

ESL Summer Intensive NEWS-LETTER



Volume 4, Issue 1
Summer 2008

Afraid to Speak? So Was I.

English teachers can have language shock, too. In the fall of 2006 I had the opportunity to spend three months in China teaching English to students at the Medical College of Zhengzhou University.

I recorded my adventures in PatGoesToChina.blogspot.com. I wrote the following fish story for my blog two weeks after my arrival. So take heart! You are not alone in your confusion.

"I have been thinking a lot about language, and how isolating it is to not speak the language of those around me. It probably would have been better to have postponed this trip until I had at least a little Chinese. After two weeks, I still can't remember how to ask 'Where is the toilet?'

And I do hate having to sit mute. This afternoon a friend and her husband took me fishing. We were joined by four others for lunch at the Fish Farm. They were all talking and laughing, telling fish stories, I presume, but I just sat and gazed at the butterflies on the squash blossoms. Silent.

One of my first attempts at speaking Chinese on my first day in Beijing ended rather badly. Having awakened at 3:00 AM, I had plenty of time to study my phrase book, and I marched confidently out to the elevator at breakfast time to greet the passengers with my 'Good morning' in Chinese.

The elevator door opened to reveal a family inside.

'Zaoshang hao,' I bubbled.

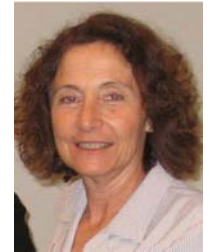
They looked at me blankly. So I said it louder. After all, when people don't understand, we assume we just have to speak louder.

'Zaoshang hao,' I shouted.

They still looked at me blankly. '

Oh dear,' I said apologetically. 'Am I not saying good morning right?'

'We don't know,' the man answered. 'We are Japanese.'"



By: Pat Palmer



This summer ESL
welcomes 75 students
representing 14 different
languages including:
Arabic, Chinese, French,
German, Gujaratis, Italian,
Japanese, Korea, Mandarin,
Oreya, Polish, Portuguese,
Spanish and Turkish.

Wednesday Conversations



Valeria Costadoni & Sarah Addison

Have a conversation with two current Johns Hopkins undergraduate students, Sarah Addison and Valeria Costadoni, as well as ESL faculty members and other ESL students over lunch on July 9, 16, 23, and 30!

Practice speaking English and have fun at the same time from noon to 1:00 PM in Krieger 506

(the Language Teaching Center Lounge).

However, lunch will not be provided, so you should bring your own.

Although attending these casual conversations is optional, we look forward to seeing you there!

Visiting the Language Laboratory

The Language Lab is located at 506 Krieger Hall. Summer hours are 10 am – 5 pm, Monday through Friday (exceptions may be made at instructors' request). There is a \$7 fee to use the lab; payment of this fee entitles the users access to all in-lab materials, remote access to materials that accompany the textbooks used in the classes, and printing of ESL work at no additional charge. Along with

course material, students using the lab may watch any of the several feature films we have online and may also watch international TV.

Please present I.D. at the front desk and a staff member will check you into the lab.

For instructors: If you would like to hold class in the lab, please send Cindy Simpson an email request at csimpson@jhu.edu.

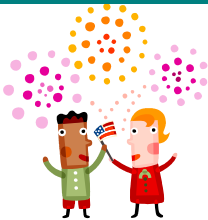
Please include class date and time, and what equipment and/or programs you would like your students to use, and if you will need a demonstration on how to use our materials.



Upcoming Events

Oregon Ridge for Concert and Fireworks	July 4
Hershey Park (Pre-College Only)	July 5
ESL Picnic (Picnic area by AMRs at 6:30 PM)	July 8
Lunch & Conversations (LTC Lounge, Krieger 506, 12:00-1:00 PM)	July 9
Sailing on the Inner Harbor	July 11

Sign-up sheet for picnic, sailing and baseball game can be found at www.ltc.jhu.edu/esl



Hopkins Summer Outdoor Films

- July 11 "Ratatouille"
- July 18 "Stardust"
- July 25 "Some Like It Hot"

Live Music at 7:30 PM on the Upper Quad in front of Gilman Hall

Movies Start at Sunset

We Want to Hear from YOU!

Are you an ESL student who has an interesting story or picture to share? Do you want to see your name in the next ESL Summer Intensive News-Letter?

Then you should submit an article or picture to us!

Tell us about your experiences in the United States, learning

English, practicing a tradition from your culture, interacting with someone of a different nationality than you, or another subject you have in mind.

If you would prefer not write for us, then send us a picture of a work of art, a photograph you took in your hometown,

a photograph you took during your time at Hopkins this summer, or anything else you want other ESL students and the ESL faculty to see.

E-mail your articles or pictures for inclusion in the next ESL News-Letter at: esl@jhu.edu

ESL Summer Words Puzzle

Find the following words. They are either up, down, forward, backward or diagonal.



PICNIC	S	B	A	L	B	W	R	U	H	P	D	A	H	L	X
ENGLISH	I	O	R	F	K	G	B	A	L	T	I	M	O	R	E
SAILING	H	Z	T	E	S	N	P	F	O	Z	Y	C	G	B	W
FILMS	S	R	S	N	O	I	T	A	S	R	E	V	N	O	C
CONVERSATIONS	I	J	C	L	W	T	D	H	F	N	U	K	I	I	A
TESTING	L	L	A	B	E	S	A	B	Z	I	B	G	L	T	C
BASEBALL	G	E	P	O	U	E	L	I	O	A	L	P	I	S	F
ARTSCAPE	N	K	E	M	V	T	Y	C	G	L	T	M	A	Y	B
BALTIMORE	E	V	I	S	N	E	T	N	I	B	C	P	S	R	O
INTENSIVE	F	Q	A	V	L	I	S	F	O	V	R	J	K	M	E