

July 2010

The Official Newsletter of LINC Home Study

NEWSLINC



LINC Home Study

LINC Home Study is an English language program for newcomers to Canada who wish to improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. This program provides students with the opportunity to learn English in the comfort of their homes and is open to immigrants who have permanent resident status and convention refugees 18 years or older.

Classes are taught by certified TESL instructors, who contact students every week to review homework, practice speaking and answer questions. Students have a choice of using their computer to study English or having a traditional textbook. All the study materials are based on the Canadian Language Benchmarks standards.

Is there a fee for this program? No. The program is funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and as such, all study materials are provided free of charge to participants. LINC Home Study students are encouraged to study independently for between 5 to 10 hours a week, and to finish homework on a regular basis. To be successful students have to study hard, and commit their time to improving their English skills. The teacher is there to guide students along on their path to significant language improvement.

The LINC Home Study program offers many other study options, including **drop-in conversation classes**, **additional phone conversation classes**, **a seniors program** and instruction for **deaf and blind** clients.

We encourage all LINC Home Study students to take advantage of the options available to them, to participate in the online LINC Home Study **forum**, to contribute to our monthly newsletters, and to their journey in learning English.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the July issue of the LINC Home Study newsletter.

Our feature article focuses on the world wide phenomenon that is the soccer world cup.

As usual, we have some great submissions from students in the program, including a couple of fantastic recipes to tickle your taste buds.

We would like to say thank you to all those who submitted articles in June. Please continue to send us your articles, feedback and comments every month. Readers whose comments on the featured articles are published in future newsletters may be awarded a prize!

Enjoy!

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Program Updates

What's new? The LINC Home Study program held its first Drop-in Conversation session in Toronto on Saturday, June 19, 2010. The session was held at the YMCA Dufferin Street location in North York. Twenty one students attended and they were quite excited with the lesson as well as the venue. The students' feedback was positive and we are hoping to make this an on-going event. Stay tuned for updates on new locations.

LINC Graduation: The annual Halton LINC graduation was held at the Halton Regional Building in Oakville on June 15, 2010. The LINC Home Study program had 155 graduates this year. Erick Diaz Benitez was the LINC Home Study guest speaker. The ceremony was covered by Cogeco TV.

Peel LINC Picnic: The annual Peel LINC Picnic was held on Friday, June 18, 2010 at the Mississauga Valley Park. It was well attended by students and teachers from many LINC programs in the Peel regions. LINC Home Study staff, teachers and students attended. Highlights of the day's event were music, dances, a wide variety of games and selection of different types of food. The picnic ended with the singing of the O Canada anthem and the cutting of a cake.

Program Activity: The number of seats in the program for 2010-2011 is 1250. As of today, the program currently has 1140 students.

Drop-in Conversation Sessions: Drop-in Conversation sessions are going very well as students continue to use this opportunity to improve their communication skills. The weekly feedback is quite positive. Unfortunately, the program cannot accommodate all the wishes of the students with regards to child care and bus tickets.

Additional Conversation Classes (by phone): 78 students are enrolled in 6 conversation classes and 82 are on the waitlist. The new session for additional conversation will begin in August. Additional conversation classes are offered as 8 week sessions to interested students in the LINC Home Study program. Students are encouraged to speak with their teachers if they are interested in participating in these sessions.

LINC Seniors & LINC Women: These Discussion Groups are delivered in partnership with NIC at 4 of their locations: Mississauga, Malton, Brampton East and Oakville.

LINC Seniors: Mississauga -	Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Oakville -	Fridays 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
LINC Women: Mississauga -	Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Oakville -	Saturdays 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Brampton East -	Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

LINC Home Study Canada: This program (*formerly National Delivery*), spans the country from the Atlantic Provinces (NB, NS, PE and NL) to the western regions (AB and SK) of Canada. Under the capable supervision of the 10 LHS Canada TESL-certified teachers, 178 newcomers across the country are developing their English skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing from their homes.

For more information on any of these programs, please email the LINC Home Study office at help@linchomestudy.ca or LINCNDhelp@linchomestudy.ca OR visit the website:

<http://www.tcet.com/linchomestudy/>

Feature Article

WORLD CUP 2010

The **2010 FIFA World Cup** is the 19th FIFA World Cup, the premier international association football tournament, being held in South Africa from 11 June to 11 July. It is the first time the finals of the tournament have been staged in an African host nation. South Africa were selected as hosts in May 2004 over Morocco and Egypt, following a bidding process open only to African nations. The previous World Cup finals were held in 2006 in Germany, while the next World Cup is due to be held in Brazil.

The finals tournament sees 736 players representing 32 qualifying teams compete in games held in ten stadiums across the country for the World Cup trophy. The 32 qualifying teams were selected from a pool of entrants comprising 204 of the 208 FIFA national teams in a qualification process that began in August 2007. With 204 initial entrants, the 2010 World Cup equals the 2008 Summer Olympics as the sports event with the most competing nations.

The finals began on 11 June with the group stage, in which the 32 qualifying teams were reduced by half by playing in groups of four teams for points over three matches per team. The 16 remaining teams advanced to the knockout stage, beginning on 26 June. Ties after normal time are settled using extra time or a penalty shootout if necessary, up to and including the World Cup Final, scheduled for 11 July at Soccer City stadium in Johannesburg.

The official mascot for the 2010 World Cup is *Zakumi*, a leopard with green hair. His name comes from "ZA" (the international abbreviation for South Africa) and the term *kumi*, which means "ten" in various African languages. The mascot's colours reflect those of the host nation's playing strip – yellow and green.

The official song of the 2010 World Cup "Waka Waka" is performed by the Colombian singer Shakira and the band Freshlyground from South Africa, and is sung in both English and Spanish.

The match ball for the 2010 World Cup, manufactured by Adidas, is named the *Jabulani*, which means "*bringing joy to everyone*" in Zulu. It is the eleventh World Cup match ball made by the German sports equipment maker; it features eleven colours, representing each player of a team on the pitch and the eleven official languages of South Africa.

The 2010 FIFA World Cup is expected to be the most-watched television event in history. Hundreds of broadcasters, representing about 70 countries, are transmitting the Cup to a cumulative TV audience that is predicted by FIFA officials to reach more than 26 billion people.

Adapted from Wikipedia



Staff Reflections

A DAY IN THE PARK – LINC PICNIC 2010

by Edith L.

On Friday, June 18th, a celebration took place at the Mississauga Valley Park. Two days prior to the picnic, the skies were filled with dark clouds and raindrops. But on this day, the sun was shining brightly with light cool breezes in the air. It was a perfect day. It was perfect for a celebration of hard work and dedication. It was a celebration for all LINC students in the Peel region. Upon arriving at the park's parking lot, we were led to the center of the celebration by a trail of energetic and upbeat music. In the heart of the celebration was a crowded 'dance floor' on the open lawn, where people gathered to perform dance moves from all around the world – belly dance, reggae, disco... and the list went on. The dance floor was surrounded by a sea of people, banners and posters. While students engaged in activities such as badminton and volleyball with teachers and family members, children roamed around the park playing skip rope and bubbles.

Midway through the celebration, the emcee quieted everyone down for the singing of our national anthem, the 'O Canada'. While everyone proudly sang the national anthem at the top of their lungs, the members of the Canadian Hearing Society were busy gesturing hand signs for those with hearing impairment. After the national anthem, Karen McNeil, director –represented from the Centre for Education and Training – thanked all of the attendees for their continuous commitment to the LINC programs, and for making the Peel LINC picnic yet another great success. The speech ended and people quickly got in line for the main course, cakes! Then the celebration gradually came to an end. Everyone packed up their banners, equipments and leftover foods and headed to the parking lot. All the while, with smiles on their fatigued faces.



Edith L. is an Administrative Assistant with LINC Home Study program.

A WHOLE LOT OF SHAKING by Lillian W.

Where were you when the earthquake shook? Did you feel the building move? Is it something you'll remember for a long time?

Yesterday's earthquake was the biggest news of the afternoon. It pushed the World Cup Soccer Games and G20 Summit conversations on the backburner for rest of the day. It invoked emotions of excitement, fear, disbelief and awe all at once. For many, it was a shock, simply because they had not associated earthquake with Canada.

Living on an island in the St. Lawrence River is peaceful and serene. Sitting on our porch, watching the large, cargo ships, navigate by, is our pastime during the summer months. As a rumble began to pass through our home at 1:42 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, I thought it might be one of those ships cruising by, awfully close. I ran upstairs to go outside, all the while, the floor underneath me vibrating and the glasses could be heard rattling in our kitchen and dining room cupboards..." This couldn't be the result of a ship passing by." I thought to myself...no ships in sight.... As I stood there, alone, a sensation of panic moved through me...I felt my heart stop momentarily...I immediately picked up the phone and called my husband to confirm my disbelief...as he answered, I knew instantly that an earthquake had struck...minutes later, I heard on our local radio station reporting the 5.0 quake, 53km north east of Ottawa...only an hour away from our home. Luckily, there was no damage in our area.

As the day progressed, the talk about the earthquake that shook South-eastern Ontario, and could be felt in Toronto and Mississauga, continued. The last time such a thing happened, in this neck of the woods, was in 1944. At around 7:00pm, that evening, we received a call from a good friend of ours, who wanted to know if we were all right. He informed us of the tornado that had just come through their town, Midland...The nightly news warned of possible tornadoes coming our way during the night...needless to say, we were in total disbelief of the day's events. No tornadoes came.

Wednesday, June 23rd, 2010 is a day our family will not soon forget.



Lillian W. is a teacher with LINC Home Study program.

Student Reflections

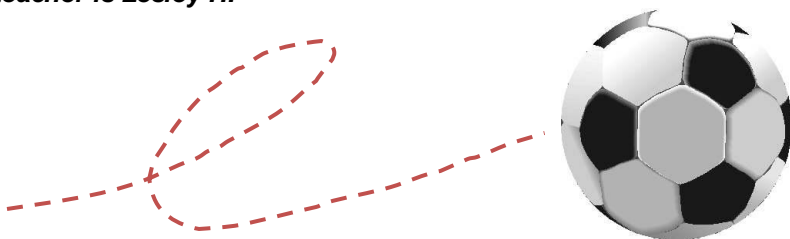
MY FAVOURITE SOCCER TEAM by Mohammed A.

Everybody has different hobbies that they like to do for fun. They can be either physical activity like football, swimming and skateboarding, or mental activities like reading, watching movies, and playing chess. The hobbies are different from person to person depending on each personality. For me, soccer is my hobby because soccer is the king of sports in the Middle East. It is not surprising that I grew up with a soccer ball.

Playing soccer is still my favourite sport and it is my hobby whenever I have free time. It is interesting and amazing, especially the feeling when I or my teammates score a goal. That feeling fulfills me like I have just achieved something very important. Playing soccer also helps me to relax and be confident when I have stress and frustration. Moreover, soccer is not only about passing and kicking the ball, but also requires a lot of thought and some basic skills. So, I often practice it and obviously, I feel healthy and stronger. Besides that, soccer has also taught me the spirit of teamwork. However, I not only like playing soccer but also enjoy watching soccer on TV.

Soccer is very popular all over the world nowadays, especially with the World Cup in South Africa. I am so excited to watch the games which have many famous teams playing such as Brazil, Germany, England, Spain, Holland, etc. My favourite team is Brazil. Brazilian soccer is more than just a game, it is a national pastime; in Brazil, the sport would be considered by some to be a part of their heritage. Many of the young boys start learning the fundamentals of the game at a very young age just like Ronaldo, Zico, and others. I am so happy whenever Brazil wins but I will get angry and do not sleep well that night if they lose. That is maybe the only disadvantage of my lovely hobby.

London Region – Mohammed A. is a Level 5 student. His teacher is Lesley H.



Canada Day celebrates the event that occurred on July 1, 1867, when the British North American Act created the Canadian federal government and allowed Canada to become an independent country with its own government.

Canada Day is considered a Family Day with outings, picnics, and celebrations of the birth of our nation. We wave flags, sing songs, and enjoy the day. This day unifies all Canadians who go outside to celebrate the day in different ways and show their love and their pride for their country.

For me, as a new Canadian, I feel that it is very important for me to celebrate the day with my family, to share the love Canadians have for their country, a country that gave us a lot and welcomed us from the very moment we became members of this wonderful country. My family and I usually go to the park where there is a big picnic with different kinds of activities for kids and a barbecue. We finish our enjoyable day by watching the fireworks at night.

My kids love and enjoy celebrating Canada Day and so do I. It is a wonderful day that gives you a feeling of belonging to the great country of Canada.

**Newfoundland and Labrador – Fania J. is a Level 6 student.
His teacher is Rachel B.**



Comics



Student Reflections

RENE HIGUITA by Paula S.

Rene Higuita was a goalkeeper with the Colombian Football League. He was born on August 27, 1966 in Medellin, Colombia. Rene was a famous Colombian Football goalkeeper. He played for the Colombian side Atletico Nacional in Medellin. He played for this club for most of his career. His Club won many cups in Colombian and South America; one cup they won was the *Libertadores Cup of America* in August 1993.

Rene Higuita became a famous goalkeeper in the football world because his team played against many of the most important football teams in world. He made many great saves and was a very active member of his team. He invented the Scorpion Kick.

One of his best and most important games was against Diego Maradona, a very famous star from Argentina. In this game, Rene Higuita's team won 5 to 0 against Argentina. That game became famous all over world. Rene Higuita demonstrated great skill and ability for the game.

After that game Higuita become a huge star and he had many offers to work in Colombia for different clubs and he also received offers from around the world. Rene Higuita retired from playing football in 2007. In January 2008 he started to teach the Second Division team Deportivo Rionegro. He retired from teaching in January 2010.

He is married to Magnolia. He has three children. Rene has a son and daughter with Magnolia, and one daughter from a previous marriage. Rene Higuita's son plays with the Juvenile Football Division, Deportivo Cali and represented Columbia at the South American U-15.

In 2005, Higuita participated in the reality TV program *The Island of the Famous: A Pirate Adventure*. This TV show is similar to the *Survivor* reality TV show.

Peel Region –Paula S. is a Level 3 student. Her teacher is Michelle C.



COMING TO CANADA

by Santosh P.K.

I came from India. I came to Canada in 2004 with my family. We came by air and we landed in Canada at the Toronto Pearson Airport. My sister and her family received us at the airport and we went to my sister's home, but I was scared because I came to Canada for the first time.

My first year was very hard, because everything was new for us. After two weeks my husband got a job and my children went to school. After two years we started our own business. Now we are happy here. We like Canada because Canada is a good country for living and the living standard is good and there is a bright future for our children. Also, the rules and regulations are good. Canada is becoming my home.

Peel Region – Santosh P.K. is a Level 4 student. Her teacher is Carla M.



SWIMMING

by Larysa S.



People started to swim ages ago. If you look in history books, you can find early records of swimming; some are around 7000 years old. Swimming is different from other sports because you don't have to buy any equipment to do it. You just need a few lessons about how to be safe in the water, and how to do the different strokes, e.g. front crawl, back crawl, and the butterfly stroke.

Most schools try to involve kids in extracurricular activities such as swimming. Swimming teaches kids how to be active, and how not to be afraid in the water. I used to be a part of that process in Ukraine. I was born near the Azov Sea, Ukraine and used to go to the school over there. We took swimming lessons in second grade, and had swimming tests every year until the end of the school year. It is very important to be able to swim, especially when you live near a pool.



I remember the day at summer camp when one girl tried to teach me how to swim on my back. I was so proud of myself at the end of that day when I was able to lie on my back on the top of the water and didn't go underwater. It was an amazing feeling. Today, I still like to swim in summertime, and go to the lake. Even in wintertime, I am able to go to the swimming pool in Melford. When I'm in the water, I feel relaxed. I can play with my kids. My daughter is only a year old, so she hasn't gone swimming yet, but I hope she learns. We are going to Ukraine this summer, so we'll try and introduce her to water before we go.

Saskatchewan – Larysa S. is a Level 5 student. Her teacher is Andrew V.

Student Reflections

ENCOURAGEMENT

by Tao Z.

In the long journey of learning English, there are plenty of variables affecting our study. Experts have already suggested many, like initiative, practise, insistence, memorization and conversation. But, just recently, I realized that encouragement plays an important role in learning a language.

I was inspired by a small event. I phoned my friend and the phone automatically directed me to leave a voice message, so I left a short message. After many years of learning English, I was confident to leave a short message. Unfortunately, my friend called me back the next day and told me he listened to my message three times to figure out the meaning. He enhanced his tone when he said, “three.” I felt uncomfortable immediately and felt depressed for a couple of days.

I asked myself many times if I was as bad as he said. As a result of this experience, I fear speaking with this friend in case he laughs at me again. I shorten my conversation with others in case they give me negative comments that bring me down. I hesitate in a conversation if I need to repeat myself in case I am not understood. I have totally lost my confidence. I believe many learners whose English is their second language have the same feeling.

In a class or in a working place, some people don't know how important encouragement is when someone is learning a language. Maybe just a small recognition of my efforts, a positive word, even a greeting or gesture can light the fire of confidence, and initiate talk with others and the sharing of opinions. What's more, if someone points out your positive actions when you make mistakes, you will get rid of depression quickly and engages in figuring out the solution from the mistake. That's exactly what our teachers or our bosses expect as an outcome.

I like talking with my teacher through the phone as she indicated that our conversation is more like friends talking instead of teaching, which encourages me to talk a lot and makes me confident talking in an open conversation. Therefore, encouragement looks like a dose of medicine not only to stimulate a learner persisting in their studying, but also to enhance their efforts.

Toronto Region – Tao Z. is a Level 7 student. Her teacher is Brenda V.



FATHER'S DAY

by Sajida S.

Father's Day is a holiday which honours fathers around the world. It is celebrated in Canada on the third Sunday of June. This year it fell on June 20th. Father's Day is not a public holiday because it falls on a Sunday each year. Most of the countries celebrate Father's Day on the same day as in Canada except Thailand. They celebrate it in December on the same day as their King's Birthday.

Father's Day has different origins. For example, the pagans related this day to the Sun. In paganism, the Sun is the father of the Universe. The first time Father's Day was celebrated was in 1910, in the 20th Century, in United States. It was the idea of Sonora Smart Dodd who was inspired by the Mother's Day celebrations in the United States. It soon became very popular in the US and around the rest of the world.

On June 19th 1910, young members of the YMCA went to church wearing a different coloured rose to honour their fathers. If they wore a red coloured rose, it meant that their father was alive. If they wore a white coloured rose, it meant that their father had passed away.

Although the name of this day is Father's Day, it is related to all the paternal figures such as Step Father, Godfather or other 'father' figures. Everyone celebrates this day with their loved ones. People give their fathers cards and gifts. Children celebrate with their fathers by taking him out to dinner and playing games. My children are planning to buy a tool kit for their father.

Peel Region –Sajida S. is a Level 4 student. Her teacher is Jonathan B.



MY DAD

by Millie P.

Every year around the world, many families celebrate Father's Day. Some people are especially sad if they have lost their father, who had been such an important member of the family.

My dad, passed away 19 years ago, I felt very sad for many years. I would like to have my dad alive and by my side to enjoy with him this remarkable day.

For eight years he fought with cancer and he never stopped working until 12 days just before he died. He was a strong man, who woke up every day early in the morning, to go about his daily routine. I don't feel sad any more. I have my dad in my mind and I think of him every day because he was an exceptional man, a father, husband, a loyal friend and a good neighbor. He taught me many things, how to be patient, persistent and work hard. He raised his family in struggling financial circumstances, in Cuba. In the early years during the last century, life in Cuba was hard and a real struggle.

The best celebration I can give to my father is to cherish his memory every day, remember his good attitude, his respect for people even for a child, and what he taught me, to study, to work hard and learn how to be a better person every day. He was my hero.

In some countries many fathers' lives are in danger every day, due to constant war or working in the hardest conditions, fighting against nature and struggling or fighting for freedom. Every father in this world deserves a good day every day of his life, not only on Father's Day. On this special day in June when we celebrate Father's Day with families and friends it is a good time to give a card or a special gift to your daddy. I wish a Happy Father's Day to everyone who is a father.

London Region –Millie P. is a Level 6 student. Her teacher is Jonathan B.

Student Reflections

BANKING IN AFRICA by Ida D.

I come from West Africa, the Ivory Coast. My country is beautiful and plays an important role in the economy of the neighboring countries because of its' agriculture (producer of coffee, cocoa, pineapple, wood, cotton, etc.), logistics (bearing, an international airport, roads, etc.), mining, industry, commerce and potential.

The banking sector is very important in the economic system of my country. The bank began in the Ivory Coast in 1939, initiated by France, the colonizing country. After independence, the banking system was organized into four big groups: the commercial banks, the deposit banks, the merchant banks and the development banks. Today, we speak about credit institutions including banks and financial institutions.

This system is just like banks in most non-developed countries. It is weak and still doesn't meet the needs of the population. There are several commercial banks who work in reality as deposit banks. It is partially the fault of the population which is not used to repaying their loans.

There is, in reality, no database containing all the information about the customers - so the risks of fraud and the loans not being reimbursement can be reduced.

Besides, the electronic system is still not very reliable. The debit card is used but the credit card is almost non-existent.

When I was in Africa, I had a bank account. I notified my bank of my departure from my country. I couldn't close my account before leaving because some money would be paid to me at the end of the month. I left the country with my debit card. When I arrived in Canada, I couldn't get the balance from my account using my card so I continued to withdraw money until it was not possible any more. It meant I didn't have money anymore in the account. Sometime later, I received notification that I had withdrawn from my account more money than I had. I owed money so I had to pay it back. How was it possible? How could I withdraw more money than I had? I understood that it was one of the weaknesses of the banking system in Africa.

In Canada, according to my reading, three reasons explain the population's trust in the Canadian banking system: the caution of banks in loans and investments, a better management of the Canadian banks and the regulation of the banking sector by the government.

The proof was that the USA financial crisis in 2009, which caused several bankruptcies, did not affect the Canadian banking system. The banking sector in Canada is healthy and helps to support its' economy.

The using of debit cards, credit cards and online banking in Canada are current and secure.

In conclusion, the banking system in Africa is still weak but many efforts are being made to make it more competitive and secure.

Toronto Region –Ida D. is a Level 5 student. Her teacher is Rose D.



Have you ever wondered what is distance learning or e-learning? Distance learning is a term used to describe the process of teaching and learning where the instructor (teacher) and the learner (students) are separated by time and/or physical place. In the same way, e-learning involves the use of the computer and internet technologies to deliver the knowledge and to communicate. Over the last years, distance learning has been rapidly growing by leaps and pounds for its many significant and considerable benefits. The following are some of these advantages.

Distance learning is economical not only for the learners, but also for the learning institutions. Students do not have to commute which saves money usually spent on fuel, parking, car maintenance, or transportation. Furthermore, they do not need to be in the same city or country of the learning institution. As a result, there is no money to be paid out on board and lodging. On the other hand, distance education is economical for the learning institutions as no classrooms or other materials have to be provided for the teachers and students. For all of the above we can conclude that distance education can be considerably cheaper than attending a traditional college.

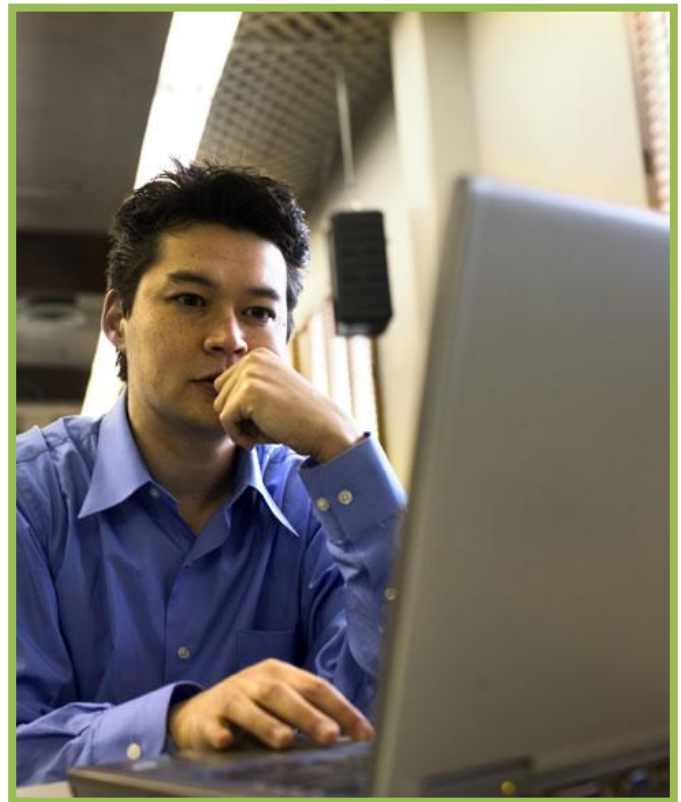
One of the most important advantages is its flexibility. Distance learning gives the students the opportunity to enjoy the freedom to balance their study, work, family, and social life. For instance, people who work full-time or with changing work schedule, parents who take care of young children, those with health problems, and seniors can continue their education as they do not have to attend classes at a specific time or location. Distance learning certainly allows students to flexibly schedule their classes around work and family.

The third feature of distance education is that it's convenient. Students can study anywhere and anytime they have access to a computer with an internet connection. They can study at the comfort and luxury of their home. In addition, they can review assignments, get announcements, access notes, take practice quizzes, discuss questions with their instructor, and chat with fellow students at any time they want. Thus, with distance learning students can complete most of the classes at their convenience.

Another feature of e-learning, which the traditional one lacks, is that it can be self-paced. In other words, students can study on their own speed. Students actually can skim over material that is already mastered by them, and concentrate their effort to learn a subject containing new information. This reduces stress or increases satisfaction not only for a slow learner, but also for a quick one. Self-paced learning is a special feature of e-learning.

We can see from all of the above that distance learning has many benefits in comparison to its traditional counterpart. In short, it provides a great opportunity for people to gain higher education for their career promotion or to upgrade their knowledge at their convenience and the comfort of their homes. And with the increased use of the internet and the availability of many degrees with the e-learning, from high school to post-graduate degree, the future is for the distance learning.

London Region – Rana A. is a Level 6 student. Her teacher is Art R.



Student Reflections

A WAY TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

by Liang L.

Do you know that public speaking is the number 1 Top Ten Fear for most North American adults? Do you know how to overcome this fear, and at the same time, improve your English skills?

The answer is to join a Toastmasters club.

Toastmasters is a non-profit educational organization where members at all levels learn how to communicate more effectively through speaking and listening. The organization also helps members to develop their leadership skills. There are thousands of Toastmasters clubs across Canada. Each club is comprised of a group of enthusiastic people dedicated to the art of public speaking.

My experience with Toastmasters started in February this year. As a member, I can participate in my club meetings every Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. When a meeting is conducted, members volunteer for or are assigned different roles. You can choose to be a speaker delivering your prepared speech whereby the audience will give you an evaluation. This is a great way to sharpen your English and speaking skills. You may also be asked to “speak on your feet” when a Table Topic Session is held. Table Topic is a creative and fun format designed for members to think of and deliver an impromptu speech simultaneously. Since it is like giving an instant speech, it doesn't take long. The time assigned for each speaker is about 1 or 2 minutes. The other roles you can play with during each meeting are: The grammarian, the joke master, the ah counter, the timer, the evaluator and even the chairperson.

Toastmasters clubs are all over the place in Canada, so you can easily find one whose meeting location is closest to your home or your workplace. I certainly recommend everyone Google the Toastmasters Club and find one club near you. You can visit the club a couple of times as a guest before you make a yes or no decision to become a member.

Toronto Region – Liang L. is a Level 7 student. His teacher is Marjorie F.



Carassauga is the name of Mississauga’s annual festival of cultures; it is a huge celebration of multiculturalism. It is Ontario’s largest multicultural festival and Mississauga’s largest cultural indoor festival. The origin of the word Carassauga is a combination of Greek - Cara means “ friend” in Greek, and the name of city of Mississauga.

Carassauga is an incorporated non-profit volunteer community organization, celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2010. It operated for the first time in 1985 with 10 pavilions. The Festival was developed in response to a challenge put out by Mayor Hazel McCallion to all ethno cultural groups at a meeting of her calling in the old City Hall in the fall of 1985. So the first Carassauga was held in May 1986. That year, it attracted approximately 10,000 visitors. This year, the organizers expect approximately 250,000 visitors over three days.

At Carassauga we can take a trip around the world without leaving Mississauga. We swing around the world, spend the morning in North America the afternoon in China, and more. It opens the doors to a festive showcase of foods, arts, cultures, performances, and merchandise. There are thirty-one pavilions, and sixty-eight countries are participating in this year’s event.

I enjoyed the presentations of this event. We celebrated with people from all around the world, got to know their culture, what they eat, how they do their cultural celebrations, and what their traditional dress is like. It is a great idea to gather people together to let them know about each other, to appreciate their similarities and their differences. I think it is a very important event for each community because it opens up the eyes of all residents to the cultural diversity and mentalities that we must learn to love and accept.

Peel Region – Ammal H. is a Level 6 student. His teacher is Angela R.



CHEESE CUPCAKE

by Lianita S.

Ingredients

- 4 egg yolks
- 2 egg whites
- 90 g granulated white sugar
- 60 g all-purpose flour
- 75 g melted butter
- 50 g shredded gouda cheese

Directions

Preheat oven to 180 c. Mix eggs and granulated sugar at high speed until stiff.

Add flour and mix well.

Stir in melted butter.

Place cupcake cups into muffin pan and filled each half-way; sprinkle with grated cheese leaving enough room for second layer of batter and cheese.

Bake for 15 minutes or until tops are brown.

Peel Region – Lianita S. is a Level 6 student. Her teacher is Morley M.

Cheese cupcake is a Filipino comfort food that is synonymous with home-cooked meals. It is also associated with street food such as balut, isaw, mani, mais, chocolate, and the ubiquitous ice cream.



Ingredients

- 3 cups wheat flour
- 1 cup melted butter
- 1 cup water or milk
- 1 tbsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 egg (beaten)

Date Filling

- 2 – 2 ½ cups dates (pitted)
- 3 tbsp. butter
- 2 tsp. ground cardamom

Directions

Place the dates and butter into a saucepan. Cook over low heat and stir occasionally until the dates soften and become like a paste. Add the cardamom and set aside to cool. In a bowl, mix the dry ingredients: the flour, baking powder, and salt. Make a hole in the center of the mixture.

Pour the melted butter into the hole of the flour mixture. Then rub flour with fingertips until the butter is distributed evenly.

Then add the water or the milk and knead until it forms a smooth dough. Adding more water if necessary. Allow the dough to rest for 30- 60 minutes.

Divide the dough into three parts. With a rolling pin, shape one part of the dough to a rectangle with ¼ inch thickness.

Then take one third of the date paste and make it as a long roll with same length as the dough and place it along with one edge of the dough. Then roll over to enclose the filling. Remove the excess dough. Cut into small pieces.

Arrange the cookies into a baking pan. Brush the cookies with the beaten egg and bake in a preheated oven with 350 degree F for about 15-20 minutes or until the Kleicha turns golden brown.

London Region – Rana A. is a Level 6 student. Her teacher is Art R.

Kleicha may be considered the national cookie of Iraq. It come in several traditional shapes and fillings. The most popular are the ones filled with dates. There are also sweet discs, as well as half moons filled with nuts, sugar and/or desiccated coconut.



KLEICHA

by Rana A.

LEMON RICE

by Sriranganayaky S.

Ingredients

- 1 cup basmati rice
- 2 lemons (juiced)
- 1 tsp. mustard
- 2 green peppers (chopped)
- 4 stems of coriander (cut into small pieces)
- 3 tsp. ghee or butter
- A pinch of salt

Directions

Cook the Basmati rice. When you have cooked it, add a pinch of salt (1/2 tsp). Cut the green pepper into small pieces. Place the frying pan on the stove, and add the butter or ghee. When it is melted, put the mustard into the pan. Then add the chopped peppers. Mix it with a wooden spoon and add the cooked rice little by little. Mix until combined Sprinkle the balance of the salt (1/2 tsp) into the rice. Add the lemon juice and coriander leaves and mix it well.

Toronto Region – Sriranganayaky S. is a Level 7 student. Her teacher is Joanne P.

Lemon Rice is a delicious South Indian dish you can easily put together when in a hurry. Serve Lemon Rice with a Raita (yogurt salad) for a simple yet tasty meal.



Ingredients

- 1 cup coarse sea salt
- 2 heads Napa cabbage (cut into quarters)
- 1 bulb garlic (separated and peeled)
- 1 (2 inch) piece of ginger root
- ¼ cup fish sauce or Korean salted shrimp
- 1 Asian radish (peeled and grated)
- 1 bunch green onions (cut into 1 inch lengths)
- ½ cup Korean chilli powder
- 1 tsp. sugar
- Sesame oil (optional)
- Sesame seeds (optional)

Directions

Dissolve 1 cup salt in 1/2 gallon water. Soak cabbage in the salt water for 3 to 4 hours. Combine garlic, ginger, and fish sauce or shrimp in food processor or blender until finely minced.

In large bowl, combine radish, green onions, mustard greens, garlic mixture, chili powder, 1 tablespoon salt and optional sugar. Toss gently but thoroughly. (If mixing with your hands, be sure to wear rubber gloves to avoid chili burn.)

Remove cabbage from water and rinse thoroughly. Drain cabbage in colander, squeezing as much water from the leaves as possible. Take cabbage and stuff radish mixture between leaves, working from outside in, starting with largest leaf to smallest. Do not overstuff, but make sure radish mixture adequately fills leaves. When entire cabbage is stuffed, take one of the larger leaves and wrap tightly around the rest of the cabbage. Divide cabbage among 4 (1-quart) jars or 1-gallon jar, pressing down firmly to remove any air bubbles.

Let sit for 2 to 3 days in a cool place before serving. Remove kimchi from jar and slice into 1-inch-length pieces. If serving before kimchi is fermented, sprinkle with a little bit of sesame oil and sesame seeds. Refrigerate after opening.

Peel Region – Ela M.W. is a Level 4 student. Her teacher is Marjan B.

Kimchi is a traditional Korean dish made of vegetables with varied seasonings. It is most commonly made with napa cabbage and other vegetables such as radish, green onion, chive, and cucumber.



KIMCHI NABE

by Ela M.W

Activity Central

Games and Puzzles

Word Search

Find the following words within the puzzle below.



Summer Search

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

August
beach
bikini
boat
camping
fan
fishing



hat
hot
ice cream
July
June
lotion
mosquito

shorts
sunburn
sunglasses
suntan
swimming
tent
vacation



Name the Sports

1



5



2



6



3



7



4



8



Activity Central

Answers

Word Search



Summer Search

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

Name the Sports

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 5. BADMINTON | 1. GOLF |
| 6. BASKETBALL | 2. BASEBALL |
| 7. TABLE TENNIS | 3. SOCCER |
| 8. VOLLEYBALL | 4. TENNIS |

If you would like to participate

in the Student Corner,

please contact us at:
help@linchomestudy.ca

Student Corner

Haider H.

I was born in Baghdad, Iraq. My language is Arabic. I studied in the University of Technology in Baghdad and I finished my studies in 1993. I worked as a Mechanical Engineer for 17 years in the field of building construction, specializing in management of site activities and construction for mechanical work including electrical work for multi-stores and high rise buildings. The first project I started as an (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing) MEP Coordinator in 1993, I was responsible for electrical and mechanical work in the tallest building in the world, the Petronas Twin Towers project in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The twin giant buildings have 88 floors each, in addition to six underground floors. My work included monitoring, inspecting, testing and commissioning. Also I worked for different prestige projects in countries such as Malaysia, Qatar and The United Arab Emirates. I have memberships with the Iraqi Engineering Union and The United Arab Emirates Society of Engineers.

Peel Region – Haider H. is a Level 4 student. His teacher is Cathy D.

Yessica T.H.

My name is Yessica T. H. I was born in Bucaramanga, Colombia, where I lived with my family. I did my studies in that town, like primary school and part of my high school. When I was a child I loved to play with my friends in parks, pools and many other places. When I was 15 years old my family and I decided to move to another town, Cartagena. I finished my high school there but I wanted to do my university studies in Bucaramanga.

When I finished school I returned to Bucaramanga again with my father because he had all of his business there. However in that year, my life changed very much because my father died of a heart attack, so I had to return to Cartagena, where I started the university. I studied International Business. I also worked in Public relations then I worked in the reception in Hotel Las Americas. That was the year I met my husband. One year and a half later I got married and I started the process of immigration for my permanent visa.

Now my life is different because there are different cultures, languages and weather but I feel fine here. Finally, I am with my husband and my great desire is to learn English very well and I have been thinking about starting my own business here. I would like to make accessories like necklaces, earrings and bracelets in a traditional way. I would like to achieve these objectives in the future. For now I need to learn English to have a good job. After a year I will have children and I will travel to Colombia to see my family.

Durham Region – Yessica T.H. is a Level 3 student. Her teacher is Rozita B.

Student Corner

Nenita F.

My name is Nenita, I was born in the Philippines. My parents are Filipino, I have 4 brothers. Before I came to Canada I worked for the Philippine National Oil Corporation as a Medical Radiation Technologist. I worked for that company for eleven years. I travelled a lot because of the nature of the job. Being part of the Medical Team in the company, we travelled all over the Philippines, visiting many cities. The company had different field projects, and we were required to conduct the annual medical check-up of all the employees working in different cities at various job-sites.

Canada is the first country I visited after migrating from the Philippines. I arrived in Canada in 2006 and soon I will be a proud Canadian. I plan to visit the United States of America, Germany and many other countries. I was very lucky to get my visa to come to visit Canada in November 2006. I lived in Scarborough before I moved to live in Orillia. I prefer to live in a small city than to live in a big city. In a small city, it's very quiet and everything is easily accessible. It is convenient to travel to any place in a small city like hospitals, schools, clinics, malls and shopping centers. It doesn't take long to go from one place to another.

I love the winter because I did not experience winter in the Philippines. I like the white snow all around and the cold. But I like the other three seasons as well. It gives me great pleasure and arouses in me the spirit of adventure.

I like to watch ice-hockey, car racing and basketball. In the Philippines, I played volleyball and liked to go bowling. Cooking is my hobby and I like to do a lot of baking. My other hobbies are making some handicrafts, art, like greeting cards, thank you cards and many more handicraft work.

Before I came to Canada I travelled all over the Philippines. In Canada I visited the beautiful Niagara on the lake, Niagara Falls, Montreal and other big cities like Toronto, Cobourg and Simcoe County. My husband and I love to travel in the country-side. When we visit Toronto, on our return to Orillia, we take the country-side roads so we can see the beautiful wonders of nature like the greenery and farms, farm animals like horses and cows on the farms.

Barrie Region – Nenita F. is a Level 6 student. Her teacher is Jonathan B.

Student Feedback

The article, “Sorry Mommy” written by Suely R. in the June edition of the LINC Home Study Newsletter, is a story about the author’s grandfather when he was a small child. His mom taught him that “sorry” is not a magic word which makes everything fine. When he spilled coffee on a beautiful tablecloth he couldn’t make the spot of coffee disappear by just saying “sorry” .

I like this article because it reminds me of my son who is ten years old. He always says “sorry” very easily. In my opinion, I think many people use this word too quickly. It’s not a magic word to use when you hurt someone’s feelings or to fix mistakes. This word can’t solve any problems. We should say “sorry” with more responsibility and take action where it’s possible to fix what we did wrong.

Kitchener Region – Adriana T. is a Level 5 student. Her teacher is Susan M.

In the May edition of the LINC Home Study Newsletter, Martha Z wrote an article whose title is Spring Time. It was good. It said that the spring has smells, sounds and colours. That is so true.

In the article, the author wrote that the spring is the happy prognosis for the entire year. Yes, I agree with this. For me, the spring means a brighter and more agile time compared with the depressive winter. People go out more and more in the spring to hug the sunlight. People wear less and less so they will feel freer and freer. We can see people in parks, lakeshores and other outdoors areas. They are happy, amused and jubilant. They will live like this all the way through until next winter.

Trees and grasses sprout in spring and they bring delicate natural smells to us. Birds happily sing on trees and their songs comfort people. The flowers bloom in the spring, emit fragrant smells and produce different coloured blooms. I think nature is most beautiful in the spring.

However, the author did not mention that the spring is also a working season. In my home country of China, people, especially the farmer, work hard in the spring for a good harvest in the fall. After the whole winter off, farmers in particular have recovered from their work of last year. They step into a new working part of the year.

I like spring. I like to work in the warm temperatures. People work more efficiently in the spring than the winter. You know there is no heating system in the houses in my hometown because it is a variable zone. Therefore, it is cold in the winter due to almost no temperature difference between inside and outside the house. In modern society, most people in my hometown have installed an air-conditioner in their rooms. Nevertheless, because of budget problems they do not run the machine all day, so the people like the spring more.

Peel Region – Luoning D. is a Level 6 student. His teacher is Terese C.

Glossary

Here is some vocabulary from this month's newsletter. Do you know what the words mean? Match the definitions below with the correct word on the left.

Entrant (pg.7)

- to send out gas, heat, light, sound etc

Knockout (pg.7)

- belief in a pagan religion

Mascot (pg.7)

- done or said without any preparation or planning

Reggae (pg.8)

- someone or something that has the same job or purpose as someone or something else in a different place

Emcee (pg.8)

- extremely happy and pleased because of a success

Invoke (pg.9)

- a judgment about the future, based on information or experience

Paganism (pg.15)

- to pay money back to someone when their money has been spent or lost

Reimbursement (pg.16)

- the belief that it is important and good to include people or ideas from many different countries, races, or religions

Lodging (pg.17)

- able to move quickly and easily

Counterpart (p.17)

- type of competition in which only the winning players or teams at each stage continue to play until there is only one winner

Impromptu (p.18)

- someone who takes part in a competition

Multiculturalism (p.19)

- an animal or toy, or a person dressed as an animal, that represents a team or organization, and is thought to bring them good luck

Prognosis (p.29)

- to make a particular idea, image, or feeling appear in people's minds by describing an event or situation, or by talking about a person

Agile (p.29)

- kind of popular music originally from Jamaica, with a strong regular beat

Jubilant (p.29)

- someone who introduces the performers on a television or radio programme or at a social event

Emit (p.29)

- a place to stay

LINC mailbag



What are your thoughts or comments on the articles printed in this month's newsletter? Do you have suggestions for articles or sections you would like to see?

Let's hear from you.

e-mail us: help@linchomestudy.ca

LINC Home Study Forum users! Remember, you can interact with other students in the LINC Home Study program and discuss topics such as Family, Fun, Health & Travel, Job Search & Networking and more! Please go to the following website and log in from Quick Login.

Have fun!

<http://www.linchomestudy.ca/online/forum/>

submissions

Please e-mail your submissions for the newsletter by Friday July 30th

NOTE: Articles should not exceed 500 words. Articles that exceed 500 words may be subject to editing for inclusion in the newsletter.

If you would like to submit your biography for the "Student Corner", please **DO NOT** include information on your birthday or age.

For any questions regarding submissions and guidelines please e-mail us:

help@linchomestudy.ca

Brought to you by the LINC Home Study team.

A special thank you to all the students and staff who submitted their stories, recipes and activities for this issue.

