having problem getting into classes. It is not a guarantee they can get the class they want, but Ms. Yan will try her best to find a class. One more interesting situation that we discussed with Ms. Yan was concerning a student that needs a



class to fulfill a major requirement, but PCC canceled the required class due to the budget cut. Ms. Yan said we can talk to her about this issue and ISO will work with the department to find the best solution. If the department can't provide a solution, she will personally help us by contacting other city colleges that have the major which the student is looking for.

In my opinion, we really need to thank the ISO, especially Ms. Yan and also our Vice President Dr. Bell for their efforts concerning international students.

They are wishing the best for us and doing everything they can in order for us to succeed in the future.



## Me as an English Learner

Ngoc Tran ESL 33B (Prof. Carlisi)

I started to learn English when I was in elementary school, but I did not pursue it consistently. However, my parents insisted that I take extra English courses outside of school. I abominated this language at first because it had caused me so many troubles. Perhaps, my parents wanted me to be excellent at it, but they were not aware of my terrible English skills. Therefore, I hesitated to learn since I was so embarrassed while most of my friends were more literate in English than I was. Just as I was about to give up on English, I gave myself the last opportunity by attending a speaking class, taught by Mr. Thu, and this class changed my life.

The coincidence of meeting Mr. Thu came five years ago when my father took me to his friend's English class. It was a very small-size class consisting of ten students. There was a time when my teacher told me that I was a potential student, but my reticence and low self-confidence kept me from blossoming inner talent. Immediately, like a ringing clock echoing in my head, his compliment woke me up as if I had just awakened after a long dream. I felt that it was time to engage myself in a serious transformation.

Unlike most Vietnamese teachers, my new instructor had advised me to practice American accents and American pronunciation on video tapes. Mr. Thu said that the best way to learn and absorb a foreign language was to listen and practice pronunciation of native speakers. I realized that his recommendation had inspired and encouraged me to stand up to my weaknesses and allow my talent to brighten. Because of all the hard work after two years, I became a proficient speaker and more willing to take risks when communicating with English speakers. The strategy that Mrs. Thu suggested led to my first positive experience with English.

My next success came on a beautiful day in the summer of 2009. I was very fortunate to receive a scholarship as an exchange student to the United States. Not only was I quite astonished at myself for this spectacular accomplishment at that moment but also my mother and father took pride in their little daughter as well. A few weeks later, I flew to Los Angeles to attend Rivet Academy High School. My journey of learning English started from there where I had to use English to learn about subjects such as Physics, Mathematics and Government. Using English appropriately and accurately really put me under such massive pressure.

As a foreigner, culture shock was a phenomenal matter to me when I learned that Americans expect eye contact while speaking to each other whereas it is considered rude in my country. Thanks to the time being with my peers and instructors, I eventually learned that allowing me to be exposed to another culture and language was a helpful way to cultivate my English skills and motivate my education ambitions.

Realizing that two years have gone so quickly, I am now a college student. I have determined by future goal and I wish to earn my PhD in Pharmacy at the University of Southern California. Though I will be challenged on my way to success, I will try to attain my dream, albeit with a lot of effort. Speaking of making a dream happen in reality, I have been inspired by a Susan B. Anthony speech that says, "Failure is impossible."

## *How does Color Affect People? Jason Lu*



Our world is filled with colors. People usually perceive colors as a part of the object. In fact, color is a form of non-verbal communication that has been used in our daily lives. It is always good to understand the meaning of these colors because they can affect someone in choosing clothes, drawing pictures, and decorating houses. The three primary colors will be talked about separately in the following paragraphs.

Red has the longest wavelength. In another word, red is very intense, and it is most easily perceived by eyes. That's why red is known as the color of warning signs. What is more, red is associated with heat, enthusiastic, friendship, and health. The evidence is strong that red is a good example to show the link between color and mood, which indicates love, passion, desire, and aggression. Choosing a red dress, shoes, and lipstick can draw attention and raise interest. As a color of love, red has been used to fill out heart-shapes.

Unlike red, blue has been proved to be the calm and peaceful color of the oceans and the sky. Blue provides the feeling of calmness, tranquility, and cold. Due to some of these reasons, blue has been chosen to be the main color of the Scantron in order to calm students down during the test. Blue is used as the main color of the prison jumpsuit in Los Angeles County Jail, hoping to calm the prisoners. According to "Five Steps to Hacking Your Sleep" written by Tim Ferris, blue is a perfect color to use in bedrooms because it can help people who want to fall asleep easily. Some companies use blue to interpret something refreshing such like toothpaste.

Last but not least, yellow is a color that can give us positive feelings. As the color of the sun, it provides the sense of warmth, energy, and excitement. People usually associate yellow with treasures such as gold, crowns, or gemstones. Therefore, yellow can indicate wealth, temptation, joy, happiness, optimism, and success. For individuals, driving a yellow car or wearing a yellow shirt can make other people perceive him/her as an enthusiastic person.

To sum up, colors can influence people in their mood, feeling, and reaction. A girl can depict herself in a red or yellow dress so that she could be attractive. A guy can write a letter to apologize by using blue ink when his girl friend is breaking up with him. Compared to words, this non-verbal communication is even more useful.

### NOTICE !!!

ESL Center – D306

A place for ESL students to improve their English  
Spring Hours

Mon - Thurs 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Conversation Groups

(Max of 8 students can participate due to space restrictions; first come, first served; one hour)

T 5:00 – 6:00PM (Level 1-3)  
W 10:00 – 11:00AM (Level 3-5)

For more info:

<http://www.pasadena.edu/divisions/language/eslcenter/index.cfm?Dept=esl-bsi>



ESL Center Workshops  
All workshops meet in D306  
12-1 p.m.

April 4 (W) – Chillin with the Passive Voice – (Levels 2, 3, 4)

April 11 (W) – How Exciting! Participial Adjectives in Action – (Level 2)

April 25 (W) – Coun On It! Count & Non-count Nouns – (Level 3)

May 3 (Th) – Oh, c' mon! This is SIMPLE! When to use the SIMPLE FORM of the verb (the bare infinitive) – (Levels 2, 3, 4)

May 10 (Th) – The Best ESL Websites – (Demonstration: all levels)

May 17 (Th) – Say WHAT? Reported Speech (Levels 2, 3, 4)

May 24 – (Th – repeat) Chillin with the Passive Voice – (Levels 2, 3, 4)



## Superstition in Laos

Lita Xiongsuapao ESL 122 (Prof. Potter)

In Laos people still believe in superstition because older people said it is good to know for our safety. In my country, number 27 is a bad number, and seeing a black cat is also bad luck for some superstitions. Many people do not like to live at this address number 27 because they think it is an unlucky number. Some people said if we win lotteries with the number 27 and we take this money, something bad will happen in our lives, and that is why in Laos nobody buys lottery tickets with the number 27. They do not buy this number because they are scared about the bad things that could happen in their lives. If a black cat walks across or in front of a person, it is a symbol of a bad luck to that person because old people say that a black cat comes to tell the omens. Some people believe this superstition but just 10% in my country do not believe it. Most of my country still believe in superstition because each generation continues to tell superstitions so that we will be safe.

## MARIJUANA IS DANGEROUS \_Nhi Vo

Why do teenagers smoke marijuana? Most young people smoke marijuana because their friends or siblings use it and put pressure on them. However, how many teens know the bad influence of marijuana on their lives? And yes, it will cause a lot of bad effects on young people's lives. The fact is that using marijuana will damage their brain, heart and other important organs since like all other drugs, it is chemical and also has at least four times as many toxins and cancer causing chemicals as cigarettes (Navy Alcohol and Drugs Abuse Prevention Program N-1351). As such, marijuana can get teenagers high one time but on the other hand, it will bring their lives down just as fast by making students lose their interest in studying as well as increasing crime at school and in the society. For that reason, no matter how many shirts and caps are seen printed with the marijuana leaf, or how many groups sing about it, remember this: You don't have to use marijuana just because you think everybody else is doing it.

## Superstition

Junqian Huang ESL 122 (Prof. Potter)

Nowadays, superstitions still exist and they will continue perhaps until there are no human beings existing in the world. Why do some people choose to believe in superstitions while others don't? I think it really depends on you. Some people believe that some numbers are a symbol of bad or good luck for them. There are a lot of weird and interesting superstitions around us, and people choose to believe because it is easy for them to find connections or they can find an answer to explain things that they can't explain. If you do believe in superstitions, it will probably affect your performances. If you don't, it's just another day with a new beginning.



## Making Decisions

Jie Lin--ESL 122

Making decisions is one of the most normal things in our life. We have to face all kinds of decisions every day. Some of them are large decisions, such as deciding whether to buy a house, whether to change a new job, or whether to get married. Some of them are small decisions, such as which TV program we will watch or which kind of food we will have for lunch. It is a difficult thing for most of us to make a decision.

Why are we hesitating when we have to make a decision? I think there are four main reasons. First, we have too many choices, but we are not sure which choice is the best one for us. We always want to get the largest profit when we make a decision, but no selection can meet all of our expectations. We must give up some profit in every decision. Second, we have to consider other people's opinion or feeling. We live with others, such as our family members, our coworkers, and friends. Sometimes the best choice for us may not be the best one for them. Next, we are afraid to bear the consequences of the decision we make. We are not sure what would happen after we make a decision. Finally, we don't have enough information for making a decision, so we can't analyze the gain and loss of every choice.

If we make a choice with them, they will tell us what they want or think. Maybe we will find another way to solve the problem we are facing. On the other hand, because we communicate adequately, we will not hurt friends or family after we make this decision. Finally, we must tell ourselves that no decision is perfect. We can only make a choice which is the most conformable with the current conditions. In fact, a decision can't decide all our life. Even if we make a wrong decision, we can also get our goal by other ways. It's enough for us to try our best in doing these things.



## ESL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



*The Languages Division invites you to apply for the \$250 Yves Magloe Memorial Scholarship:*

**Criteria: An applicant must :**

- \*Have completed or be enrolled in 33B this academic year (2011-2012).
- \* Be a current student with a minimum 6 units during this semester.
- \* Have an overall GPA of 3.0 or better.
- \* Submit completed application by the due date.

*Pick up an application in the Languages Division Office C247.*

- Deadline: April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 3:00 pm.
- The scholarships will be awarded at the Language Division Awards Tea on May 26, 2012



### BECOMING A MASTER STUDENT Dara Lim

The objective of this topic, how to be a master student, is conducted to help all students who want to make a decision to become outstanding. Most of them latch onto a dream of being a great student who wants good grades on their record and use all their inexorable efforts to get straight A's. In order to achieve their dream, they should practice some useful tips by Dave Ellis, author of the book, *Becoming A Master Student*:

- 1.First Step:** Students should start to know themselves in order to discover their strength and weakness affecting their learning and then commit to change what their flaws are.
- 2.Time management:** students should use time effectively and don't let every minute pass without gaining any benefit for their study.
- 3.Memory:** Learning is an active process that involves some techniques: getting all senses involved, using mnemonic devices, and recalling information as many times as possible.
- 4.Reading:** In this field, students need to follow some techniques by Dave Ellis. First, they should preview, outline, and question their material. Second, they should read, underline, and answer it. Third, they should recite, review, and review it again.
- 5.Note:** Taking notes is also one of the useful tips to develop learning skills and its process using key

words, pictures/diagrams, standard abbreviations, notes in different colors, and graphic signals.  
(Recommend: use format paper by Cornell method)

**6.Tests:** Before taking an exam, students should do daily, weekly, and major reviews. For major reviews, mostly it is conducted a week before an exam. Furthermore, knowing characteristics of the tests helps them to boost their scores.

Techniques in each test:

- *Multiple choice questions:* trying to find the most possible correct answer by eliminating first three wrong answers.
- *True/false questions:* reading the entire question and separate the grammatical part. In each phrase, students can cross out the wrong answers if they find any mistake in that phrase.
- *Open-book tests:* carefully organizing notes, readings, and any other materials that students need for answering



readings, and any other materials that students need for answering questions. Moreover, they should write down formulas on a separate sheet to help them when solving problems.

**7. Thinking:** Becoming a critical thinker, students should ask themselves these questions:



- Why are they working on this problem?
- What are the points of view that they have on the problem?
- How does each point of view support the problem?
- What if they can combine each point of view to make a new one?

**8. Communicating:** Students ought to try out their idea on other partners and contribute their opinion too. In this way, they both gain more knowledge.

**9. Diversity:** In this tip, it requires students to learn and work with other people from many different cultures.

**10. Money:** Money helps students in many different ways such as paying school fees, buying text books, and taking care of their daily expenses. Consequently, they should thorough funds for their education.

**Health:** They should avoid fad diets, get enough sleep, and do exercise regularly. All these activities enhance their ability to learn new things.

All of the tips mentioned above are useful for students who want to be a master student. They therefore should figure out how to use them to fulfill their dream.

**Note:** \* In order to get format note of Cornell, go to Google and type cornel method pdf.

**Source:** Ellis, Dave. *Becoming a Master Student*. Houghton Mifflin: 12th ed.: 2007.



## Leaving Homeland

David Ka Yui Leung ESL122

A student came to the United States by himself without any family member or friend, and he started a new chapter of his life in a country which wasn't familiar to him. While he was stepping into the departure area at the airport in his homeland, he had such emotional feelings that he couldn't explain in one sentence or even put in words. He sat in the last row of the plane and started to think, "When could I see my parents and my friends again?" "How long until then?" "A half a year? A year? Or many years later?" He couldn't stop the tears from his eyes; the only thing is he knew he had to study hard for his career training. The sooner he will finish his studies, the faster he could meet his friends again.



## I Miss You

Yiwen Long ESL122

You always show up in my mind without any reason. Even though we haven't seen each other 18 months; even though we don't talk to each anymore. You just keep showing up in my mind .

I still remember those streets we've walked together. I know I will come back to there someday. Go back to where we walked , where we sang ,where we danced , where we kissed , alone .

I may not love you anymore, but I still miss you.



## Angkor Wat, the Famous Temple in Cambodia

Channary Voeng

Angkor Wat, the symbol of Cambodia, is located in northwestern Cambodia. It became one of the seven world wonders in 1992. Angkor Wat has been called part of the world's heritage; It's also been called one of "The 50 scenic spots we must visit " by American National Geographic. In addition, Angkor Wat of Cambodia, the Great Wall of China, the Pyramids of Egypt and Borobudur Indonesia have been called "The four wonders of the world" or "The East Leg End's". Angkor Wat, built for the purpose of Hindu religious beliefs, has attracted tourists for more than a hundred years. The name "Angkor Wat" derives from a Sanskrit word: "Angkor" in Khmer (Cambodian language) means holy city, and "Wat" means temple.



Between the 9th and 13th centuries, the Khmer Kingdom of Angkor Wat produced many of the world's significant architectural masterpieces, including Small Angkor Wat. However, in 1431, Cambodian citizens once abandoned Angkor Wat city, Siem Reap, because of the war. About 400 years later, in 1886, a French naturalist, discovered the ancient-abandoned city when he was on a wildlife expedition. After that, Angkor Wat was alive again and in July 4, 1953 the king of Cambodia, called Sihanouk, declared the independence of the country and got a new feature of the flag of Cambodia which includes Angkor Wat temple in the flag until present days.



Despite the war, Angkor Wat is still in its beauty and is significant. Angkor Wat had more than 600 different spectacular temples, but some of them are now damaged; some are still attractive, including Small Angkor Wat, the Bayon, also called Big Angkor Wat, Ta Prohm, Panorama Temple, Baphoun Temple, Phnom Kulen, Beng Melea, and hundreds others.



Bayon's (also called Big Angkor) most distinctive feature is the multitude of expression. Ta Prohm have giant ancient tree roots that literally grow on the top of the stone temple. Banteay Srei has the most artistic wonder of carving of all compared to other temples.

Cambodia's population is more than 14 million. Its border countries are Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos. There were over 2 million tourists who visited Angkor in 2009, and the number keeps increasing each year. Some tourists even make a to-do list that they have to visit not only the Angkor Wat temples but also little villages around Siem Reap Province, like villages that are living on the water, Baray which is a river that crosses the city, and the interesting flea market.





## Education is the Fundamental of Success

Fnu Lily ESL 33B (Prof. Ribeiro)

I strongly believe that education is fundamental to success that can give us insight and build our knowledge for long-term effect in life. It is the most significant guidance and collateral that leads us to be able to think wisely and make substantial decisions effectively in every situation that we will face in the future.

Unfortunately, a lot of students are neglecting the magnificent benefits of education which they can get easily. Unconsciously, they also disregard learning opportunities of upgrading and gaining better prospects of success in the future. In fact, the education in the United States is fairly affordable and better quality compared to other countries in the world. For example, in Indonesia, a lot of people are illiterate because receiving education in Indonesia is very expensive. Only few parents, who are financially in middle class or above, can afford paying for their children's education fees for colleges or universities and send their children to study abroad to get better education.

Unluckily, I was excluded from these children. After I graduated from senior high school, I was unable to continue to university as my parents could not afford to pay for it. This obstacle did not impede me to achieve my goal. A few years later, I graduated with a major of business management from one of the private universities in Indonesia by my own effort without financial help from my family. I made it because I comprehended the advantages of education that determine my future. As a result, I became an executive at an early age.

Today, education is extremely important. What we have learned in school is determining our success in the future and improves our personality as well. We should treasure the study opportunity to develop positive learning behavior aggressively every day. Not only that, we also need to increase our interest in learning at any time for the value of education is priceless.

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Articles should include your name, teacher's name and class. Word limit is 350.

Deadline for submission is April 25. Thank you!