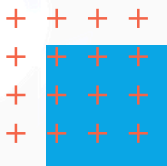


KENOSHA LITERACY COUNCIL

STUDENT ANTHOLOGY

2024



Read. Succeed. Lead.
Kenosha Literacy Council

2024

**KENOSHA LITERACY COUNCIL
STUDENT ANTHOLOGY
23RD EDITION**

The articles that are contained in the 2024 Student Anthology are the actual essays that were authored by Kenosha Literacy Council adult learners. These stories are unedited as much as possible and reflect the abilities of learners, all at different places on their journey of literacy education. Statements and opinions expressed in these articles are solely those of the author or authors and do not reflect the views and opinions of the KLC Board of Directors and staff.

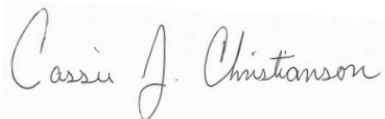
The Kenosha Literacy Council is pleased to present the 23rd Edition of the Student Anthology. The persistence and dedication of KLC students can be seen through their own words in the stories they authored for this year's anthology. There are more than 60 essays that focus on the themes of Games Galore, Meaning in the Music, & Traveling Adventures.

At the Kenosha Literacy Council we see firsthand how adult literacy is a factor in almost every socioeconomic issue, including parenting, health care, workforce development, and poverty. We believe that literacy is a basic human right and the foundation for lifelong learning. Our programs teach reading, writing and speaking skills to adults so they and their families can achieve financial independence, good health and greater involvement in our community. We give adult learners the tools they need to change their lives. When their hard work and determination is paired with KLC's educational opportunities the results are life-changing.

We want to thank all the learners and tutors who worked so hard on preparing their stories. Learners should be very proud of their writing accomplishments. We hope you enjoy the 2024 Student Anthology!



Cheryl Hernandez
Executive Director



Cassie CHRISTANSON
Program Coordinator

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Meaning in the Music



My Favorite Song

My favorite song is “I Am So Glad to Be Here”. This song reminds of when I was 16 years old. I talked negative a lot then. I would say “I would like to see how it would feel to get shot.” Then it happened.



In 1965, in Lee County in Mississippi at a restaurant and bar. I was shot by accident. My two brothers and I were talking to the man who owned the bar. He was showing us his pistol. We told the man to shoot the gun. It jammed. He hit it with his hand. Then the gun went off. It hit the upper part of my leg. It felt like a bad cramping and stinging pain.

Ever since that happened I have learned not to speak negative any more. The Lord says the tongue has the power of life and death; and those who love it will eat its fruit. That is why I sing “I Am So Glad to Be Alive.” This is another reason I sing that song because when I go into the house of the Lord, I am glad to be there. David said, “I was glad when they said, let us go into the house of the Lord.”

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Chris Bogan

Country:
USA

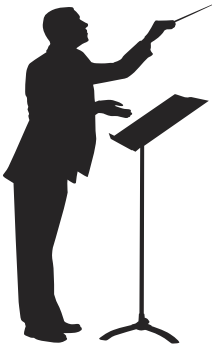
Learning Goal:
I want to improve my reading so I can get my G..E. D.

The Orchestra

My brother invited me to help him work. We went to the Castle of Chapultepec. My brother give me a free ticket for the concert. It was orchestra music in the Castle of Chapultepec for the Independence Day of Mexico. This was in the spring season in Mexico City.

I like the sound of the violin. I also liked the flute. The conductor was very professional. During the concert I ate a Mexican sandwich and my brother drank a soda.

In the middle of the concert a person was coughing very loud. This person needed the doctor consulted! And other people were angry.



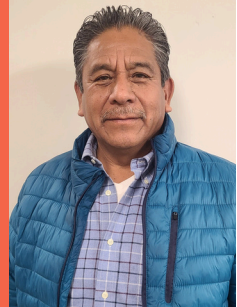
After the concert my brother and I went to his house and he invited me to dinner. And after that I went home. My brother is dead from covid but I remember him with much affection.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Roberto Soto

Learning Goal:
I want to read and teach the Bible in English.



Banda Music

I like banda music from Mexico.

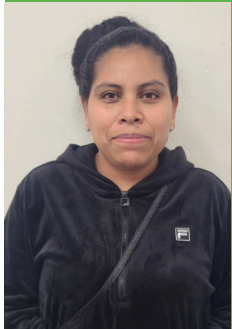
The first time I heard this music I was 15 years old at a party in my country. My favorite artist is the group Firme and my favorite song is “Ya Superarme”.

The best part of the song is the singing and lyrics. The song is about a man and woman getting over a breakup to start a new relationship.

I'd like to one day see them in concert.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Yuliana Cacique

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to learn English
for speaking to my
child's teacher.

Music and Family

I like all kinds of music but my favorite type is Cumbia.

Last year I went to my nieces quinceanera and listened to cumbia music while dancing with my grandsons and granddaughters. At this party the girls were all wearing pink dresses and the boys were all wearing gray pants with pink shirts. There was a dancing robot with lights on his head, arms and legs. My eight year old granddaughter was dancing with the robot. We all laughed and recorded it on our phones.

I was very happy! It felt good to have my grandkids, husband, daughter and, daughter-in-law and son together. After the party we went home to watch TV and went to sleep. It was good to relax after the big party.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Paulina Ochoa

Learning Goal:
I want to speak to the doctors and in stores.



My Favorite Singer

“Fantasmas” by Humbe is a special song to me. The song talks about parents, family, special persons like a friend when they pass away.

I wish I could go to his concert to see him and sing with him. He is my favorite singer. His songs have a real life stories.

In November is the month for Day of the Dead and “Fantasmas” is the perfect song for it.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Raquel Portillo

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
To improve my conversation skills for work.

Music Concert



I saw a music concert of my favorite singer Chinhua on January 20th in 2024.

Win, my best friend, saw an ad about this concert. That's a big show and the last show held in Chingyuan near our city.

Then Win, Ying, and I bought tickets to this concert. That's the biggest concert I've

ever seen. 10,000 people sang together following Chinhua and music.

We were so touched. We screamed. We laughed together. Especially the song I like the most favorite. I thought many beautiful things with them at school. These songs company with us during school time.

I like Chinhua and her songs.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
China

Name:
Raccie Ma

Learning Goal:
I want to learn more English to get a job that I like.



**2024 Student
Anthology**

Music and My Grandfather

I liked music when I was a teenager.

My grandfather helped me. He taught me to play the guitar.

My sisters also play the guitar. We like to play music outside.

We played the music for our grandfather. He loved our music!



MEET THE AUTHOR



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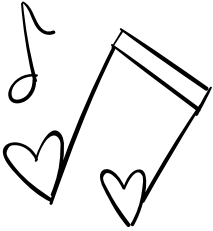
2024 Student
Anthology

Name:
Reyna Martino

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
To speak English with
my family.

I Love Music



I like music because it makes me happy. It brings happy memories. “In My Heart You Will Live” reminds me of my brother. He likes to sing this song. It has sad and happy memories.

“Blackshirt” reminds me of my mom. She likes to sing and it reminds her of sad memories. “L.O.V.E.” my mom likes it too.

“Burning Love” by Elvis Presley makes me think of love.

“Hello” has a meaning to my life. I like to sing and it reminds me of happy memories.

“Your Blood in My Body” reminds me of my grandfather. He loved the song.

I like every song, these are my four favorite people: grandfather, sister, brother, and mom. I sing along with all the songs and I think of my my grandfather, sister, brother, and mom.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Cindy Martinez

Learning Goal:
I want to learn English to go to college.



Celebrate the Birthday of My Son

It happened on a Saturday. Twenty people went to the party. At the restaurant in Kenosha were my family and many friends.

We had sweets, food, and different drinks. The food was Japanese sushi, Mexican tacos, Italian meatballs, pork beef and rice. We were all happy.



The music was different genres of karaoke. We took photos, listened to music, and danced. There was the smell of food and various perfumes. I was with new people. I shook their hand. I listened to the comments and songs. I enjoyed the good food. I drank the lemon soda.

We had lots of laughs. It was music for the soul.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Filomena Vulnera

Country:
Italy

Learning Goal:
To speak English with
my family.

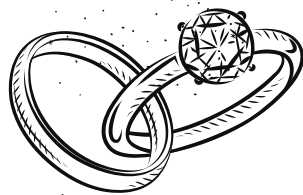
My Silver Anniversary

I remember my silver wedding anniversary celebration. We wanted a small party only to give principally thanks to God.

When we talked to the organizer they told us about many traditions. For example, our family and friends wanted to buy us new rings for me and my husband. I had something borrowed, something new and something blue in color. It was all crazy, funny and new for me.

The decorations at the church were amazing. We arrived at my church in a limousine with silver bells. I went back to the altar to renew my vows with my sons by our side. There was also a child with flowers and bridesmaids and groomsmen. There was special music for the occasion. The pastor said he had never seen a person in this position smiling so much! I answered, "because it is impossible to believe."

The reception was in front of the lake. The photographer took nice pictures. It was all so beautiful like a dream. It was a big celebration that I will never forget.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Candelaria Soto

Learning Goal:
I want to learn English to talk with the doctor and people in the community.



City Music

Music is food for the soul and those who love it adore life. Because listening to it elevates the spirit and releases tension.

Children listened to the Colombian music and now every day they practice. The colors music taught me to see the life with gratitude. I go up when I listen to music, my body programs to happy and with energy. It takes away the day's work.

Different types of music reflect the situations lived. The music is important because you can understand the people and your culture.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Lina Estrada

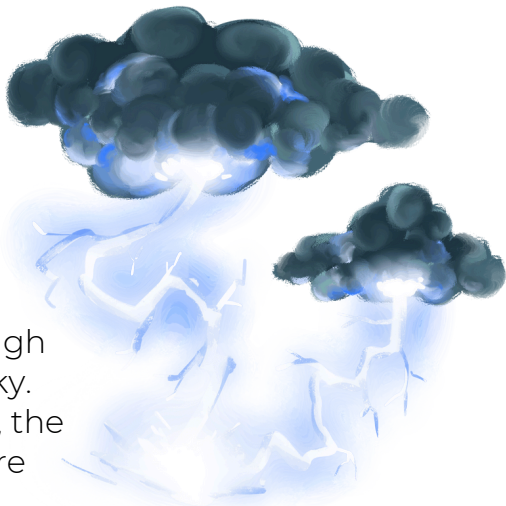
Country:
Colombia

Learning Goal:
To speak English with my co-workers.

Thunderstorms

It might be surprising, but I like rainy days in summer. There is some special beauty in that weather condition.

First you have a slight feeling that something is about to happen, even though there are no clouds in the sky. You can smell the humidity, the wind starts to blow, all nature changes.



Then you see the dark clouds and you realize the storm is inevitable. The lightning far away in horizon follows by the thunder as if a dog growls. And now you have just a little time to get inside before the first rain drops.

It's better to watch thunderstorms at home with a cup of tea away from dangers. Summer thunderstorms are unique mix of nature, beauty, and power that always wakes special feeling and memories.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Russia

Name:

Juliya Semenova

Learning Goal:

I want to learn English to return to college for marketing.



Bachata

Honduras is a happy country most of the time. We do everything with music. If you're cleaning the house you do it with music on. If you have a shower you do it with music on. So I grew up with that, listening to every kind of music.

But the this is the artists I was always listening to never show up to my country. The name of the band is Aventura. It's a bachata music my aunt always listened to when I was a kid.

Bachata music is originally from Dominican Republic, from the Caribbean. The rhythm of the music makes the people dancing everywhere. But the lyrics had sad stories, like hearts broken, lose someone they love or unfaithful. Some lyrics are so deep, specifically the old songs. It's to make awareness about situations in the world. Some songs that would be "La Nina" and "No lo Perdona Dios" by Aventura. The lyrics of those songs doesn't match with the music, however the people dancing it anyways. The most of the songs talks about love and betrayal. That genre of music has so many artists but my favorite is Aventura. Like I said, I grew up with that group, I like so many songs from them.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Erika Caceres

Country:
Honduras

Learning Goal:
I want to learn English
so I can have long
conversations.

I had two favorite songs I can remember. They are called “Ella y Yo” and “La Boda”. The songs talk about betrayal, the first is from a friend and the second is from a girlfriend. But I like those not for the lyrics but the meaning they had in my childhood. I sang those songs with my cousins in my country. Those songs had a different vibe when singing with someone; we didn’t even know about betrayal when I was 10 years old, but we were singing it like we did.

One of my dream was to go to a concert of them. Now they show up in Honduras, but I’m not living there anymore, sad. But when I moved to U.S. they had a tour here, so, I was so excited about it. And more happy when my friend and brother want to go with me. Well at the



end of the day it was super fun and enjoy every second singing, dancing, and screaming all the time. The next day I have a sore throat, but it was worth it.

Expressing Myself Through Music

I think music is important in life. Depending on your mood, you listen to specific music. Sometimes when I'm sad, I listen to Pop Latino.

When I'm happy, I listen to salsa, bachata, merengue, and others. It's also a tool that helps me work, clean the house, drive, cook, and other things.

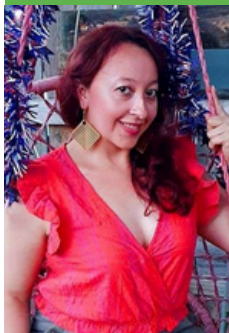


In Colombia we have a great variety of festivals such as the Carnaval de Barranquilla, Feria de las Flores, Feria de Cali, Carnaval de Negras y Blancas, among others. Here we can appreciate a great variety of native or modern music; for example: vallenato, salsa, cumbia, and many more rhythms.



Music has allowed me to express myself through dance throughout my life; dancing is my passion. So this year together with some Colombian friends, we created group "Raíces Colombianas Grupo Folclórico" to teach people from other countries a little about our culture and typical dances.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Diana Guzman

Country:
Colombia

Learning Goal:
To get a good job and communicate with the people.

Music Acrostic

Kenosha Literacy Council, the first time I met you.
Entail of Kenosha City in the U.S. a precious
Nest of awareness, of talent, I'll never forget you.
Occasionally exceptional to learn English, I invite you.
Sure, trust me, a best school, best place, good as an
Honestly, KLC will be my first tattoo.
Affordable school, library, I recommend you.

Likeable teachers, competent, very helpful.
Insatiable student seeking of powerful
Talented leaders, precisely cheerful.
Education system revised, and aidful.
Remote classrooms very hopeful.
Ability grouping with best classmate is beautiful.
Chinese, Mexican, Indians, Haitians, all nations colorful.
Yield good students, professional and delightful.

Country of dreams, with a few people.
Opportunity to live in this towns people.
Urbanization all around you and pleasing people.
Nerdly I began and finished class, one more thing.
Certified the best acrostic I can construe.
If I had to add one more thing,
Literacy Council of Kenosha is where dreams come true.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Haiti

Name:

Claude Roubens Nacius

Learning Goal:

Learn English to go to college and work in healthcare.



I like Music

I liked the music my father played. He played the saxophone. I told my father that I wanted to play music. My father said, "Okay."

I was 10 years old. I wanted to play the trumpet. After one year of practice, I played traditional festivals.

When I was 20, I joined the Peruvian Air Force Symphony Orchestra. I played the horn. We played classical music. We practiced the national anthems of several countries every day and we played works by Beethoven, Mozart, and Tchaikovsky.

For 5 years I have been practicing the saxophone 2 or 3 times a week for an hour in my home. When I practice my saxophone in my home I feel happy.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Lester Quispe

Country:
Peru

Learning Goal:
I want to use my English with people in the community.

Music

I like Spanish rock and roll music a lot. I'm from Mexico City. In Mexico City we listen to different types of music. The music is the best enjoyment for me and my family. I especially like rock music in English. When there are music events in Kenosha we try to go. Now in Kenosha they also make different events for music in Spanish. The music is banda and cumbia rock in Spanish. I like to go to these events. Sometimes my cousin invites me to Bolingbrook because there is a festival. In Bolingbrook it is cool because there are many people enjoying music with their families.



I also like the Doors music because I like to see their videos. I started to listen to the Doors music on the radio when I was younger. There is a song that is special to me. The name is Gloria. I like the song Gloria because I can listen to it in Spanish and I like the rhythm. The music by the Doors lets me relax. You can listen to two Doors songs in Spanish "Gloria" and "Roadhouse Blues". I also like to see the history of Jim Morrison. I saw the movies about different bands like Motley Crew, The Doors, Queen, and Elvis. When I'm working I love to listen to music.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Mexico

Name:

Juan Juarez

Learning Goal:

I want to be more confident using English at work.



Games Galore



Softball

In Nicaragua seven years ago I started University in the capitol of Nicaragua the city name is Managua. I studied at the University in 2017. My partner of University told me about the sport of softball. I started to practice with the team. We practiced after the class two days a week and on the weekend too. We used the uniform green or black pants with a white and green or yellow and black t-shirt. We visited different cities. We competed with other teams and often we were first and we received trophies. I played the position pitcher and I played fourth at bat, but I don't run. I was a good player. We were a good team. The team name was Agraria. I liked to practice sports. And softball is better for me. In my country there are many sports but I like softball. My family didn't play softball. Some cousins play soccer. I always wanted to learn softball. I feel free when I'm playing. Here in the United States I watched a baseball game in Milwaukee. It is similar to softball. When I have free time I prefer to play sports because sports are healthy for my body and I feel good playing. My favorite team is the Yankees from New York. This team is baseball but I still like it. I like to play sports with my friends, my boyfriend or alone.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Anielka Torres

Country:
Nicaragua

Learning Goal:
I need to learn English to talk to people in Kenosha and for work.

Adventure with My Nephew

The past 14th of October of this present year, I went with my family to see a basketball game for the first time. My nephew Martin was visiting from Colombia on school vacation. He told me his dream was to go see a basketball game. I told him I don't think it was possible to buy the tickets because it's very expensive. My nephew felt very sad. My fiancé looked for the tickets online and found a good price. When the play is pre-season the tickets are cheaper.

I like basketball because it is a dynamic sport. It encourages teamwork, communication and quick decision making. For this reason, we decided to surprise my nephew on the last day of his vacation and we went to see the Milwaukee Bucks. It was a very fun time with my family and I will always remember it in my heart.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Colombia

Name:
Nathalia Alfonso

Learning Goal:
I want to learn English to get a good job.



Championship

In 2016 I was trained in boxing because my grandpa liked this sport. A classmate fought too and he told me you can join me. I felt really good, proud, and tired.



I was proud because I was the best fighter in my weight class in all of my country. I was a champion in boxing in the national championship in Guatemala.

It is really hard to practice. You need a lot of discipline. You go to run 4 to 16 kilometers. This is important for your resistance and you make a lot of exercise with your body. The competition was in Guatemala exactly in Guatemala City at the Palace of Sports. I earned a trophy for the best fight and a gold medal for my first place on the championship.

I think I was a champion because I trained for three years. For three hard years I went to train even if it was raining or things like that. In the championship I had seven fights to be the champion. My family was happy and proud.

MEET THE AUTHOR

**Name:**

Rene Lopez Morales

Country:

Guatemala

Learning Goal:

To get a promotion at my job and join the military.

Football with My Grandchildren

My favorite football team is the Green Bay Packers. My athlete favorite is Brett Favre. He was a player about ten years ago. He played in two super bowls winning one and losing one.

Every Sunday we watch the game on the TV. I watch the game with my grandchildren. Their names are Liz, Juli, Alex and Ariana. My grandchildren live in Chicago. Their favorite team is the Chicago Bears. When my favorite team the Green Bay Packers lose, my grandchildren say my Grandpa is crying and he is a little angry.

My wife makes favorite dishes to eat during the game. She makes tacos with avocado and hot salsa. For my grandchildren she makes hot dogs and buys pizza.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Mexico

Name:

Pedro Ochoa

Learning Goal:

I want to write better in English. I want to get my U.S. citizenship.



Overcome and Learn

I played basketball when I was a child.

This led me to want to be a physical education teacher.

In 2018 I went to college. I played basketball on a team.

Basketball requires discipline. This helps me to learn English.

Age doesn't stop people to learn what we desire.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Erika Andrade

Country:
Honduras

Learning Goal:
To speak English for
finding a job.

Basketball

I like basketball.

I was 8 years old when I started to play basketball.

I played when I was in school with my friends both boys and girls. The teacher said “play basketball”.

It keeps you strong. Basketball makes you healthy.

It is fun to play with your friends.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Hortencia Solorio

Learning Goal:
I want to improve my English to talk with my co-workers.



Volleyball

I like volleyball. When I was a child I played in the school and the second school too. We played with the neighbors at my home at 3:00-6:00.

But when the doctor told me I had to have an operation at 15 years old I don't play games anymore.

I would like that my granddaughter play volleyball because it is healthy exercise. If you eat good food and get exercise you will be healthier and feel better. It is fun to play volleyball.

In 1970 I saw Peru vs Japan. It was fun to see the two countries play volleyball.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Libia Cuadrado

Country:
Peru

Learning Goal:
I want to speak more English to talk to my grandson.

Badminton

Sport is my life. I like all kinds of sports. Better I like badminton. I played this sport in my childhood.

Badminton is an interesting sport. Maybe on the court 2 or 4 players. For games you need a place. Play is happening inside and outside on a court. You need a net. Players use court or beach and another place. Players in badminton can be young and older people.

During games you feel tired. You smell of sweat but it's fun to play. You see the birdie and hold the racket. You hear the sound of your racket on the birdie. You taste salty sweat on your lips. You are tired but happy.

My family likes badminton very much. I always play this game whenever I can . People play badminton professionally and for I earning badminton is an exciting game.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Ukraine

Name:
Oksana Lopushanska

Learning Goal:
Learn English to get a better job.



Playing Soccer

When I was small I went to many soccer games. I liked going to Oaxaca to see games. I went every week. My friend Luis played soccer.

I started playing soccer when I was 10 years old in school. I played soccer when I was 15 years old on a team. I played soccer in school. We played every day. I was happy. My mother liked me to play soccer too. I went to other schools to play. In high school in Oaxaca, Mexico I played in a competition. We were champions. I was very happy!

Andres was my favorite player. He was a good player. He was a very fast player.

I'm a good soccer player too. I play defense. My team Veracruz plays in the summer in Racine. On Sunday friends come to watch. We play for 20 minutes and then drink water. We play another 20 minutes. We play in the rain. I like to play when it is hot. Soccer is good exercise.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Jose Carlos Ruiz

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to speak English
to get a better job.

Soccer Game in Washington

My name is Juan. I am 25 years old. I am from Medellin, Colombia. I have live in the USA for one year.

I decided travel to drive a car with my best friend and more friends to see a soccer game in Washington D.C. The game was on June 11 at the stadium.

I always wanted to watch a game of the Colombian team. They played against USA. The Colombian team won.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Colombia

Name:
Juan Herrera

Learning Goal:
I want to talk with my supervisors at my job.



Poker

I like to play poker. I learned to play 24 years ago.

I learned only by reading and watching poker tournaments. You need to study and have dedication to have good skills but you also need luck.

Poker is a game you play with cards. You can also play online. You play against other people.

People make bets to win money. You can win a lot according to your bets.

I'm happy to play poker with my friends.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
John Medina

Country:
Colombia

Learning Goal:
I want to speak English
at work with my
supervisors.

Okey

Okey is a tile based game which is popular in Turkey. Although anyone can play the game, it's popular with older men at traditional coffee shops.



Four people are required for the game. It can be played as individuals or as two teams. Each player has a board and can't see the other's hand. There are 204 numbered tiles in four colors and 2 false jokers. When you're starting the game all players make stocks with 5 tiles randomly. They all need to be faced down. The dealer has one more tile so he can throw the dice and determine the stack by counting from left. Then he throws it again to determine the tile by counting from the bottom which will be placed up. So you'll find out the okey. When the game starts, the dealer gives everybody stacks of 14 tiles each. Only the player who is right of the dealer has 15 tiles and he starts the game by giving unwanted tile. You can replace okey for anything but false jokers replace only for day's number and color. If you finish the game by throwing the okey it means double score. At the end of the game you need to have 14 tiles total and sequential number in some color or some numbers in different colors.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Turkey

Name:

Pelin Ozturk

Learning Goal:

Learn English to find a good job and for my family.



Read. Succeed. Lead.
Kenosha Literacy Council

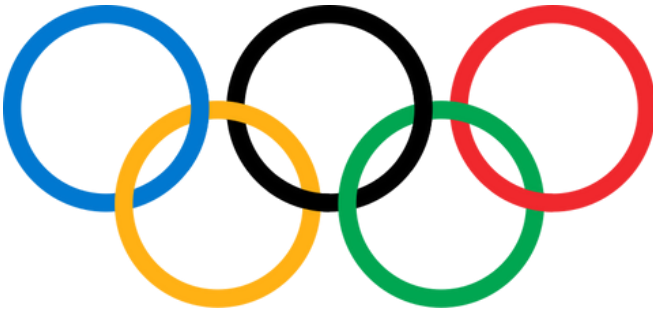
2024 Student
Anthology

Olympics

The Summer Olympics are this year in Paris. I'm used to watching sports for many years. I started to watch Olympics from 1992. I remembered the summer Olympics were in Barcelona and Chinese team got 15 gold medals then.

China left Olympics in 2008. We watched Olympic sports in our hometown for the first time. Chinese team got 50 gold medals and was number one.

My favorite Olympic sport is diving. Chinese diving team is the best in the world. They are called "Dreaming Team". Next Olympics will be in Los Angeles in 2028. I hope that I can watch games live.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Zheng Xiao Xu

Country:
China

Learning Goal:
I want to speak English with my children's teachers and get a job.

Learning to Swim

This year I went to YMCA for the first time. I have lived in Kenosha for almost 5 years and I didn't know about that place. I was talking to my teacher at Gateway that I wanted to learn how to swim and she started telling me about that place. A couple days later, I went to YMCA to ask for information because at that time I thought I couldn't make it because I knew I had a very busy schedule. Once I got there I registered for lessons on Friday because I was very busy with work and school during the week.



On my first day I was a little bit nervous because I had always been afraid to go in the water, but my instructor Steph gave me confidence with the floats. I started swimming in the safe area by moving my arms and legs as Steph showed me. I was trying to imitate her moves but at the beginning my legs sink and I had the feeling that I couldn't do it. The first 3 weeks were challenging because I needed to face my fears. But after awhile I was getting better and finally swim in the deep zone and I was very proud of it. Later with all the confidence I learned different techniques and I was enjoying very much being in the water.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Mexico

Name:

Pedro Popoca

Learning Goal:

Learn English to enter interior design program at Gateway.



I Love Soccer

I played soccer in primary school. I was on a team. Boys and girls played together. We were friends.

The people cheered and sometimes screamed when we made a goal! Watching a soccer game is a good distraction for everyone. Watching the team makes people happy and excited.

My friends and I play soccer two days a week. It is good exercise and we can talk to each other.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Milda Velasquez

Country:
Guatemala

Learning Goal:
I want to speak English with my children's teachers and at work.

Soccer

I started playing soccer when I was 10 years old. I have three brothers who like to play soccer too.

My favorite soccer player is Cristiano Ronaldo.

I play on two teams. It's fun to play soccer. I am a goalkeeper. We play very good. I have stopped many kicks. I am happy when we win a game.

My shorts are black and my t-shirt is orange for the Veracruz team. The other team is called the playboys. The shorts are white and the t-shirt is blue. We play indoors in Kenosha and outdoors in Racine. On Mondays my team practices.

Playboys is Kenosha's team name. Veracruz is Racine's team name. We have Mexican food and beer in the house of my coach when we win.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:

Mexico

Name:

Heriberto Lopez

Learning Goal:

Learn English to get a better job in the future.



Traveling Adventures



Chicago Botanical Garden

In August of this year, my husband and I visited an amazing place, the Chicago Botanic Garden. This is a large open air spot. This garden is divided into smaller thematic areas. We saw a garden where organic vegetables grow. We also walked through the orchard with fruit trees. These trees had an unusual and interesting shape. Some of them grew along the wall, others in the shape of an arch. Another interesting place is a garden with bonsai trees. The shapes of these trees are mesmerizing. This garden has a children's area with a small railway. Both adults and children are delighted with this place. It's very interesting to watch these little trains travel among the beautiful plants. There are also many lakes here. My favorite was the lake with water lilies. There are many varieties of them. They are of different shapes and sizes. These water lilies are very beautiful. To see more locations we took a tram ride. The driver gave us a tour. He told us many interesting facts about the botanical garden. Different flowers bloom here in different seasons. And there are a lot of locations. We didn't have time to go through them all. So we plan to visit this garden again. We saw many varieties of flowers and trees. I took some beautiful photos. We had a great time, relaxed and got positive emotions. This a great place for a family vacation.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Ukraine

Name:
Ira Loiovska

Learning Goal:
Learn English to get job
doing what I like to do.



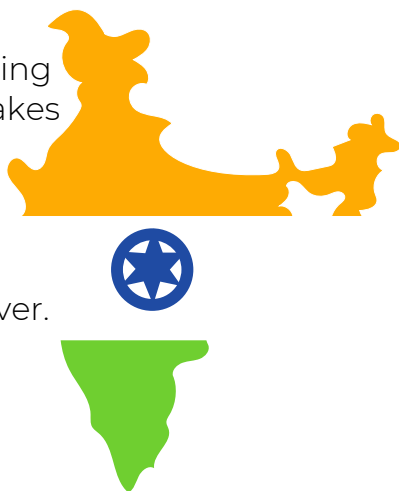
Vacation to India

My favorite vacation was to see my mom in India. I went to a museum to see old cars, shoes, clothes, beds, chairs, and many other things. My wife and I would like to go back to Florida or Texas.

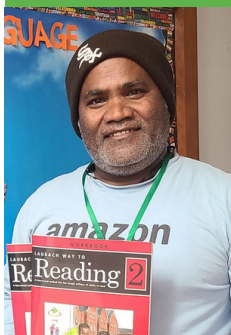
We enjoy eating goat meat and playing games in the casino. My mom is in charge and my dad supports me in every way.

My wife is my partner in life. Seeing mom and family and friends makes me very happy. I bought my wife a gold ring, toe rings, and a silver bracelet for my son. In Muslim religion, the women wear gold and the men wear silver.

I go to my church every year for my gurus, or teachers, on my birthday on August first. I wish to go every year.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Shaik Javeed

Country:
India

Learning Goal:
I want to read and write better to be more independent.

Vacation to Egypt

In spring 2010, I went on a trip to Egypt with my wife. She's a lover of this country. My wife always dreamed about visiting the pyramids and the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. We flew on a plane from Seville to Cairo. When we arrived, we went to a hotel next to downtown.

On the next morning, we went to see the three pyramids. The pyramids are really big and nice. It's next to Cairo. In this zone, are many people visiting the ruins, for example the sphinx. It's very nice.

When we finished the visit, we went to visit the Egyptian Museum in Cairo by taxi. This museum is incredible. It has many mummies, old objects, and many things. I did like this visit. Behind the museum we went to eat at a recommended typical restaurant. The Egyptian food is exciting for its flavors. We ate pita bread and kebabs.

The next day we went to a ship on the Nile. In this ship we were traveling for six days. We visited many beautiful cities. When we finished the travel for the Nile we went to go to the Red Sea. The Red Sea is really a paradise. I went snorkeling. I saw many fishes. I loved this beach. If I had to recommend anyplace I always say this beach. This trip was unforgettable. I hope to go back.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Spain

Name:
Manuel Gonzalez

Learning Goal:
Improve my English skills to speak to the American people.



My Family in the Dells

The day in Wisconsin Dells was very happy for my family and me.

My little daughter this day was too much happy. She play every day in the water park. She play with her brother and sister.

My son like the water too. He plays with sisters.

My big daughter played too. She listen to music with earphones. My husband and I watch the kids.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Norma Paz

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to speak English
in the stores.

Wisconsin Dells

My family and I went on a trip to Wisconsin Dells in August. My husband said I want to go somewhere because I'm bored. So my daughter, husband and we made a plan to go on vacation and we decided to go to Wisconsin Dells. The short vacation was for three days. My daughter made the reservation at Wilderness Resort. The trip took 2 hours and 30 minutes. When we got to the hotel we went to the water park and went on toboggans and went in the wave pool. We walked everywhere around the hotel. We are there to relax and forget about stress and routines. I like Wisconsin Dells because it has beautiful places and resorts. Families can have fun. I don't like going on slides because I'm afraid of the slides. I like to watch people on slides. I like to go in the pool. My daughter and my husband like the slides. We went to our hotel room only to eat and watch TV but all day we were in the pools. We went in the wave pool with tubes. That was fun! I don't know how to swim but I like the pool. On the last day we went to Devils Lake State Park. I feel happy to go on vacation with my family.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Veronica Vargas

Learning Goal:
Learn English to get a promotion at work.



My Trip to Atlanta

In Atlanta, Georgia my husband and I like different experiences, many colors, and much traveling.

When we went to Georgia we went to the aquarium. We saw white sharks. I loved the view of many different colors.

In Chicago we went to the zoo. I wanted to feel the manta ray swimming. I saw one in a movie! I liked to feel it.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Mayerly Moreno

Country:
Colombia

Learning Goal:
I want to speak English
to get a better job.

Birthday in Atlanta

This is my 60th Birthday. Daughters are plan special trip to celebrate. We are leaving on November 13th, which is two days before my actual birthday. We are flying on an airplane to spend some time in Atlanta, Georgia. I will be traveling with my family and some friends. I will be excited if I go to Atlanta, because that is where I have dreamed of visiting on my next trip. If we go there I will be able to see the underground stores and my mother's side of family. I love to visit my cousins in Atlanta. Enjoy some down south food! I imagine the weather will be nice this time of the year with mild temperature. I have never been to Atlanta, but my friends have told me, "yes girl, you need to come to Atlanta to go to the underground stores." I'm excited about the surprise that they have planned for me.

First we will get off the plane and see some sites in the city. Next we will find a place to eat out at a restaurant. After eating we will find our hotel and check-in to our room. Some things we would like to do is going to the underground stores, go to see a play, look at the buildings in the city. The next day, I would like to go to a comedy show because I went to one in Las Vegas and I loved it! I remember laugh a lot and really enjoying that experience. It made me feel good to laugh with friends and family. I will be sure to bring back home with me some souvenirs to remember my trip and my time in Atlanta. I sure am going to enjoy my trip, but I will be happy to return back home.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
USA

Name:
Lela Moton

Learning Goal:
Improve reading and writing skills to write letters better.



My Trip to Mazatlan Sinaloa

My family took little vacation in December 2021. My wife and my daughter were telling about vacations to Mazatlán Sinaloa.

We went because we were very tired. We all stayed 3 days and 2 nights. We took the bus at 10:00 at night. We could eat and look at a movie.

When we arrived to the hotel, everyone talked. When we went to the beach I could smell fish. I could see the fish, boats, and big ship. I could touch the water, the animals, and coconuts. I could hear the beach concerts. I could taste the different food and drinks.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Victor Saldana

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to speak more
English for my work.

Xcaret Cancun

I always dreamt of going on vacation because it is the best hotel in Mexico. When arrived at the hotel I was happy and wanted to enjoy every moment. The Mexicans say it's like Mexico's Disneyland. In Xcaret Cancun I was able to swim with sharks. I ate the best food from different countries. In my room were a fishtank with jellyfish. Every day gave me many typical Mexican candies and tequila in the mornings. In the hotel were awesome concerts of traditional Mexican music. All the parks are very different. One of the parks was about activities in the jungle. One of the parks was about activities in the ocean. I went to see the jungle and ocean from parachute. I went to drive a kayak between natural rocks. I walked in the natural cave the very cold water was up to my stomach. When was snorkeling I could see different fishes. I went swimming in six cenotes; each one with different vegetation, location, sinkholes. I went swimming in the mud pool. I felt so happy, so relaxed, and excited. It was a dream come, I definitely want to go again to that incredible hotel in Cancun.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Litzy Martinez

Learning Goal:
Improve my English skills to go to college.



European Tour

It all started on January 1st, 2019. In that moment I was studying International Business. In the last year there was one option to graduate to do a final project. So, I started my travel to Europe for 3 months seeing architecture, culture and different languages helped me to finish my study project.

I thought about the trip for months. I planned the hotel, food, budget, cities, experiences and different topics on my trip. After a few months, I started my travel. On September 7 in 2019 I arrived in my first destination. In the Barajas Airport in Madrid, Spain a lot of people spoke English but the first language was English so I had to practice my English.

I love the soccer so my favorite experience was visiting the soccer stadium Bernabeu in Madrid. It was a bigger stadium with a collection of pictures, trophies, histories and stories of soccer legends. I was really excited.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Fredy Moreno

Country:
Colombia

Learning Goal:
To talk with my coworkers, managers, and do my best at my job.

Next, I flew in a plane on a three hour flight from Madrid to Milan in Italy. I was there to visit the “Artigiano in Fiera” where there was a big international fair with food, artisans, businesses and topics in respect to new businesses. I love the Italian food. Pizza, spaghetti, wine, all the Italian gastronomy are wonderful. I was drinking wine everyday. That is normal in Europe. I visited the museum in Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica, art and sculptures. All these places are awesome.

Milan is a more elegant city with fashion, catwalk, and designers. It is more expensive too. But in general it is a good destination to open your mind.



Birthday in Mississippi

I went to Mississippi for my birthday to visit my family. I haven't seen them in a long time. I flew from Milwaukee to Mississippi.

When we got there we went to my aunt's house and ate some good food. We ate fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, biscuits, chocolate cake, and more.

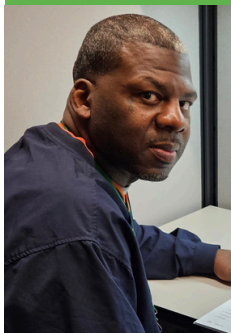
Then we sat around and talked and looked at family pictures. When I was a little baby everyone liked the way I smiled. When I was two I loved playing with toy cars. I used to make car noises and I would Not let any other kids play with my toy cars.



To this day, I still like cars. I bought my first car when I was 16 years old. I had to put it in my brother's name because I was not old enough.

I stayed in Mississippi for one week and it went fast. I will be going back next October for my birthday.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Derrick Howard

Country:
USA

Learning Goal:
I want to get my G.E.D.

Travel to Universal Orlando



Last summer I went with my family to Orlando Universal. We flew in an airplane from Chicago to Orlando in flight for three hours. In Orlando we stayed in a hotel across from Universal Park. We ate in the restaurants in the hotel. The

first day we went to the parks to ride all the mechanical attractions because my children like the rides. I was very excited because it was Iva's first time. The second day we went to a Colombian restaurant to eat "bandeja Paisa" a typical food in Colombia. My wife was very excited because in the restaurant she met a friend from school. The good at this place is excellent. The day was sunny and very hot. The third day we went to see the beaches in Miami by car, the trip lasted four hours. The beaches are wonderful. The water was very blue and the sand is very hot. On the beach we rode jet skis, ate on the beach, played volleyball and got a tan. There we stayed three days in a hotel next tot the beach. We visited the malls and returned to Orlando to continue visiting the amusement parks. On the fifth day we returned home eager to return.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Colombia

Name:
Juan Ospina

Learning Goal:
I want to improve my professional profile and advance in my company.



Christmas with My Family

I will tell you a story about Christmas night. In 2024 with my family in Bucaramanga, Colombia. My husband, my sons, and my other relatives went to my mother's house. My grandmother, brothers, and friends were there. My mother cooked a lot of traditional food. We ate bunuelos, natilla, tamales, masato, asado, and lechona. All of it is delicious. We all drink guaro and masato. The celebrations last two days. Everyone in my family agreed that this was a very good family reunion.

Natilla-custard

Tamales- corn dough filled with various meats, beans or cheese

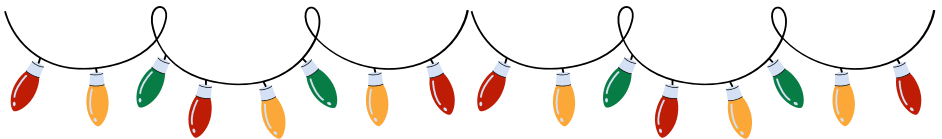
Bunuelos-fried dough

Masato- a drink made from fermented yuca root

Asado-grilled meat

Lechona-roasted pig

Guaro-liquor made from sugar cane



MEET THE AUTHOR

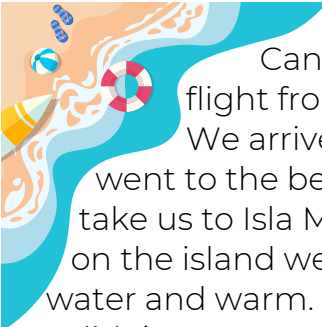


Name:
Laura Calderon

Country:
Colombia

Learning Goal:
Learn English for work
and to talk to my child's
teachers.

Vacation to Cancun Heading to U.S.



On July 26th we went on a trip to Cancun, Mexico. We flew in a plane. The flight from Medellin to Cancun took four hours. We arrived at the hotel Oasis. The next day we went to the beach to get the catamaran that would take us to Isla Mujeres (Women Island). The beaches on the island were all so beautiful with bright blue water and warm. I did snorkeling but my wife and my son didn't want to. There were a lot of people and many boats. We ate a variety of fish, what I liked most was enjoying myself with my children and my wife. This trip to that island lasted one day. The next day we visited other beaches. After finishing the tour we decided to go by bus to Mexicali so that we could enter the United States. We had to speak to the immigration authorities. During this part of the trip my wife was very scared. After handing ourselves in the next day we left and they took us by bus to Washington D.C. Then we were in Atlanta for 20 days. We were welcomed by some people from a church but we couldn't find a house. Thanks to a friend we are here in Kenosha. I'm grateful to God because we are here doing things right, working and fighting to raise our children and fighting to fulfill our dreams and goals.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Colombia

Name:
Jhonatan Pinto Chacon

Learning Goal:
Improve my speaking skills in English.



Los Angeles

A few years ago I went to vacation to Los Angeles. My daughter Giselle and I flew in an airplane. We stay in the home of Raquel, my sister. It was the summer of July 2018. We went on vacation because I wanted to see my sister.

When we arrived friends came to my sister's house. It was nice to see them again. We were so happy. We did many things while we were in Los Angeles. I looked at the flowers that the street vendors were selling. The flowers were beautiful. There were pink and red roses and white lilies. My sister made shrimp, white rice, tomatoes, and salad. The people walk slow to the park. I didn't like the rain or the fog. I felt good in the sun on the beach.



Some day I would like to go to see my sister again.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Sylvia Reyes

Country:
USA

Learning Goal:
I want to speak more English to talk to everyone in Kenosha.

West Virginia

In August 2024 we went on vacation with my cousins. We went to West Virginia. We drove for thirteen hours to visit friends and family. While visiting we went to an amusement park. It was a very nice place to go with family and friends since it has many games in which you can compete to win prizes. We also used the different mechanical games.

During our trip we also had the opportunity to visit the city of Washington. Where we can appreciate the different buildings and historical monuments. My favorite memory was seeing the monuments in Washington.

In the last few days we went in the car to go and relax on the beach. We spent a nice afternoon playing volleyball. On the way back home we drove past through the city of Chicago.



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Honduras

Name:
Hector Eudeda

Learning Goal:
Improve my English skills to communicate at work with my supervisor.



Family Tradition

My first day of vacation in June I went with my husband, children, mom, sisters, and brother to the cathedral in San Juan de los Lagos. We go to see the lady San Juan. It is a family tradition. We go there because it is beautiful, big, and outside there are many flowers. The cathedral has different colors. Many people go to the cathedral to see the beautiful lady San Juan.



All of us go shopping for candies that are different colors, tastes, and shapes. There are many stores and we all buy and eat too much. Then we go to a restaurant where we eat and talk for hours. After all of the walking and eating we go to my Mom's house and relax. My Mom makes a special dinner.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Leticia Limon

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to speak more English to get a good job.

Family Reunion

We use to do a family reunion one time every year. We been traveling on family reunion for 3 years. We traveling on airplane. On my last travel was to Puerto Rico. My sister and her husband and my 3 children went. We went to the El Castillo del Morro. We went to the beach, we went to dance, we celebrate my mom and my 19 year old daughter together because they only have one day different for their birthday. We celebrate at my mom's house. On my second one we went to Delaware to my sister's house. On that travel was my sisters, brother-in-law, my 3 children, and me. We travel on airplane to Delaware. We have fun going to Delaware. We went to



New York in car. We went to the statue of liberty. We took a boat to the island. We went to the twin towers called Ground Zero. I felt sad when I see what was left of the twin towers.

The third family reunion was really short trip because everyone was busy. My sisters, brother-in-law, mom, my three children and husband were at my house. We went bowling, to the museum, Lake Michigan, and eating together.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Dominican
Republic

Name:
Vilma Castillo

Learning Goal:
Get my U.S. citizenship.



Summer in Kenosha

Summer is my favorite time of the year, it reminds my country. In Puerto Rico it is always summer! When I moved to Kenosha I've realized how beautiful is to have a warm weather the whole year. I also discovered a lot of wonderful things that you can enjoy during summer in Wisconsin. I have the most beautiful memories with my family when they come to visit from Puerto Rico. We have visited places like Wisconsin Dells, Simmons Island Beach, Apple Holler, Downtown Kenosha, and enjoy a lot HarborMarket events. We also had the opportunity to harvest strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, and apples! That was amazing because we do not have apple trees in Puerto Rico! So we loved the experience. Last but not least I love how the flowers bloom in Wisconsin!



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Elizabeth Santana

Country:
Puerto Rico

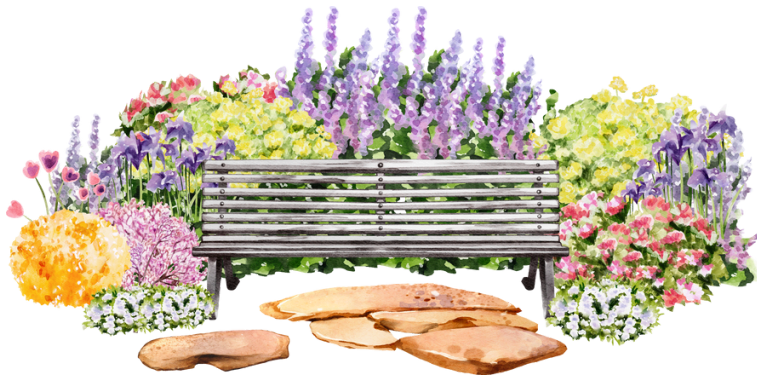
Learning Goal:
I want to speak more English for my work and my children's school.

I Enjoy Flowers in Summertime

I enjoy summer because there are flowers everywhere.

The parks look gorgeous with flowers, they look colorful and green. I enjoy the smell of grass as well, it smells so good!

In the evening I like walking close to the Lake Michigan when it is warm because the lake's breeze feels good and fresh on my face. I like looking the beautiful trees everywhere. In summer it is green everywhere and that is why I enjoy summertime!



MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Carmen Surratt

Learning Goal:
Learn English to get an
interesting job.



Camping

On August 8th my church friends, family, and myself went camping at Green Lake. We enjoy walking together and running at night. We also enjoy eating and talking. We like to have a picnic and eat fresh fruits. We walk and explore. The air is fresh and we can see the night stars. The trip was four days and nights. We slept in a tent and cooked over a fire. At night we all sat around the fire and talked late into the night.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Victor Cruz

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to speak more English to have more conversations.

Summer Activities

I like the summer more than other seasons because in summer I can do everything I like. First of all, in summer I go camping with my friends. That helps me to relax and to know new places.

Every year, we choose a different destination and we plan every activity related to that place. We can do kayaking, ride bicycles, we can rent a boat and go swimming, play sports together or only do hiking.

In summer, I like to ride on my bicycle every Sunday. I ride to different parks in Kenosha and the places around. Sometimes I fly a kite when the day is windy. I like the quiet places to read a little or even to walk.

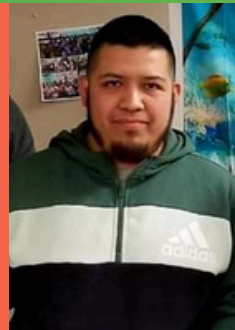


MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Javier Gomez

Learning Goal:
Learn English to take classes at Gateway for mechanic.



Birthday in Wisconsin Dells

My girlfriend, Yithzel, and I wanted to go somewhere on my birthday. We went to Wisconsin Dells in August. It was very hot.

We had four days there. On the first day we went to the water park. We swim in the wave pool and go down water slides. The next day we walked in beautiful parks and rode the Wisconsin ducks. It was lots of fun.

We had a sushi dinner that maybe we did not like so much. On the last day we rode a very fast jet boat. We got wet but that was good on a hot day. Then we went to a park where we fed reindeer. Our trip to the Dells was a great birthday gift.



MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Pablo Marin

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
I want to speak more English at my work.

Camping in Wisconsin Dells

I went on a vacation to Wisconsin Dells with my family. My husband, two sons, and daughter came with. My sister was also with her husband and her three children. We traveled in the car together. We wanted to go camping. We did different activities as a family. We swam in the lake. We played soccer with everyone. We played volleyball.

At night we made a bonfire. The first night it rained and we were able to enjoy the sound of the rain. We cooked food on the grill. We ate outside the picnic tables. We made steak, sandwiches, and hamburgers. The smell of the food was very delicious. We were able to eat the delicious food.

I was happy to see nature and watch the sunset.

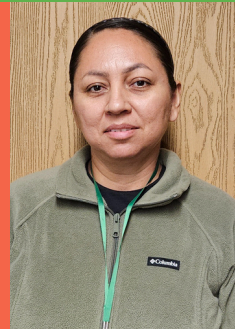


MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Blanca Solorio

Learning Goal:
Learn English for my job.



Shedd Aquarium

My name is Aracely. I am from Zacatecas, Mexico. I am learning English at KLC. When I finish the class, the whole class went on a trip to Chicago Aquarium.

We took the train from the train station in Kenosha to Chicago. When we got to Chicago, we took the bus to go to the aquarium. When we arrived at the aquarium, we made groups. We all went to lunch before entering the aquarium. Then we went to the group leader and made a small meeting. When we enter it was very beautiful. I am looking at large and different fish.

I see puffer fish, gold fish, sea turtle, sea horse fish, octopus, and sword fish. I am happy because my little son was with me for the dolphin show. It was very beautiful and the whale is big when dance.



I am happy because I touch the manta rays. The trip is beautiful. To see at all the class together is very nice. Thanks for the trip, it was a dream come true.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Aracely Sanchez

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
Speak with my doctors
in English.

My Day in Chicago

I like Chicago. We went on a train one afternoon. After we arrived at the station in Chicago we went to a restaurant.

Everyone liked the Hispanic food. I saw tall buildings and lots of traffic and people walking everywhere.

We went to the Shedd Aquarium. We touched the starfish, the glass, and the dolphin.

We ran back to the train station because we were late in leaving the aquarium. I'm happy with my family and boyfriend and friends.



- CHICAGO -

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Honduras

Name:
Joanna Vazquez

Learning Goal:
Learn English for my job.



Chicago Independence Day

I'm retired now. But I'm very busy. I try to study English every day. But sometimes I need to have holidays. In this year I had free day. It's Independence Day of USA, July 4. My friends live in Chicago. They invited me to celebrate this famous and important day in Chicago.

I got up early in the morning at 5 o'clock. Then I was walking in park on the coast Lake Michigan. After morning exercises I was swimming in lake. The water wasn't cold. Some people were looking at me, but they didn't swim. I cam back home. I took a shower and shaved. Then I had a good breakfast. I had some vegetables, cucumber, tomato, beetroot, some meat, slice cheese, a cup of coffee with milk and banana.

Then I moved to the train station. I arrived on time. The train from Kenosha to Chicago was very well. I had a good seat and was reading my favorite magazine, "Interesting".

Sometimes I was looking at the windows outside and saw many stars and stripes on the buildings. It's a Flag of USA. The train arrived in one hour and half to Chicago.

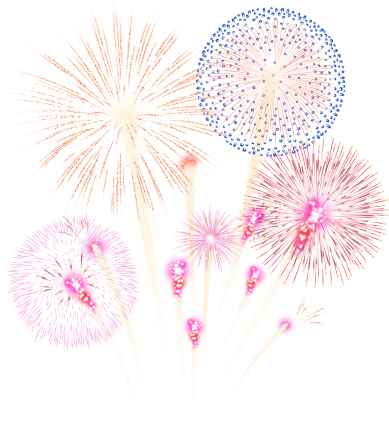
MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Oleksandr Buinyi

Country:
Ukraine

Learning Goal:
Learn English to talk to
the people around town.



I was met by my friends there. We went to the east Lake Michigan. In our group were men and women, fourteen people.

We prepared salad, fish, barbecue meat and other things. One man said "Let's drink red wine." We drank. All time we

were talking with each other about different things. Some of our band were playing guitar and singing songs. We were swimming in Lake Michigan. We had a great time with our friends.

We came back to Kenosha in the evening. At night many people were enjoying fireworks in Kenosha and me too.

Traveling to Mexico City

Last summer I traveled to Mexico City. First I arrived to my state, Leon, Guanajuato. I stayed a couple days, later took the bus to Mexico City and I went to the hotel. The same day, we went to state Hidalgo. There is a beautiful place. The name Tolantongo is a beautiful place. I saw how beautiful the nature is. Next day, we went to visit the basilica Guadalupe church. The shrine of Tepeyac is a beautiful place. I saw the transportation is electronic buses, normal buses, tram, motorcycle for sit two people, bicycle, train, taxi, Uber, double bus, horse-drawn carriage at night. We went to Xochimilco. We ride on the boat. The water is beautiful, on the streets are houses. Some people celebrate the birthdays or go to enjoy together music or mariachis singing and dance in the boat. This was fantastic. Next day we went to the castillo of Chapultepec. These are places I always wanted to know. It's a wonderful place. Big presidents live there years ago. Now is a museum. There are the furniture, the carriages they used, jewelry, and clothes. It is very fancy and elegant. The construction of the castle is amazing. There is the place where the child heroes of Chapultepec, defending and died by our flag. I enjoy a lot. In the night I took the bus and go back to my state Leon, Guanajuato. Guanajuato has a lot of history too; a lot of museums. So much for enjoy; there is where the independence came for all Mexicans.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Name:
Estela Padilla

Country:
Mexico

Learning Goal:
Learn English to talk to the customers at my business.

Traveling to 48 States

I got my drivers license when I was 18 years old. Since then I have dreamt about driving to 48 states. I love seeing the change in nature. I like how the roads twist around nature. A few roads I want to travel on are the Tail of the Dragon and Route 66. The Tail of the Dragon has over 300 turns in 11 miles.



My mom wanted to travel on Route 66. She wanted to see the towns on Route 66. In remembrance of her, I really want to travel. I have traveled to Kansas and Kentucky. In Kansas I saw my family. My sister-in-law's family is in Kentucky. I have traveled to a few other states. In the future I would like to travel to Nashville, Tennessee and visit with my wife's sister.

My favorite part of going to Tennessee is driving on the Tail of the Dragon. I would also like to drive to Arizona to see the Grand Canyon. The adventure of traveling is meeting new people. The people who you meet can have stories of traveling. I have some stories and I want to add more stories to traveling. I can't wait to accomplish my dream of driving to 48 states.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Country:
Mexico

Name:
Jesse Henry

Learning Goal:
I want to improve my reading to read books to my children.





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