

ESSENTIALLY PALS

The Program in American Language Studies Newsletter

<http://pals.rutgers.edu>

Session V- 2007

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Students,

We are delighted to bring to you the session V issue of "EsSentially PALS". As you can see, we need more of your contributions. This is a great opportunity to share your writing talent. Remember, this is your Newsletter and we want to keep it that way!

This session, PALS started two new offerings: GRE prep and Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (CTEFL). Both these courses were offered as Continuing Education courses and were very successful. The CTEFL course is an online course with a practical component. The students, mostly native speakers, get to interact with PALS students when they come to observe classes and deliver their practice lesson. Thank you so much for your cooperation. All the CTEFL students had something wonderful to say about PALS program especially, the students.

As expected, this session's cultural event, PALS Sports Day was a great success. Dan Spink, our special invitee and the judge for our poster competition was delighted to meet with the PALS' family. Another important highlight of this session was the field trip of 'Life & Technology' class. They



visited the local police station and saw the old and the new versions of technological gadgets used by the police. Our very sincere thanks to Sgt. Dudash & Lt. Shannon for giving so much of their time and educating our students.

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As we come to the end of our session, many of you are planning to go home and meet your loved ones. I wish you a very happy and restful vacation and look forward to receiving you back at PALS.

Bon Voyage!

Dr. Veena Kumar

From Denise's Desk

I hope everyone is having a wonderful session! Please don't forget these very important dates:



Session V ends on August 13, 2007.

The payment deadline for **Session I is August 21, 2007.** Please pay by this date in order to avoid being charged a late fee!

Session I begins on Tuesday, September 4th, 2007. Returning student orientation will be in the Yorba Lounge at 11:30 am. All schedules and books will be issued at that time.

If you are graduating or transferring from PALS, please submit your requests for transcripts, certificates and letters before you leave PALS!





Mary Ellen's Corner

It's hard to believe that the summer is coming to an end! I hope everybody is enjoying their summer at PALS. Before the session ends, please keep a few things in mind:

-If you are **transferring** to another school after Session V, please make sure to **make an appointment with me before August 13, 2007**. Once you have been transferred, you must contact your new school to pick up your new I-20. If you are traveling home for the break, I suggest that you pick up the I-20 from your new school *before* you leave. You will need the new I-20 to return to the US.

-If you would like to **travel outside the US** for vacation, please bring your I-20 to me for a travel signature *before* you leave. The signature ensures that you will be returning to PALS when you return from vacation. You must pay a deposit for your next session before I can sign your I-20. **Please do not leave the US without a travel signature on your I-20!**

As always, if you have any questions, please stop by the PALS office. I hope you have a wonderful break and I look forward to seeing you again in September!

Cultural Event Session V

The theme for the Cultural Event of Session V at PALS was **Sports Day**.

It was an outdoor event, held on July 26, 2007 to celebrate summertime at PALS. Each class participated in various games and activities, which included Beach Volleyball, a Three-Legged Race, Kickball, a Hula Hoop Contest, a Poster Contest, and a Water Balloon Race. Awards were given out to the winners of each event, and the class who won the most activities.



Congratulations to the following winners of Sports Day 2007!

- **Kickball**
Winning Class: *English in Everyday Life*
- **Hula Hoop Contest:**
Ji Hye Uh and I-Wen Hsu *The Campus and the Workplace*
- **Water Balloon Race:**
Hui Yeong Lee of *Evaluating Media* and Marieme Dembele of *Experiencing American Culture*
- **Beach Volleyball**
Winning Class: *The Campus and the Workplace*
- **Three-Legged Race**
Winning Teams: Yu Guo & Hok Wing Tong of *English in Everyday Life Class*; Yung Lin Chen & Hung Lin Chen *The Campus and the Workplace* class; and Jee Soo Chung & Jee Yoon Chung of *Issues and Opinions* class
 - **Poster Contest**
Winning Class: *Issues and Opinions* class
Topic: "Sports and Violence"



Apart from the activities, the Cultural Event also allowed the students to make new friends, practice their English, and take part in an American-style outdoor picnic! Much congratulations to Gretchen Klein's *The Campus and the Workplace* class for winning the most events. Their star athlete, Sangjoon Lee, delivered a stellar performance in Beach Volleyball and Kickball, and led his team to success. The class was rewarded with a pizza party. Much thanks to the staff and students of PALS for their creativity and dedication, who made Sports Day 2007 a great success!



Interview With Ms. Catherine Barrier



PALS INTERVIEWER:

Ms. Catherine [Barrier], how long have you taught at PALS?

BARRIER: I started teaching in PALS in 1992, after teaching Developmental English Composition and Critical Reading courses in the Rutgers Writing Program. Before that, I taught French at Montclair University and was a French Teaching Assistant here at Rutgers, while working on my Masters degree in French.

PALS INTERVIEWER: What do you like best about teaching at PALS?

BARRIER: Over the years, I've liked different things about my teaching experience in PALS. I guess, in general, I've liked the eagerness to learn that most of the students have had, the variety of courses that I've been able to teach, and the opportunity to meet and interact with young people from all over the world on a regular basis. It's been interesting not only to learn about their different cultures but also to notice the changes in their ideas, values, etc. over time.

PALS INTERVIEWER: When you're not teaching, what do you like to do—in your free time, for example?

BARRIER: Free time? What's that? No, seriously. To relax, I enjoy reading, writing, doing research, singing, playing the piano, crocheting (I'm working on my third afghan this summer), walking, and traveling. These things help me to "recharge" and also provide me with more material for teaching in future PALS courses.

PALS INTERVIEWER: Why did you start to teach, and why do you continue teaching?

BARRIER: I suppose it's because I love to learn. Life is full of learning, and I'm glad that I have the opportunity to help the students here at PALS to continue their learning adventures.

Student Contributions

The Edison Police Department

Jung Won Choi
Life & Technology

The police department is the very place that needs technology. It is getting convenient more and more that police officers investigate a crime through advanced technology like the Automated Fingerprinting Identification System (AFIS). Additionally, patrol cars have some equipments such as digital cameras, portable microphones, computer, etc. These cars are versatile, so the police can easily cope with crime. The communication center was the most interesting part for me. This center is a secure area, so civilians can't enter without the police's permission. It was small, but it is the same communication center that I saw through movies. I don't know exactly what kinds of equipment are used there, but technology must be the most useful there.



I have never been at any police departments in my country. I have just visited to a civil affairs office in the police department a few times. However, I think there are no significant differences between the police department systems of the two countries. The police departments on Korean TV are almost similar to the Edison police department except the holding cells. The holding cells are shared by several people who have the same gender in my country.

The Best Experiences

Elsa Contreras Jiminez
Reading & Writing to Communicate

I am here because I decided to get a change in my life. I took the decision to come to the US last year. I wanted to learn English. Then I came here and I am studying but I am learning many things more.

The most pretty is that I am meeting people from other countries and I am learning about their customs and about themselves. They are really good people. I have fun with them. About the learn English, I am so happy because at least I can communicate with other people much better and I wish I will be better day by day.

During first section was difficult for me. I could talk and understand with the classmates, but now it is easier.

Finally, I didn't expect to learn another thing different the English here, but now I am surrounded with new, special people of which I am learning too.

Jessica Hye Yeon Oh
Essays Reading and Writing

Thomas Wolfe, an American novelist, said that you can never go home again. I think that "going home again" is harsh, no matter what it is.



Everyone may have had unforgettable memories, such as fabulous foods, a cherished lover, or beautiful sceneries. These kinds of memories would never be erased in one's mind. In my case, I loved my grandmother's foods. She was an incredibly nice cooker. I could feel that she poured out her soul whenever she cooked. I have never seen anyone like that before. In fact, our family is a huge family that has a lot of regular annual events. At each event, my grandmother would cook various cuisines, which were not only delicious, but also tempting to eat. Unfortunately, she passed away four years ago, so I can't eat her foods anymore though, I still long for her cooking, as much as I long for her.

Using Adjective Clauses
Developing Compositions Skills I
Mijeong Kim



Dear my father and mother,
Hello! I'm Mijeong. How are you doing?

I have been very fine and enjoying fantastic summer days, thanks to you. The sky is blue and clear as I could not find any clouds. More

interestingly, America's summer is the people. Americans look like "summer people". Everyone who grew up here, even if he or she is an elder, knows about how to enjoy summer. Everyone who has some time, goes to the beach or to the pool to swim. So, on holidays or on weekends, there are few people on the street.

They are also enthusiastic for a sun bath. People lie down everywhere if there is the sun and grass. It was a culture shock at first when I saw them lying in a park and wearing a swim suit. But in a minute, I realized that the strange thing was just me not anyone whom I was looking at! No one who passed by them cared and gazed at them like me. If you come to Central Park, you must say that they are crazy. However, that is not a big surprise in the U.S.A. I know someone who walks around downtown wearing just a swimsuit. In this case, even Americans might be surprised.

Americans usually have amazingly big and wonderful vacations. Their vacation days are longer than Korean's and often they spend much money at that. Everything which is enjoyable is included in their vacation. They do anything which include skin diving, fishing, a cruise trip, and nothing is impossible during summer vacation. No one who is going vacation seems to thing that this money is a waste, rather, they save income for a vacation for several months.

Among the summer people and their passion, I am becoming a summer person. I have found a new personality which I did not know. I can get along with anyone whom I meet and I like everything which people do in the summer. I hope to invite you to this hot summer world. I would like to see your happy smile as in everyone's face who is enjoying this summer world!



