

# THE GLOBE



PASADENA CITY COLLEGE

## ESL DEPARTMENT

“Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans.”

*John Lennon*

“No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.”

*Abraham Lincoln*

“Buy land; they're not making it anymore.”

*Mark Twain*

“When a man says money can do anything, that settles it: he hasn't got any.”

*George Bernard Shaw*

“The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want; drink what you don't like, and do what you'd rather not.”

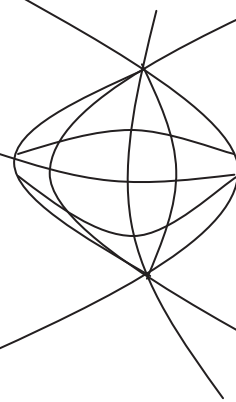
“When you sit with a nice girl for two hours, it seems like two minutes. When you sit on a hot stove for two minutes, it seems like two hours. That's relativity.”

*Albert Einstein*

“The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.”

*Oscar Wilde*

*Benjamin Franklin*  
“I didn't fail the test, I just found 100 ways to do it wrong.”



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### COLLEGE DEGREE STILL PAYS OFF

*Fedora Mengjia Han, ESL 33B*

*Instructor: Virginia Heringer*

After graduating from high school, many young people prefer to directly enter the workforce. Most students who have the opportunity, however, decide to go to college before finding jobs. Besides beginning work, an increasing number of college graduates even prefer to study abroad for their master degrees. A current situation is that one with a college diploma will get great benefits looking for jobs. Needless to say, I couldn't agree more that a college degree still pays off.



With a college degree, more and more subtle choices for building a brilliant life will emerge. Therefore, I can take it for granted that employers are willing to pay a premium for highly qualified applicants.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2!

*Cont. from page 1....College Degree...* It is a fact that many companies consider an academic degree as a stepping-stone to apply for the position. *Pasadena Star News* provides their readers with statistics that said “non-high school graduates averaged earnings is \$67,600 less than how much doctoral degree holders earn.”

That is absolutely a big jump. However, there are many people wanting to earn just enough money to keep their bodies and soul together, and that’s their choice. As a member of the young generation, I should have a long-term point of view about my future. I should keep making as much progress as I can. A college degree is a proof of competence in a supposed field. To make progress, no matter where people are, they need academic certificates support.

College degrees can no doubt cause that our dreams will come true one day. Earning a college degree is a wise decision especially in an increasingly competitive job market. Many countries are still going through a period of economic instability. Therefore, millions of people were thrown into unemployment. One subtle reason is that their academic certificates are not high enough. However, the college degree is fundamental to the success of the job, then life. Ultimately, making efforts in a college for the helpful degree can offer a more fulfilling and meaningful life.

## PCC EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

*Mona Elzein ESL 456 (level 1)*

*Instructor: Melissa Michelson*



On Monday April 1<sup>st</sup>, I dressed up, wore high heels, and took a camera with me to college, so I could interview police officer, Brad Young, with my group in Prof. Michelson’s ESL 456 class. First, I felt nervous and shy, but the officer was very helpful, and I felt comfortable during the interview. We asked him some questions, about PCC’s Earthquake preparedness, and he answered them. Here are some answers from the interview:

1. PCC campus has 30 buildings. The least safe building is the “U” building, so PCC will vacate it in the summer.


2. Each class has emergency brochures that students can look at. There are instructions on what to do in case of fire, earthquake, and other emergency situations.
3. PCC has supply kits in a big metal box. It is 40 feet long in Parking Lot # 10. It is like a small hospital. It has tents, rolling beds, first aid supplies and trauma kits, generators, wheel chairs, and water pumps.
4. PCC has training for response teams two times a month to teach PCC employees first aid and how to search buildings and how to use the equipment.
5. Every building has a working alarm if the electricity goes down because the alarm runs on battery.
6. After an earthquake, in this country by law, schools for kindergarten through high school, require safe places to send children. But colleges and universities don’t have to have evacuation plans. Students are free to go anywhere.

I hope the next earthquake that hits California will not cause a lot of damage to PCC and loss of lives.

**I N F O R M A T I O N**

*May Ling Lopez ESL 33B*

**I M P R E S S I V E**



Education always comes first and the ability of being the leader in ranking is incomparable. Pasadena City College is well known for helping students to succeed and transfer to universities. According to <http://diverseeducation.com>, an evaluation has been issued among colleges and the community college with the highest number of Asian students graduating is Pasadena City College.

Here is the list:

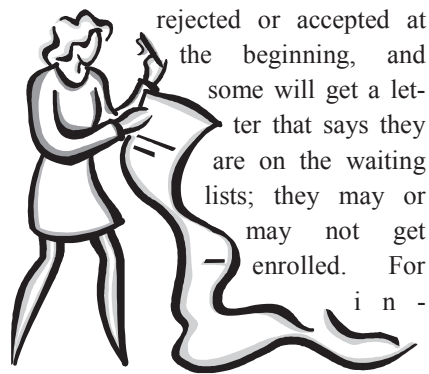
- #1 Pasadena City College**
- #2 Northern Virginia Community College, Virginia
- #3 Mt. San Antonio Colleges
- #4 City College of San Francisco
- #5 Kapiolani Community College, Hawaii

## WAITING LIST FOR PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

*Kelly Cai ESL 33B*

Have you ever been enrolled on a waiting list in any public university? Public universities are preparing the waiting list in their admissions office for each semester or quarter, and it does not mean you are enrolled in that college. A waiting list means some spots on campus might open up in the future, so you only have a chance to enroll. For example, some students want to get into their dream college, and they may want to wait if there is a little chance. Some students may just drop off the waiting list and go to a community college for the first two years and then transfer. In my opinion, public universities should not use a waiting list because students waste time plus money, and they can have a higher chance to get into another university.

Wasting time and money is one of the important reasons why universities should not use waiting lists. For example, students who are going to apply to universities need to pay for the application, but this application does not mean automatic enrollment. Some students will get



rejected or accepted at the beginning, and some will get a letter that says they are on the waiting lists; they may or may not get enrolled. For instance, a lot of high school graduate students will apply for Cal State and UC, and most of them have their own dream universities. If a person applies to five universities, and three of the five are accepted, and others are on the waiting list (including their dream university), he or she will believe there is the chance to get into the dream school, so this person will reject other universities. But later on, the student might receive another letter, and it says he or she had got rejected by their dream college because it received a lot of applications from students in this year, and the seats are full now. From this point, students had wasted a lot of money

for applications or the money for the spots that were not from their dream college; also, a lot of time was wasted waiting for the enrollment letter.

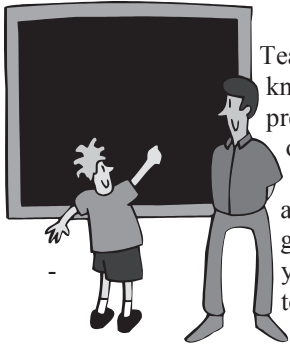
The next important reason is that students have fewer chances to get into the other public universities. Sometimes students are on the waiting list and get rejected at the end by their dream college, so they do not have another chance to get into another university because they had rejected the other universities that had accepted them. The only thing that the students can do is go to the city colleges and take all the general educational classes and some of the major classes, and then transfer to the universities again.

In conclusion, waiting lists are causing difficulty for some of the students who want to enroll to the other colleges since their dream university puts them on the waiting list.

## A LESSON FROM MY TEACHER

*Xiaohe Qi ESL 33B*

*Instructor: Jorge Ribeiro*



Teachers inculcate the students with knowledge, life experience, and precious personal qualities. Moreover, teachers provide us with company and share the laughter and tears with us along the way of growing up. As a student with a 14 year “career”, I have met many teachers among whom there is one that I can never forget. Tong, the most impressive one of all my teachers, showed me the beauty of life and the value of dream. He lit up my youth with passion.

Tong, my Chinese substitute teacher in seventh grade, walked into my world on a hot summer afternoon. Tong was a young man with bright eyes, and he wanted us to call him Tong, instead of Mr. Tong. “Who wants his friends to call him Mister, anyway?” That’s how he explained himself.

Fall came quietly when flowers began to wither, and the autumn sports meet arrived. Like any other A-class school in China, we never paid much attention to sports meets. As a result, only six people in my class applied for the sports event, compared to the

required number of 34 for the meeting. Tong lost his temper for the first time in our class. He assigned some work to each student and asked us to participate with passion.

When the meet began, Tong volunteered to be our cheerleader. Under his lead, we all shouted, screamed, and laughed like freaks. When athletes from our class showed up, Tong even ran with them. I was chosen to run the 3000-meter in the girl’s 10<sup>th</sup> grade. I was thinking about giving up after some easy running, but Tong kept running behind me. Embarrassed, I had to keep running and tried to leave him behind. Tong had a strong body because when I got to the finish line breathing hard, he was still ready for another girl’s 500-meter run.

My class received the first prize for teamwork in that sports meet, so we had a small party to celebrate this first step to final success. Tong played games excitedly with all the students and he looked like a crazy teen boy! When we were tired and sat on the grass for dinner, Tong gave a small lecture, “Learn passion and experience it. This sporting meet provides you an opportunity to work with your dear friends, and you guys should work with a crazy heart to become the best. Do crazy things when you are young because you won’t have that opportunity later.”

## A DIFFICULT RELATIONSHIP

*Jieyi Fu ESL 422 (level 2)*

*Instructor: Karen Carlisi*

I will never forget Helen, who used to be one of my close friends in high school, even though we don’t connect with each other anymore. In the past, I thought we could be close friends forever, no matter where we were. After many things happened, I knew I was wrong. First of all, Helen and I lived together with four other students when we were in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. We usually went to class and had lunch together. We had so much fun. Then when we were in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, the teacher changed all the roommates. As a result, Helen and I were in different bedrooms. Actually, I didn’t think it was a problem for us, but sometimes the truth is different from our thoughts. In the new room, Helen met many new friends, and they got closer and closer. Also, I was very busy with my studies. The 12<sup>th</sup> grade was the last year of high school. If I didn’t do well on all my tests, I couldn’t go to a good university. That’s why I didn’t have much free time to



talk, play or make jokes with Helen. I knew we had distance in our hearts, but I didn’t know what to do. Finally, high school was over and our friendship was almost over, too. Helen and I went to different universities. In university, we had a different life, different friends, and different studying environment. At that time, even though we met each other during the holidays, we didn’t know what to talk about. I thought we looked like strangers. After that, we didn’t meet or talk to each other anymore. In 2009, I came to the U.S., but I didn’t tell Helen. I thought it was not necessary to tell her about that. Every time I remember her, I still feel a little sad and disappointed. Also, I understand friendship is not easy to keep, and it is very difficult to find a true friend. Time goes by, and after I went through many things, I know how to balance study and friendship. Also, I know how to keep a good relationship from a long distance.

## INTERVIEW WITH JACOBO QUAN

*Interview by Jhuliza Marcello, ESL 33B*

**Jacobo** was an ESL 33B student in Fall 2008. He was an ESL tutor and supplemental instructor until graduating and currently he is a student at the University of Southern California.

**Jhuliza (Interviewer):** Hi Jacobo! How are you? Please tell us something about yourself.

**Jacobo:** I am good. Thank you. Well, I am a student at the University of Southern California (USC) majoring in Business Administration with a minor in Chinese. I love sports especially football. I enjoy reading leadership books and I always brush up on the *Harvard Business Review* online. I spent two years at PCC and got my Associates Degree last Spring 2010. ESL 33B was one of my first classes here.

**Jhuliza :** What was your ESL 33B class like?

**Jacobo:** Ow, wow! It was fun and challenging! This was one of the classes I remember and enjoyed a lot. I even met my now best friend from this class.

**Jhuliza :** That's nice! But did you ever have a hard time?

**Jacobo:** Yes! But it was a good hard time though. I learned a lot about writing. I couldn't be grateful enough because ESL 33B taught me a lot when it comes to my writing skills, pattern and ways. I discovered my new self here. I began to enjoy writing in English. I even got my own personal blog and developed a passion for writing. But I wouldn't have done it without my teacher's encouragement and guidance. She was a great professor!

**Jhuliza :** Cool! So is ESL 33B useful to you now?

**Jacobo:** Ow, yes! I became confident with my English. I was aware of how demanding the class was, but I am a hardworking student and when I want to learn something, I really want to learn it. And so passion and dedication comes in. Also, it was a great help to me when I aced my English 1A and jumped through English 1C. And the best thing was, it helped me a lot with my applications to transfer and prepared me for my writing classes at USC.

**Jhuliza :** That was awesome! You really got it going! Will you please share us the good ways you had when you were still an ESL student?

**Jacobo:** Sure! First off, practice. There's no miracle. If you don't practice you won't learn. Motivation. Passion. Dedication. Second, read! Make it a habit! The more you read, the more you learn. Every time you read, try to get and absorb



useful information -- as much as possible. Third, practice writing your double entry journal or DEJ, and practice your summarizing and paraphrasing. Also, if you like music and movies, try to see them or hear them in English; in that way, you could learn a lot.

**Jhuliza :** Wow! You are amazing! I learned a lot from you! I hope everybody else, like me, could use you as their example to strive hard and study more, not only in their ESL class but also in other subjects. We hope to hear from you soon; maybe your experiences in USC would be a great topic!

### Making a Schedule for Life

*Zeyang Xu ESL33A Instructor: Lia Lerner*

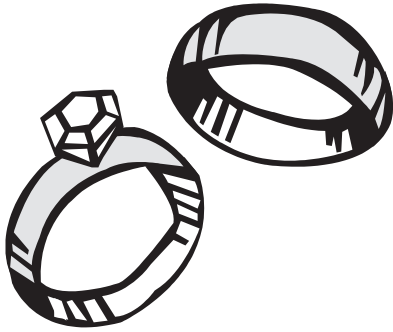
Successful people must have a schedule which fits them so that they can manage their time and do something really useful to succeed. Everyone should learn some tricks from successful people and make dreams come true. An appropriate schedule can help a person save time, keep healthy and remember every little thing or big event.

First, making a practical schedule can save a lot of time. Time is precious so if we do not save it, it will run away. In order to save it, we ought to make a good schedule. The purpose of the schedule is to tell us what we should do at different times. So if we make a schedule, our time is managed. Then we can know what to do and figure out some free time. If we do not make a schedule, we hardly know that we still have so much free time.

The second reason is that a good schedule can keep us healthy. Lily, one of my friends, is an example. Last week she told me about her confusion. She said "I could not believe that ...cont'd on page 8...."

## EARLY MARRIAGE

*Yuchen Wang ESL 33B*



Love is always described romantically and perfectly in the movies, and marriage is regarded as the way to prove love. More and more teenagers get married because they fall in love. However, these people don't know the problems that come with marriage. Should people under

eighteen be allowed to marry? In my opinion people under eighteen shouldn't be allowed to marry for two reasons.

The first reason for not getting married at an early age is financial problems. Most married teenagers are at a school age. Early marriage forces these teenagers to work for family needs, such as nutrition for children, and rent payment. Some people have to work and go to school. Some people drop their class in order to take care of their children. People don't have time to think of their educational goal or other achievement because marriage gives these teenagers lots of extra stress besides studying.

The second reason is that early marriage can cause some social problems. Many early marriages don't last too long because teenagers can not afford the stress from finances. The rate of divorce is higher among teenager couples. As a result, many children become orphans. A recent report shows that most criminals are from single parent families. So early marriage not only brings teenagers stress, but also leaves lots of problems for the whole society.

In conclusion, I think people under eighteen shouldn't be allowed to marry because teenagers haven't had the ability to solve the problems that might be met in their life.

## THREE INCH LOTUS FEET

*Eddie Bian ESL 33B*

In ancient times in China, there was a weird custom which is called three-inch lotus feet. Females wrapped their feet to stop them from growing, so that they could have little feet. These three-inch lotus feet, which are terrible from modern view, were thought to be the standard of beauty at that time.

Three-inch lotus feet became popular in the Song Dynasty (A.D.960-A.D.1279). There was a fairytale about it: there was a king had a concubine who was good at dancing. The king liked to watch her when she was dancing on a lotus stage. He was wondering why she could dance so wonderfully. Then he found out that she had very little feet that could be held in his hands. Because of her little feet, the king liked her so much. From then on small feet became popular, and more and more females liked to wrap their feet in order to marry into rich families.

It was very important for a girl to wrap her feet at that time. In China, ancient people liked small feet, because they thought it was the standard of beauty. So if a girl wrapped her feet, it meant that she would have a great future. Girls had to wrap their feet at the age of five or six. Although it was painful to stop feet from growing, girls had no choices but to do it. Parents had responsibilities to make sure their daughters had beautiful small feet in order to marry males who were officers of the empire or from rich families. It had been popular among Chinese for long time until the revolution happened in 1911. Some people stood out to destroy the control of the empire and wanted to build a new social structure where people had their rights. Then people started to realize wrapping feet was unfair for females and stopped this cruel thing gradually.

Three-inch feet had been the trend of ancient China for almost 10 centuries. Although it brings us bad memories, it is part of our culture.

## GOODBYES

*Antonius Tambunan ESL 33B*

Saying goodbyes is one of the hardest things to do. And it can happen to anyone, anywhere. I have said goodbyes to many people, but the one I remember the most happened to me in the middle of October 2009.

I went back to Indonesia with my wife and my children on September 27, 2009 to attend the wedding of one of my sisters. The wedding was on October 3, 2009, a traditional wedding. We stayed in Jakarta, Indonesia for almost 3 weeks. It was my first time to go back to Indonesia since 1995. My sister, who went to pick us up, was surprised to see me because she was supposed to pick up only my wife and my children. And also, my mother could not even recognize me as I walked in carrying one of my children when we arrived home. We had fun until it came the time for us to go back to the United States.

It was on October 16, 2009. My parents and my sister took us to the airport. My sister was already crying in the car a few minutes after we left the house. She could not go with us to the airport because she had to go to work. So we only dropped her off at the bus stop. My sons were crying when we dropped my sister off; she was still crying when we left for the airport. We had a hard time to make both of my sons stop crying. As soon



as my parents and my family arrived at the airport, we had lunch at one of the cafeterias there. We walked around after lunch and took some more pictures. My sons were excited, but my wife and I weren't. It was a mixed feeling between happy, to see my family again, and sad because I had to leave them again.

Finally, it was time for us to go. My parents waited and stayed until it was time for us to enter the gate. What made it sadder was my oldest son told me that he wanted to go home so that he could play with his aunt and his grandparents. I could not answer his question because it was so hard to answer it without tears in my eyes.



## TAIPEI

*Yun Mei Lu ESL 171C*

Every city has different features. For instance, Las Vegas is famous for lively nightlife and gambling. Tokyo is known for nice shopping places. To become someone's favorite city, it must have something really special. Taipei is my favorite city because of the local culture, the surroundings, and the convenient transportation.

There are three main features that make me think Taipei is the greatest city. First, people in Taipei are really nice and hospitable. They are friendly to everybody. If I got lost in Taipei, people would love to help

me find the right way. I will never feel bored in Taipei because there are many fun people who always like to befriend me. Second, Taipei is very convenient. I can buy all the things I want to buy without a car. Since Taipei is not a big city, everything is near. For example, I can find one 7-11 by just walking five minutes from my house, and another one in just ten minutes. In addition, the buses and the MRT in Taipei are excellent because the MRT's prices are cheap and the pollution is lower than driving cars. Third, there are many night markets in Taipei. Night markets are the most wonderful places for people to buy beautiful clothes and eat palatable foods.

*CONTINUED ON PAGE 8*

Cont'd. from page 7...Taipei



The clothes at the night market are cheaper than in the shopping mall. You can have more different

choices because there are many stores. The foods are delicious and special. You may find some interesting foods like strawberry sandwiches and fried ice cream. Therefore, Taipei is the most charming city.

In conclusion, every city has its special and excellent advantages. Although there are a lot of different cities in the world, I consider that Taipei is my favorite city. The friendly people, the short distances, and the wonderful night markets are what make Taipei so special.

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## ESL CENTER BOOK CLUB

- Do you like to read?
- Do you have a favorite book that you would like to talk to other students about?
- Do you want to improve your English through stories or non-fiction?
- Will you be an ESL student in Fall 2011?

**JOIN THE NEW ESL CENTER BOOK CLUB!**

**HOW DOES IT WORK?**

Throughout the semester, you and the club will choose interesting books to read; then you will meet and talk about the books.

### INTERESTED?

CONTACT PROFESSOR MELISSA MICHELSON  
**BEFORE JUNE 15**

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Cont'd. from page 5....Making a schedule...

I went to bed at 2 am. I am sick now! I was so bored last night that I could not figure out anything to do. So I just listened to some rock music and checked my facebook. Suddenly, I realized that it was already 2 o'clock in the morning." This happens to many students who do not manage their time. So when we make a schedule for daily life, we can know what to do at every moment. Surely, we will not forget the time to sleep. Then, we will always have enough sleep and keep healthy.

Last but not the least, we will not miss any little thing or big event when we have a schedule for life. For instance, this Monday was my best friend's birthday. I did not make my schedule recently, so I completely forgot about this date. We used to celebrate this day happily, but he is mad at me now. I feel so horrible and I have to find a chance to show him my apology. Therefore, a small schedule can do us a large favor. Eventually, making a schedule for daily life will be a habit for us. Then, we will not miss any party, meeting, or date.

Making a schedule is so useful that it can give you more time to do things which are your favorite. It can let you have a healthy body and be the best secretary to help you to keep every small or big stuff in mind. It will be so great to live a life with a schedule.

### The Globe Team

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