



The ESL Parrot

Your ARC newsletter for and by ESL students

Issue # 6

Spring 2006

Interviewing Professor Moran

What ESL classes do you teach?

I teach ESL W20 and ESL R20 for American River College. 'W' represents writing and 'R' represents reading. They are both novice courses.

How long have you been teaching?

I have been teaching since about 1994, so probably around 12 years.

Why did you decide to become an ESL teacher? What was your motivation?

I decided to become an ESL teacher because of the people I met that were involved in the field of ESL. They were friendly, light-hearted people who were also interested in intellectual and academic pursuits, and I was attracted to the people in the field and that's what got me involved in teaching ESL.

Some instructors have had many experiences teaching in different countries. How about you?

Yes, I have experience teaching in Korea. I was in South Korea for about 2 years. I taught at 2 universities there. I traveled around South Korea, and it's a very beautiful country, and I also traveled to Japan while I was there. It was an enlightening experience to live in another culture and also not be even at the survival level of the language in the country, so I probably have more of an empathetic attitude as a teacher, having been in an experience like that. Maybe

I am able to better understand students who are in this country that are trying to learn English and having a hard time doing it because I was in an experience like that myself

Do you currently teach at any other community colleges? If so, which ones?



No, I don't. I only teach here at American River College.

Do you think that ARC could make any improvements in the ESL program?

I was hoping that the assessment process would be better tracked and better designed for ESL students who enter the ESL program. There could be better communication between the counseling department and the ESL department, and the overall assessment of students and the measurements that are used to do that could be improved. I'm hopeful that as time passes we'll be able to improve upon that process so that students are correctly placed at the level that is appropriate for them.

Do you know whether other community colleges have similar assessment processes?

I don't know. I've only been exposed to the assessment within the Los Rios District. When I've taught at other campuses in this district, I have been employed in somewhat special ESL programs that were not closely related to assessment. So I'm only aware of the assessment process at ARC.

Please describe your experiences here at ARC so far.

I've taught at ARC for, I believe, twelve semesters, and it has been a good experience. I enjoy the atmosphere here and the colleagues that I have in the ESL department. I'll be probably somewhat sad to leave because next semester I'll teach at a different location in the district, Natomas. It's a new campus that's opened up, but it's very close to my home, so I chose to take it because it would be an easier commute.

What has been your most enjoyable experience here?

I have a good friendship with several of the instructors in the department including Prof. Bracco and that has been very enjoyable. The other part of my enjoyable experience has been the instruction at the lowest level in our department. I find that I have had a lot of joy teaching the low-level students, and they have enjoyed me being their teacher.

Could tell me more, a specific example, regarding your most enjoyable experience?

"There are no mistakes, no coincidences. All events are blessings given to us to learn from."

Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross



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there is innocence about the immigrant groups that I teach, and it's kind of enjoyable for me because I have to gain that trust. They have to trust me in order to be comfortable and to achieve any progress in learning English. So it's kind of an interesting dynamic. When I have worked with more experienced speakers in the English language and at the higher levels of ESL, it is a different kind of trust that develops. I just have especially enjoyed the innocence of the beginning groups of people I've worked with.

What is the difference between the students at the highest level of ESL and the lowest level?

I believe the overall design of the program is to track students

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Student Chirpings

One Month with Guests

Two years ago, my friend Ben and I went to my uncle's house. We wanted to stay there for a couple of days. My car broke down and we had to stay longer to fix my car. It took us fifteen days. My uncle was supposed to go to work, but because of us, he couldn't go to work. Later, he said, "Just wait. I'm going to bring my whole family to your house for one month." Sometimes people don't like to have guests for a long time. There are three steps to take to have guests for only one month: prepare your house for them, spend time with them, and get rid of them.

The first step is to prepare your house for them. You need to know how many people you are going to have and what you need to feed them. Then you can get ready for them. After you invite your guests, or they invite themselves, you can figure what you need to buy to feed them. You might need a lot of groceries, so go to a grocery store and buy some food and soda., unless you want to take them out to lunch or dinner, which is expensive and not a good idea. In addition, make sure you have enough beds or mattresses and blankets for them. If you don't, that's ok. They can sleep on the floor. I slept on the floor, when I went to my uncle's. Finally,

make sure you talk to your neighbor about the noise level during the month.

The second step is to spend time with them. When you have your guests, you have to make them happy. You could borrow a video game from one of your friends for their kids. You could also invite more people every night; that way your guests won't get bored. If you work, and you have to do something at



home, bring it for your guests. Make them to do it for you! My uncle made me to do his filing for him when I was his guest. You could also buy a lot of movies for them to watch, so they can watch movies while you cook or you are at work. However, you might have a big problem if you have more than five guests. Yes... bathroom line! Just think about every morning, everybody is in the bathroom line, waiting to use the bathroom. Remembering the first step, you could talk to your neighbor to

see if your guests can use their bathroom.

The last and most important step is to get rid of your guests. As long as they are happy, they will want to stay more, maybe more than one month. You don't want that, but you can't just kick them out. You could try to make excuses about being home late. Or you could sometimes make their food salty. But remember that, maybe one day, you'd be their guest. So you have to be very careful not to be mean to them. The best thing you can do is, when you talk, always talk about your life problems, that you have to pay your bills, rent, and car payments by the end of the month. Hopefully, they will notice you are busy and they will leave on time.

Again, there are three steps to take for having guests for only one month. If you take them step-by-step, you'll be happy by the end of the month. If you don't take the steps for having guests, then you'll be sorry. Taking the necessary steps will allow you to be ready for whenever guests come over. The first step is to prepare for your guests. The second step is to spend time with them. The last step is to politely get rid of them.

Milad Haghighi

Seven Secrets to Learn English

Secret #3: DON'T LISTEN!

In the last secret, I said LISTEN! LISTEN! LISTEN!
Now I say **DON'T LISTEN!** What do I mean?!

Do you know the difference between the verbs TO LISTEN and TO HEAR? TO LISTEN is active. TO HEAR is passive.

Sometimes you can LISTEN too hard. Sometimes you can TRY too hard. Sometimes it is better only to HEAR. Let the radio play. Let the cassette play. But DON'T listen.

Just HEAR. Your subconscious will listen for you. And you will still learn. If you listen and try to understand, you may block on one word and get frustrated. Don't worry! Just HEAR! Believe me, you will still be learning. The important thing is to let the radio or cassette or television or record play. Let it play. And you - you do nothing. Your brain will HEAR, your subconscious will LISTEN and you will LEARN!



Low-key

Meaning:

Quiet, on a small scale, and not attracting a lot of attention.

If something (an event, etc.) is **low-key**, it is not intended to be big, look important, or involve a lot of activities.

Example:

Sam and Jane want to keep their wedding as **low-key** as possible. They will invite only a handful of people to their wedding.

He spent a lot of money for the last presidential campaign, but this time his campaign for reelection will be **low-key**.



ESL WEB LINKS

*Pronunciation - English Club
<http://www.englishclub.net/pronunciation/index.htm>

*Americanent Training
They sell Accbooks and CDs at this site, but there is also a lot of free information on their site.
<http://www.americanaccent.com>

*American English Pronunciation Practice
<http://www.manythings.org/pp/index.html>



Grappling with Grammar

Active Voice, Passive Voice



The **active voice** is the "normal" voice. This is the voice that we use most of the time. You are probably already familiar with the active voice. In the active voice, the **object** receives the action of the verb:

active	subject	verb	object
	Cats	eat	fish.

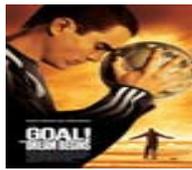
The **passive voice** is less usual. In the passive voice, the **subject** receives the action of the verb:

passive	subject	verb	object
	Fish	are eaten	by cats.

The **object** of the active verb becomes the **subject** of the passive verb:

	subject	verb	object
active	Everybody	drinks	water.
passive	Water	is drunk	by everybody.

WHAT'S NEW IN THEATERS



Goal! The Dream Begins
May 12
The inspiring story of a Mexican-American kid who has to decide how much he'll risk for a chance at soccer superstardom



Over The Edge
May 19
In this fun and quirky animated movie based on the long-running comic strip of the same name, critters discover the delights and dangers of suburbia



X-Men: The Last Stand
May 26
Your favorite mutant heroes—plus a few intriguing new characters—return to save the world. Plus, the very existence of their superpowers is on the line.

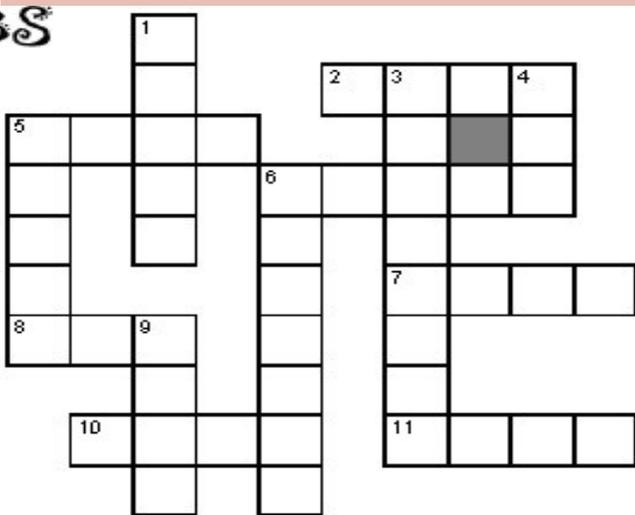
ACROSS

- 2. What is the opposite of bad?
- 5. What is the opposite of far?
- 6. What is the opposite of sad?
- 7. What is the opposite of hard?
- 8. What is the opposite of cold?
- 10. What is the opposite of low?
- 11. What is the opposite of West?

DOWN

- 1. What is the opposite of white?
- 3. Happy is the _____ of sad
- 4. What is the opposite of wet?
- 5. What is the opposite of South?
- 6. What is the opposite of sick?
- 9. What is the opposite of thick

Opposites



Dear Granny Noetal,
I am 18 years old. Some of my not-so-little friends say there are no easy teachers. Papa says, "If you see it in The Parrot, it's so. Please tell me the truth; are there no easy teachers at ARC?"

Virginia Pita ESL 40

Yes, Virginia, there are no easy teachers. They don't exist, as certainly as homework and tests and oral reports *do* exist. Alas! How dreary the world would be if there were easy teachers! A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, there will still be no easy teachers at ARC. There are only hardworking, caring, diligent, entertaining, high-energy, cerebral, clever, provocative, curious, inspiring, challenging, and humble teachers. You want "easy"? Try the School of Hard Knocks. Tuition-free. (With apologies to Virginia O'Hanlon and Francis P. Church)

Granny



Word Search
The Media



F	S	O	A	S	W	E	N	A	A	L	R	J	I	F
P	U	B	L	I	S	H	E	R	A	G	U	T	U	R
R	K	I	N	T	E	R	V	I	E	W	S	N	E	W
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	R	K	S	I	I	P	M	Q
T	S	A	C	D	A	O	R	B	N	T	O	I	A	B
R	O	I	D	U	T	S	Q	M	E	R	N	C	G	D
E	Z	T	S	I	N	N	U	L	T	R	V	I	A	F
C	P	Z	D	Z	R	L	L	E	M	O	I	S	Z	N
U	E	E	P	A	O	U	R	S	W	N	F	I	I	E
D	N	D	D	C	B	L	A	N	R	U	O	J	N	T
O	O	I	I	A	N	N	O	U	N	C	E	R	E	W
R	O	T	A	T	N	E	M	M	O	C	K	P	M	O
P	L	L	U	M	O	N	E	W	S	P	A	P	E	R
M	B	P	R	O	G	R	A	M	P	R	E	S	S	K
N	L	A	I	C	R	E	M	M	O	C	K	F	H	X

Announcer	Commercial	Network	Publisher
Broadcast	Editor	News	Radio
Bulletin	Editorial	Newspaper	Reporter
Columnist	Interview	Press	Station
Commentator	Journal	Producer	Studio
	Magazine	Program	

More Student Chirpings

My Dangerous Life

Dangerous accidents can happen in the life of each person. Especially, if you like adventures or new situations, you might be in danger. I had dangerous situations too. I'd like to share one example. It was in Germany in 1990 and it was a very dangerous moment for me.

I dreamed to see Europe, because "perestroika" opened borders to the former USSR and once my friends, who had gotten to Germany 3 years before, invited me to Germany. It was a very interesting trip because I saw amazing places, architecture, and gothic temples and I met new people, but I wanted to connect a pleasure with profit. I searched for a job on foot and used public transportation, and in a couple of days I saw, by chance, a big circus. Probably the director of the circus was in a good mood, and it took me five minutes to get a job in this circus.

I took care of an elephant. I cleaned this huge animal and fed it. I didn't have any previous experience in the job with any animals but I said nothing to the director because I wanted to keep my job. The elephant was always very aggressive to me; it tried to hit me with its legs, screamed, waved its trunk, and wagged its tail, but I liked my work and continued to try to become friends with it. I liked the elephant; it was a part of my romantic legend.

I imagined myself as a hero in the African Savannah. I brought loaves of bread and carrots to the elephant on my time off. But nothing changed its relation to me.

Once I was close to its trunk. I have to say, that I usually worked in the back of the elephant's trunk. I tried to be safe, and the elephant was peaceful on this day, but I forgot the danger. Suddenly, the elephant



pointed its long trunk in my side, and caught me around the neck. I couldn't scream; I felt just weakness... the elephant pulled me forward toward its own tusks. These long seconds dragged on. Suddenly, I felt my energy came back to me and I started to resist, and I kicked it... Nothing helped...and...I inserted a finger in the wet tip of the trunk, in its nostril...The elephant opened his eyes wildly, and surprisingly, straightened the trunk and

sneezed loudly...It was a miracle; I had saved myself. I'd escaped from the deadly hug.

Each animal has its trainer. Trainers bring up animals and teach them to do tricks. When the trainer of the elephant found out about this event, he complained to me. He said that I should have told him about the elephant's aggressive behavior much earlier. Then he called me to the tent with the elephant. He took a long stick. The elephant saw the stick and shook. He hit the animal. The elephant screamed loudly. I was sorry for the elephant. If you do your job and get used to doing it, usually you like it, especially if it's regarding animals. I thought of the trainer, "What a fascist!" The trainer told me that fear helps control the animals.

Since that time, the elephant changed its behavior. It began to behave very well with me. It started to obey me. If I told him "down", the elephant lay down. It was very convenient for me because I had to clean his back. Eventually, I understood that it is a myth that animals like people. Animals are taken from natural environments. They will always want freedom. People should be careful with animals.

Mikhail Spiridonov , ESLW - 310

A Day in the Life of an ESL Tutor : Linda Hernandez

As I wake up in the morning I realize today is Monday, the day I have to go to work. "Another day at the ESL Center", I say to myself. I get ready, grab a bite to eat and head out the door. My commute from my home to work takes me roughly fifteen minutes. It is only ten miles away. When I began working here, I knew I would be helping students improve their English skills but I never knew that I would be learning so much from these individuals. They are real people who have gone through real life struggles. Sacrificing what they had to come to this country was a big step, but I have the privilege to help them in another even larger step, that is learning English so their hopes and dreams can be achieved once again.

A hand is raised. "Check me please". I grab my pen and walk over. Before I begin correcting the module, I ask them about their weekend, family, and life in general. Most of the students are friendly and all they need is someone who will be willing to give them their time and patience so they may be understood. I must admit that it was harder for me at first to understand what the students were saying. Many of them have accents that are hard to understand.

This is when I begin to interact with them and I learn things about them. Let me tell you about Nataliya Varshytska. As I was talking to Nataliya I found out that she was 22 when she came to America. She has been here every since. She is married and is the mother of 4 children ages 9, 8, 4, and 10 months. Not only

does she come to ARC to learn English, but she also works for ARC. Nataliya works in the cafeteria in the evenings Monday through Thursday. As you can see, the students that come through the ESL Center are special and important. Everyone is important! I love making the students that I help feel proud because of their English abilities.

I would have to say that the funniest part of my job is conversation or speaking class. During this half hour, four or five students have a seat in one of the speaking rooms. An instructor or tutor comes in to lead the conversation on a specific topic for that day. I love speaking class. Even though there is a specific topic we should talk about, I sometimes choose my own topic. Other times the students want to change the subject, and that is fine with me as long as everyone is speaking and learning English. I tell my students, "I am only a 19 year old tutor, and all of you are easily over 30, and you expect me to teach you?" I tell them. "I want you to teach me."

I think I learn just as much as they do when we come together at the ESL Center. All in all, I love helping people and I believe I have tried my best in doing so during the time I have worked here. I cannot wait to come back next semester. Now as my shift is coming to an end, with my purse in hand I walk around asking if anyone needs any help one final time. I say my good byes and hope for another wonderful day at the ESL Center.



Out of the Cage

THANKS!

☺ I would like to acknowledge my entire ESL L 320 class for being such good learners, for taking risks in class and trying things outside of their comfort zones!

Prof. Krista Hess

☺ I'd like to acknowledge my entire L50 class for so consistently trying and so successfully using the chart in 304 next to the door, which helps them to use polite language when they have questions during class.

Prof. Ryther

☺ I would like to thank Vadym Golub and Claudia Albu for always making sure that all the chalkboards are clean prior to class.

Prof. Limmanprasert

☺ I would like to thank all the contributors to The Parrot and especially to Cynthia Valenzuela, our student editor, without whom The Parrot would be a dodo. Thank you also to Joshua Buller and The Current for their kind words about The Parrot. A special, special thanks to Duplicating Services, who've gone beyond their job descriptions in cranking out so many issues.

Prof. Bracco

Lost and Found

In the interest of efficiency and service to the students, please bring your found items to the Campus Police weekly so that when students come in to claim their property, we can have it cataloged and available to them. If you find vital property such as wallets, purses or keys, please bring them over right away or contact us, The Los Rios Police Department, to give a description of the item so that we can direct the student as to where to claim it.

Feel free to get in touch with us for any question or concern at 484-8019

Questions / Comments?

Please let us know what we can do to improve "The ESL Parrot".

We appreciate any and all feedback you are willing to give us.

*Send us an e-mail, call, or just drop by Professor Bracco's office
D387 (at Davis Hall)
braccop@arc.losrios.edu
(916) 484-8988*

ARC Applied Music Student Recital

The ARC Music Department is proud to present our Applied Music Students in recital on May 11 beginning at 12:20 pm, and May 15 beginning at 7:30 pm in room 512 of the music department portables.

Admission is free to this event.

Interview Information & Techniques

This workshop includes: Researching the organization; reviewing the anticipated questions; making a professional presentation, and body language and presentation
Career Center Wednesday, May 10, 2006
from 10:00 to 11:00 pm
Call 484-8492 to register

ARC Concert Choir & ARC Chamber Singers Concert



The ARC Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, directed by Dr. Ralph Hughes and accompanied by pianist Heidi Van Regenmorter, will present a choral concert at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 3235 Pope Avenue in Sacramento on May 9 at 8:00pm.

The choirs will sing an eclectic mix of classical, Broadway, and popular music. They will also celebrate the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth by presenting movements from his Requiem. Admission to the concert will be \$8-General; and \$5-Students and Seniors.

For more information, please call Dr. Ralph Hughes at 484-8357.

Professional Dress

Join this workshop and learn how to make a positive first impression. Topics will include specific interview attire for a variety of different career environments. Discover shopping techniques and how to dress once you get the job.

*ARC Career Center
May 10 from 12:30 to 1:30*

Jack London Ranch (The Call of the Mild?)

When I was a little girl, I loved to read stories full of adventures and risks. No wonder Jack London was one of my favorite writers. As I became older, my interest in London and his writings grew. He had lived a short but adventurous and difficult life. For many people, living several lives would not be enough to do all that London had done in forty years of living in this world. He was a prominent writer and a remarkable person. I have admired this great author for so many years, so it might be hard to imagine what a great experience it was for me to visit the ranch where he had lived and worked the last several years of his life.

Jack London State Historic Park is located only a few miles off Highway 12 near Glen Ellen, California. It is a picturesque place with hills, vineyards, and eucalyptus trees. The ranch has many interesting structures and sites to explore. One of them is the House of Happy Walls. The structure was built by Charmain London, London's second wife, a few years after he died. She wanted it to be his museum,

and so it is now. The museum exhibits a great collection of photographs that depict Jack at different periods of his life. What is more, it contains many interesting and unique items that Jack brought from his numerous voyages to the Pacific islands.



Another interesting site is the ruins of Wolf House. London spent a few years building it. Unfortunately, only a month before the Londons were supposed to move in, a great fire took place and destroyed London's hard work. Almost a hundred years later, the ruins are still there. I could see what a great building it was intended to be, a palace or a castle, rather than an ordinary

house. As I walked around, I thought what a great deal of energy, hard work, and money it probably took to build the house and what a deep wound it must have been to London, seeing it destroyed.

A little cottage was London's actual home at the ranch. It is empty now. All the furniture and personal items were moved to the House of Happy Walls. When I walked on the sleeping terrace, my heart started to pound fast. Strange and breathtaking feelings filled me. This was the place where the great man had passed away. I had the same feelings at London's gravesite, which is located on a little hill and marked with a big rock from what was left of Wolf House.

Visiting Jack London State Historic Park was one of the most exciting events in my life. I think this park is a great place to visit. In addition to introducing visitors to Jack London's world, the park offers wonderful opportunities for hiking, riding horses, having picnics, and just enjoying the amazing landscapes of California.

Olga Poltavskaya

Immigration Lawyer Wows Listening/Speaking Class

Are you interested in who told me, "Do what you love to do and success will follow?" Well, it was guest speaker Tiffany S. Sharp, an attorney specializing in immigration and naturalization law. She came to an ESL listening class April 26 to answer student questions regarding immigration law. She explained that at the beginning of her college career, she had had no great desire to be a lawyer. However, after graduating from college with a business degree and working for some time in the advertising industry, she decided to listen to her heart, and also her dad, who

mentioned that she would be good at arguing! She took the law school entrance exam and soon received her acceptance letter to law school. She decided to specialize in immigration law. It turned out to be the right choice for her because during high school she had had a lot of exchange-student friends and had a special feeling for them.

During the ESL class, Russian, Ukrainian, Romanian, and Costa Rican students asked Ms. Sharp questions about American policies related to their personal situations. In answer to my questions after class, Ms.

Sharp pointed out that many immigration lawyers were immigrants themselves and estimated that women comprised 30%-40% of immigration lawyers in Sacramento. "What qualities should someone have to be a lawyer?" I asked. "You need to develop analytical, oral, and verbal communication skills," she replied. One last piece of advice for ESL students was "never, never give up and, no matter what people say, follow your heart." Even *she* couldn't argue with that!

Aliona Burcatoia

Tail Feathers

Memorial Day

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

"The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet church-yard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit."

During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.



This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Miss.; Macon, Ga.; Richmond, Va.; Boalsburg, Pa.; and Carbondale, Ill.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, N.Y., the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags. By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War

I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. (Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor all veterans, living and dead, is celebrated each year on November 11.)

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington Na-



BIOLOGY QUIZ TODAY!



Class, Who can tell me what I have preserved in this jar? No, it's not a pig or a baby cow...it's the last student who got cheating on one of my tests

tional Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Also, it is customary for the president or vice-president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/memorial/index.jsp>

Interviewing Professor Moran (from page 1)

over about a 7-semester period, so there is a wide-range skill level between the most-advanced and least-advanced students in the program. In theory, the most advanced student who has tracked through the program for 7 semesters would then be able to move into the English department, not the ESL department, but move out of ESL into English and probably do a pre-1A type of English course. Some might be ready for English 1A, but they're very close to being able to jump into English 1A after these 7 semesters in the ESL program.

On a different subject, I heard that you are interested in mu-

sic. Any special genre? If possible, could you tell me if you have an amusing anecdote related to music?

I'm actually interested in many genres. I am a pop composer and I'm a music writer and arranger, and so I actually work in a number of different pop media, including rock, blues, jazz, rockabilly and those kinds of areas. That kind of puts me on the spot. Many people don't know that I'm kind of a Jekyll and Hyde personality. Actually, I'm more highly-trained in music than I am in ESL or some of the other academic and intellectual fields I work in. Many people don't know that, even though I

might have known a person for many years. For example, when I just come out with the latest CD that I wrote and recorded, quite a number of people didn't even know that I play music, so they were pleasantly surprised to find out that I have those abilities.

Finally, please tell me your philosophy as an ESL instructor.

Generally and briefly, my philosophy is "treat students like you would like to be treated as a student." Also, keep an "egalitarian attitude," which is one where I see that we're all equal. Sometimes they are the teacher and I'm learning from

them. It's so useful to try not to put yourself above the students, especially in ESL, but to try as much as possible through different techniques and technologies to be at their level. It's almost like if you're a parent or your children really open up, when you sort of become a child and engage in their play activities and their games, and they forget you are an adult. It's almost analogous to ESL teaching. You want to be engaged with them and work in groups and don't talk in a complicated style. You are the most effective as a teacher that way.

Hea Kyung Kim