



EXPERTS

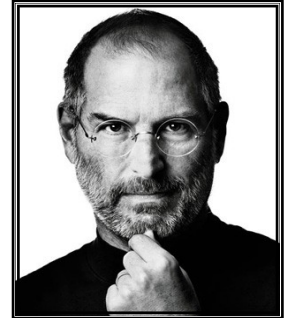
The Student Publication of the *International English Language Institute at Hunter College, CUNY*

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My Passion for Apple *By Sam Sadr Azodi*

First of all, I have to say that it was just several weeks ago that one of the most important people of Apple company passed away, and I have to say I am really sorry about his death. You all know him. His name was Steve Jobs. Yes, Steve Jobs whom you can see in this picture. But, here I don't want to write about him and his life, because it's a long story. Here I want to talk about his company. If you want to read his auto biography, you can buy his book..



Hello my dear friends. This is our 2nd edition and I am very happy that my article is on the 1st page. My name is Sam Sadr Azodi. I am from Tehran, the capital of Iran. I am 17 years old and currently I am studying English at Hunter College. This is my second article in the IELI Gazette and I like being a part of it very much. Last time I wrote about Iranian singers, but this time, because I like Apple Company very much, I prefer to write about Apple. I hope you enjoy my article.



What do you think about these pictures? Look to the right. Do you know what that is? Yes you are right. It is an Apple I. Apple I is the first product of Apple company. I wanted to show you how much they have improved over the years.



Here are several interesting facts about Apple Company that you might not know:

- 1- Steve jobs bought Pixar from Georg Lucas for \$10 million and sold it to Disney for \$7.6 billion.
- 2- The Apple store on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan (the cube) is one of the most photographed landmarks in the world.
- 3- Apple wasn't started in a garage, it was started in a bedroom at 11161 Crist Drive in Los States.
- 4- The average PC owner spends 50 hours a year troubleshooting. The average Mac owner spends 5 hours a year.



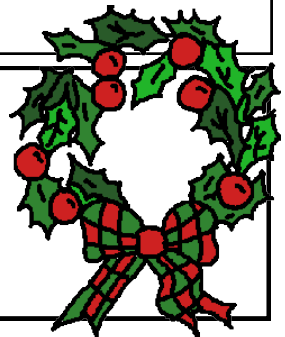
Polly Wang, an IELI student. She believes that Apple products are overpriced and she also thinks that Apple is successful because they work hard. She wants to have an iPhone 5. Currently she is a Macbook Pro user and she claims that she is interested in Apple, but she once had problem with her computer and Apple technicians didn't help her.

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Some interesting results from IELI students about Apple:

- 1- ***Almost 63% think that Apple products are expensive, but worth it.***
- 2- ***Almost 40% use iPhone***
- 3- ***And almost 70 % are interested in the Apple company.***





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Let's make Taiwanese Food

By Poyi Lai

Taiwanese Sesame Chicken Soup



Hi! I am Poyi. I will write two easy Taiwanese food recipes in the column. I cook frequently because that can help me save money. I hope you will like these recipes. This food both are very easy to cook and delicious.

Ingredients (For one person)

- I. Sesame Oil
- II. Rice Wine (for cooking)
- III. Ginger
- IV. Two Chicken legs



Sesame oil



Rice Wine (Cook)



Ginger



Chicken Legs

Step 1

First, you should slice the ginger and use sesame oil to fry it about 2 minutes.

Step 2

Second, you should put chicken legs (remove the bones) in a pot with rice wine. (The rice wine should submerge the chicken legs)

Step 3

Finally, cover the pot, and cook for about 20~30 minutes. After 20~30 minutes, pour a little sesame oil into the soup.



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Let's make Taiwanese Food

By Poyi Lai

Taiwanese Fried Noodle with Sa Cha Sauce



Ingredients (For one person)

- I. Any kind of Asian noodles,
- II. Sa Cha Sauce.
- III. Sliced Beef
- IV. Chinese Cabbage
- V. Scallion



Noodle



Sa Cha
Sauce



Sliced
Beef



Chinese
cabbage



Scallion

Step 1

You should pour water in a pot and heat it until boiling.
Throw noodles into the boiling water and cook for about 5 minutes



Step 2

Fry the sliced beef with scallion and Chinese cabbage.
When everything is almost cooked, put the noodles and 2 tea spoons of Sa Cha sauce in a pan and fry them.



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Let's Go Play Mahjong

By Polly Wang



Mahjong is one of the table games which I love to play. Every member of my family knows how to play Mahjong. Sometimes, I burn the midnight oil playing this game with my friends. Especially on Chinese New Year's Eve, most families play mahjong at home, and my family does too. Today, I'd like to introduce and teach you to play Taiwan 16 tile mahjong.

History of Mahjong

Mahjong is a very famous and popular game in Asia. People have played this game for hundreds of years. The first book about Mahjong was written in 1875. There are several ways to play mahjong. Taiwan 16 tile mahjong is one way.

Knowing the Tiles

There are 4 sets of 34 tiles as you can see below. In addition, there are 8 bonus tiles. This makes a total of 144 tiles. There are 3 groups of tiles. Those are Simples, Honors and Bonus tiles.

Simples(108 tiles)

There are 3 different suits of simples; those are Bamboos, Characters and Dots. These are numbered 1 to 9.

Bamboos, 1 to 9



Characters, 1 to 9



Dots, 1 to 9



Seats and the Dealer

Mahjong is a game for four people. First, we have to decide on the seats and the dealer. The seats' positions are East, the right of East is South, the opposite seat of East is West, and the left of East is North. Taking one tile of each East, South, West and North tiles and put them face down on the table. And then every player picks one tile. The tile will be your seat's position. And East is the dealer. Before we play a round, we throw the dice to move to new spots at the table.

Honors(28 tiles)

The East, South, West and North Winds



The Red, Green and White Dragons



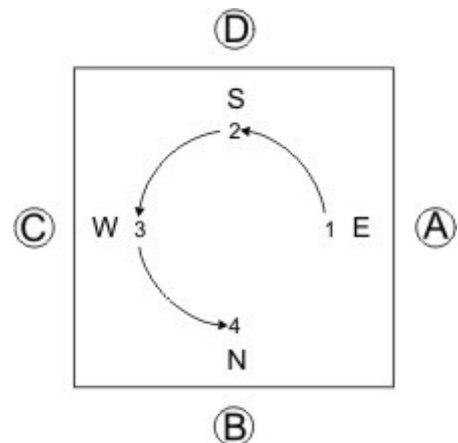
Bonus tiles

(8 tiles)

The four flowers



The four seasons



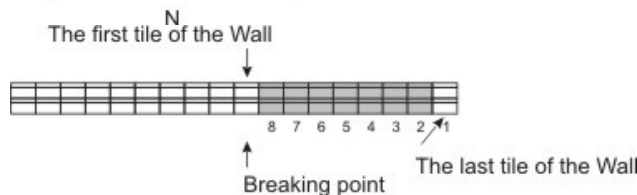
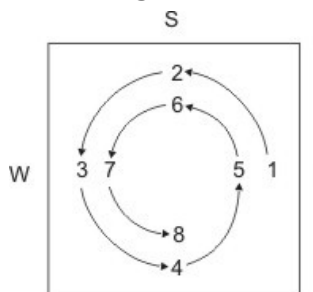


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Building and breaking the walls



After shuffling the tiles thoroughly, each of four player takes 36 tiles to build a row in front of them. It's like a wall; the rows are 17-tiles long and 2-tiles high. And then everyone pushes their rows together to make a square. Now we have to choose tiles from the "wall."

The dealer throws 3 dice to determine which side of the wall should be broken down first. Then, each person takes four tiles, starting with the dealer and going counterclockwise until everyone has 16.

If you draw a bonus tile, you set it aside and keep drawing until you have 16 tiles. The "breaking point" or "open door" (in Chinese), is the last row anyone can draw from at the start. The dealer takes one extra tile, opening the "door"

The basic equipment of mahjong : 144 tiles, 4 empty tiles (for backup), 3 dice, chips and a dice of wind.



Playing

We have to make combinations; the first person who makes a combination says "whu". He is the winner of the round. A combination has to be five sets of 3 tiles (kong has 4 tiles) and a pair.

There are 4 kinds of sets: Chows, Pungs, Kongs and Pairs.

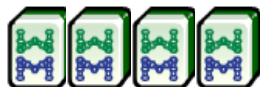
- Chows— a set composed of 3 sequential suit tiles (you can only "chow" from your last play)
- Pungs— a set composed of 3 same tiles (you can "pung" from any play. If at the same time, one play want to chow, and another want to pung, the player who want to pung can get the tile)
- Kongs— a set composed of 4 same tiles
- Pairs — a set composed of 2 same tiles



-Chow



-Pung



-Kong





-Pair

Winner and Scoring

When you only need one tile to go out, that means you are "calling." Mahjong has two ways to win the game. First one is that you get the winning tile from someone. So, you are the winner, and he is the loser. The other way to win is that you get the winning tile from wall by yourself; therefore, all of other 3 player are losers.

For example, I'm sitting on the East side and these are my tiles below.



Now I'm calling, and I'm waiting for  or 

Finally, I get the 9 bamboo from the wall by myself. So my scoring is Base payment (often 3) + Seating East (1) + Red Dorgan (1) + Getting the winning tile by myself (1) + the first flower bonus (1) = 7 points. Other 3 players have to give me 7 point, so totally I win 21 points.



My name is Polly. When I first played Mahjong, I was 16. However, I had seen my parents play this game since I was around 5 or 6. It isn't an easy game, but when you know it, I promise you will love it.

Untrue freedom

When you walk on the ice...

There is a tension of getting caught by moss in the water

It feels like a life that has been caught by ancient leaves...

When you blow on it... it goes to the highest point of the planet

When you hold on to it... it will stay with you forever

It just needs a warm place to sleep in...

It needs a commercial smile only for being happy for a single moment...

After being away from its family, it would not jump in excitement...

It would cry without a voice, it would lie without an excuse...

It is as valuable as a piece of gold... not a golden gold, but an eastern gold...

It walks without stopping...

It flies without wings...

When it's the time to land on its planet... it is like a piece of plastic...

You can change its shape into whatever you want...

It does not have its shape anymore... that is why it is tired of being flexible...

It is young like a flower...

It is old as a sweet grandma...

Silence is a murderer...

Noise is pain...

Who says those blue eyes had not grown up in this land?

Who says the smell of a season has an owner?

This land is free...



I would like to share
some of my words
with you...

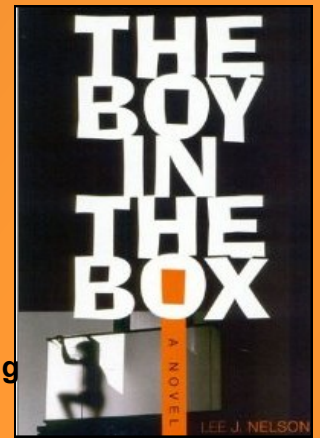
This poem is about
the confusion that
every newcomer may
feel, but it also ex-
presses an individual
vision, an individual
set of images and
sensations.

In friendship,

Saba Nasserzadeh
from Iran

Interview with Lee J. Nelson, Author of *The Boy in the Box*:

By Saba Nasserzadeh



Mr. Lee Nelson is one of my teachers and it was a pleasant surprise to discover that he is also a published author. I am also interested in all kinds of literature (my poem's on the facing page), so it was exciting to get a chance to interview him about the process of writing. All of his answers are my own paraphrases, so if there are any errors, they are my responsibility. I thank him for taking time to be interviewed (the text below is from our conversation on December 14, 2011 at Hunter College).

S.N: What do you think are the biggest differences between your life and the lives of many of your students here in New York City?

L.N.: The difference I guess is obvious. I am a native New Yorker and I speak English. I am used to living in this city with all its features stress, hustle-bustle, rudeness and aggression. I believe that struggling with those difficulties is a way of getting through the day.

S.N: What is your main reason for writing this book?

L.N.: I love writing especially fiction . I wrote my first piece when I was 16 years old. I have written many fiction pieces for different magazines and also for plays, but this was my first published book.

S.N: How long did it take you to finish the book?

L.N.: It took me almost three years (not full time) to collect all the drafts I have written and then almost two years to find a publisher.

S.N.: What part of the book do you like the most? Why?

L.N.: There is no specific part I can point to for different reasons, but I like the ending and the ambiguity of the story. I like it when it is not clear and everyone should wrestle to find out the points.

S.N.: What are some parts of the book that you have gotten from the real life? (A real experience of yours)

L.N.: None. But I should say there are few facts that I took from my own life. I moved to Queens after many years living in Manhattan. I moved to a building where a neighbor on the first floor checks everyone from the window. This person is represented as the janitor's family in the story. The characters in the story might be similar to real people in physical ways, but the character types were all my own creation. Most of the book, in fact, is pure fiction.

S.N.: For those who might not have time to read *The Boy in the Box*, could you tell us a little bit of the plot?

L.N.: It is about a young boy who moved to New York City for a job interview and he heard about kidnapping from an unreliable source and he is trying to find the truth about the story. Therefore, he is experiencing the surreal life of New York environment when he tries to find out whether it's a rumor or a true story.

S.N.: What message or ideas do you want to communicate through the character of "Smith?"

L.N.: No specific message. Just the alienation and ambiguity of identity represented by Smith and the way he thinks about all the mysteries he encounters as he seeks the truth. I put the character in a metaphorical context so he reflects a human condition.

S.N.: Do you think newcomers to New York City share any characteristics with "Smith?"

L.N.: Yes, very much. On one hand Smith is eager to explore the city and on the other hand, he struggles with the aggressive hustle and confusion that he faces in the hallucinating environment. These are feelings that every newcomer may have.

S.N.: Is the plot completely fictional or is it drawn from real life?

L.N.: It is fiction. The only part that is taken from real life is the feeling that the neighbor gives Smith. Uncomfortable feeling of checking everyone going and coming to the building. Other parts are all fiction.

S.N.: Where is the darkest part of the story?

L.N.: No one part in particular. But I could say the part that all the hustle and terrible things happen and no one cares what he is doing or what would happen. He found himself confused and in a dangerous situation and no one wanted to help him.

S.N.: How do you think some people will react as they read this book?

L.N.: I know already how people react. Some people really liked it and some did not. People expect a generic plot with a resolution at the end usually don't like this book because of its mysterious theme.

S.N.: What is your advice to new comers to New York City?

L.N.: Walk fast – Be alert when you cross the street – do not talk to strangers.

S.N.: Do you have any special messages for your readers?

L.N.: NO!!!

Thank you so much for your time...

International relationships



To be or not to be

By Maria Ustimenko

Relationships! Who should we date? This has always been, still is and will always be an important issue. In the past parents usually made the choice of who we were going marry. Some countries still have that tradition. Unfortunately, people married someone because of their level in society, and their parents' decision. They didn't have any choice if they wanted their parents to

be proud of them. Now relationships have changed. Adults prefer dating and knowing each other better before getting married. Moreover, they can make their own choice. Have you ever thought about whom you should date? Have you thought about her or his nationality?

A lot of foreign students, workers, their children and relatives emigrate to the United States. They come from South America, Russia, Europe, and Australia etc. All of them are curious about different traditions, characters, values. Then they begin dating because they want to know more about each other.

I did research to find out what makes people interested in dating people from different cultures. At the same time I got to know what they don't like about international relationships.

About 200 people here at the IELI were involved in this international relationships survey.

There were: Koreans—46%; Taiwanese—13%; Italians and Puerto Rican—each 5%

Japanese, Chinese, Turkish, Colombians, Polish, Germans, Iranians and Belgian—each 3%

87% of respondents have had a boyfriend or girlfriend. 15% of them met him or her at the Hunter collage; 8% - met each other at a dance club; 10% met on internet;

67% met at the friend's house, party or they had the same friends. 10% liked the person's sense of humor when they first met; 8% liked the way he or she dressed; 23% liked the way he or she looked; 23% liked his or her intelligence; 31% liked the way he or she talked.

69% dated with a person from the same country as they are. So 31% had international relationships.

95% would like to date someone from different country.

95% of the people likes about the person who they have dated from a different country like possibilities of learning new culture, and of course 5% - had a trouble with communication.

51% can see their self marrying someone from a different country.



I would like to show some answers to the question “What did you like about the person, who you have date someone from different county?”

The answers: “Handsome”; “his life experience”; “good looking”; “manner”; “sense of humor”, “polite”, “gentlemen”, “learning English”, “talking style”, “education”, “culture”, “experienced different culture”, “learning English”, “traditions”, “blonde hair”, “open-minded”.

And last question “What did you not like about the person, who you have date someone from different county?”

The answers: “physical relationships”, “difficult to talk deeply”, “too negative”, “someone push me to do something about her culture that makes me uncomfortable”; “racist”; “didn't speak the same language”; “being proud of their country so much”; “drink a lot of alcohol”; “different food”; “I don't like the guys who talk too much”; “he was a little bit macho”.