

SPRING VIEWS

Spring International Language Center

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Of All Gifts, Friendship Is the Most Precious



Friendship is a human relationship involving mutual **knowledge**. My best friend is a wonderful woman. Her name is Michelle Perrine, but I call her Mi. We have been friends since 1999. That is 28 years of friendship. We are the same age, and we met at school. We were children and were in the sixth grade. We joked, studied, traveled, worked and laughed a lot. It was many hours together.

We graduated in 1996 at the Padre Estaquio School. Each of us went to a university in different cities. We married and had children, but a friendship continues. We complement each other and are faithful, loyal friends. I can stay months without seeing her, but this does not change anything. Time does not pass for our friendship. *by Giazielle Drummond, Brazil*

(Photo: American Conversation Partners become friends with Spring students.)

A Family Vacation in Berlin, Germany

Four years ago, I went with my family on vacation to Berlin. It was a wonderful vacation. There are a lot of old buildings beside the river edges. There are also many churches, and some of them were very ancient. Most German people don't smile or talk to foreigners. If you go to Berlin, you should visit the Kadewe mall. It is the biggest shopping center in Europe. You can also visit a lot of famous streets and the historical gate between former Western and Eastern Berlin. The gate's name is Brandenburg Gate. If you are interested in Italian food, you should eat at the Vapiano restaurant. It is a famous restaurant in Berlin. I advise everyone to visit Berlin because it is a wonderful city. *by Mofida Rgibi, Libya*

A Lesson I Learned

When I was 15 years old, I lived in Abha in Saudi Arabia, where the police are very strict. I loved driving, and sometimes my father allowed me to take his car. Sometimes I took it without him knowing it.

One day, I drove my father's car to a park. My friends were with me. I didn't have a driving license. However, I was a good driver. While I was driving, the police stopped me. Next, the policeman asked me for my driver's license, and I told him I don't have it. While he was talking with me, I thought about what I could tell my father, and I was afraid. The policeman gave me a ticket, but I said, "Please don't give me a ticket," but he didn't listen to me. Finally, I went home very sad, but I told my father what happened. I wondered what my father would do, but he didn't get angry at me. That made me very happy.

I learned several things from this experience. First, don't drive without a driver's license. That was probably a very stupid thing to do! I also learned to not take the car without my father's permission. I should tell him what I am doing. We can learn a lot from our life experiences! *by Abdullah AlShamrani, Saudi Arabia*

A Day in Washington Park

Washington Park is wonderful. I went to Washington Park with my friends yesterday. Washington Park is very big and it is beautiful, but the weather was very cold. Many people and animals are there. If you go, you can play soccer with many people. After that, you can eat lunch, and you can relax. I like Washington Park. *by Ahmed AlAnsari, Saudi Arabia*

A Lesson Learned in Middle School

When I was 13 years old, I was in middle school. Every day before I went to school, my father gave me money, but I didn't spend all of the money. I liked to save money to buy something new, and after two months, I bought a new watch with my money. I was very happy.

One day, when I was at school, and after the break, I went to the restroom to wash my hands. I put my new watch on the sink. After that, I went back to the classroom. While I was writing with the teacher, I looked at my hand. Suddenly, I didn't see my watch. I was sad and angry because it was precious to me. Finally, after school I went with my friends to find my watch, and fortunately we found it in the same place.

I learned from my experience that I should be very careful. Also, I learned that my friends are always with me when I need them. In addition, I felt the value of money as I was saving for two months. We can learn a lot from our life experience. *by Fouz AlAzaz, Saudi Arabia*



Don't Stay Too Late in Bahrain

When I was 18 years old, I was in Qatif City. On the weekends, my friends and I usually went to Bahrain because there are a lot of activities there, like swimming and playing. There are also many restaurants, cinemas, shopping, clubs and beautiful hotels in Bahrain.

One evening, my friend and I stayed in Bahrain too late. When I got home, the door was locked, so I had to call my younger sister. However she wasn't alone. My father was there, too. My father was very worried about me and very angry. He told me, "You will never go to Bahrain again." Not only did I lose my father's trust, but I also lost my favorite vacation spot.

I think going to Bahrain was a bad experience for me. I got into a lot of trouble because I enjoyed Bahrain so much. Bahrain is good for guys, but sometimes it's not good for parents because guys stay there too late, and all parents get worried and angry. I think the best solution is for all the guys to not stay late in Bahrain. *by Ali AlAman, Saudi Arabia*



Flowers in Yanbu

The flower carpet is a display in Yanbu. You can visit it from the beginning of May until the end of April. You must go to this location because you will be in love with the flowers. Imagine you will walk between hills of flowers, or you will see the flower carpet. However, it is not just a flower garden. You can also visit the

REO team. REO team is a small zoo in the location. You can also visit the strawberry road. It is a long road with a lot of strawberry plants, and you can eat them. After all this, you can watch the fireworks display at midnight. In conclusion, it's a great activity. *by Ammar AlShihabi, Saudi Arabia*

Shopping Trips Also Involve Eating

These three shopping buddies needed energy to keep going, so they stopped by a bakery at the Factory Shops at Castle Rock during a recent field trip. Pictured at right are Urara, Isabella, and Graciela.



Experiences Can Change Your Life

My house is an obstetrics and gynecological hospital in Kagoshima, Japan. My father is an obstetrician and my mother is a midwife. When I was 14 years old, I didn't know what I wanted to be, but I do now because of this life changing experience.

One day, my school teacher visited my house. She was pregnant. She said, "I have a stomach ache!" Suddenly she started strong labor, so she was carried to the operating room. I wanted to see a childbirth, so I asked her, and she gave me permission. Then I watched the process, and I supported her while she was in labor. Finally, the baby was born, and I was very impressed. She looked at her baby, cried, and laughed. She named her baby Daichi.

I learned several things from this experience and enjoyed watching my mother as a midwife. First, birthing a baby is a miracle and very hard. Second, being a midwife is wonderful work because the midwife is fighting together with the pregnant woman to deliver the baby. After that experience, I realized that I wanted to be a midwife who can help many pregnant women. Now I am studying nursing and midwifery. Sometimes experiences can change your life. *by Urara Nakamura, Japan*



Students Enjoy Shopping at the Factory Stores at Castle Rock on a Recent Field Trip



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and Conversation Partners.

