



# 2015 Registration Process

## The Universal Nature of Figurative Language

## Green Culture

## Second UTN

## Technology Fair

## TeacherTube

# cover page



This month, our cover page is dedicated to our national soccer team. La Sele's outstanding participation in Brazil 2014 turned everybody's eyes to our great country. This cover page shows how Costa Rica filled the cover pages of many important newspapers around the world. The effort given by our team made them earned a spot in the history to FIFA World Cup.

(Picture taken from Fotopedia:  
[http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adidas\\_Brazuca#mediaviewer/Archivo:Adidas\\_Brazuca.jpg](http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adidas_Brazuca#mediaviewer/Archivo:Adidas_Brazuca.jpg))

If you have an awesome picture you think could be the cover of one of The ILE Post editions, send it to [eherrera@utn.ac.cr](mailto:eherrera@utn.ac.cr). So far several readers have sent amazing pictures that we will be sharing with you soon. If you want to know what is happening in ILE, follow us in



<https://www.facebook.com/TheILEPost?fref=ts>

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# EDITORIAL

## What a Duck taught me about Success!

By John Eric Jacobsen



In a very small village lived a wise old prophet. The prophet spent his last years sharing wisdom, answering questions and giving advice to the people in the village. The people truly respected and loved the prophet because his advice was always helpful and his answers always precise.

*One day a young boy from the village decided to trick the prophet by asking a question that would be impossible to answer. The boy found a small live duck, concealed it behind his back and slowly approached the prophet. In a mocking voice the boy asked, "Prophet, I hold a duck behind my back. Tell me; is the duck dead or alive?" The prophet paused for a moment and gazed into the boy's eyes. In a whisper he responded, "If I say the duck is dead, you will show me its live body. If I say the duck is alive, you will quickly choke it, and then show me its dead body. Therefore, I tell you the duck is neither alive nor dead. The duck is whatever you decide it will be."*

I heard that story many years ago, and it made a strong impression on me. It reminded me that each of us have the power to decide our own fate and destiny. For each of us, our potential for success is like the duck in this story.

**"Your success will be whatever you decide it will be."**

For many people success is a very personal but subjective type of thing.

Some people use money as a measuring stick for success. If they have an abundance of money, they consider themselves successful; if their finances are in shambles, they consider themselves failures. Others believe that if money is your only motive for success, then you are already a failure. Some people feel very successful if they own a new car or a large house. Others may live in a modest apartment and use public transportation and they, too, feel successful because they are content where they are. Someone else may feel successful if he or she is the president of a large corporation. Others may be happy and fulfilled working in the mail room.

To begin to define your own version of success, you can start by asking yourself two important questions:

1. What must specifically happen in my life for me to feel totally successful and completely fulfilled?
2. How will I know when I have achieved it?

Answering these questions reveals your personal criteria. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers; your criteria is simply a measurement of what is important to you and a measurement of your values.

The moment you chose, define and more importantly "crystallize" your vision, you will discover that it's much easier to arrive--- if you knew where you were going ahead of time. The duck is behind your back; what are you going to do with it; let it live or let it die?

# UTN NEWS

## Second UTN Technology Fair

by Eric Herrera (ILE Professor)

For the second year in a row, Centro de Formación Tecnológica y Tecnología Educativa (CFPTE) held the UTN Technology Fair. This activity included two full days of exhibition, information sessions, and demonstrations. National and international speakers presented a variety of cutting edge topics which made attendance highly increased in comparison to the first edition last year.



The opening presentation was in charge of expert in digital TV Tomofumi Yoshimi. Taking into consideration that the Costa Rica's analog TV shutdown is close (2016), this was one of the most interesting presentations. Channel 13 covered this part of the event, so the whole country found out



about the efforts UTN is giving in terms of technology.

Some other participants were: UNA Professor Jose Pablo Madrigal who offered a workshop about Linux with an especially insightful account of the changed circumstances that render copyright in the digital world suspect; Federico Jiménez who explained how a hybrid car works and its advantages; I.S. Representatives Roy Chinchilla and Rodolfo González who talked about how achieving goals for sustainability and financial performance require that everyone involved in an enterprise understands the environmental effects of what they do.

In addition to presentations, there were several stands.

Companies such as I.S. Corporation, iCon, Metrowireless, Interactiva among others offered products and services to the public. One stand that really caught people's attention was the one of San Jorge Technical High-School. A group of students lead by Professor Fernando Chaves showed a little bit of the efforts this high school has undertaken in order to introduce technology in the public schools.



In brief, the activity was successful, more crowded than last year's and with the participation of more varied presenters. Organizers really expect soon this activity will become more popular not only as a regional event but as a national one.



# UTN NEWS

## UTN Grows

by Eric Herrera

During July, a couple of good news for Alajuela campus made the school community happy and proud. First of all, on July 10<sup>th</sup>, the new building was finally open. From now on, there are 24 more classrooms with a capacity for 824 students. Even though official inauguration had been on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, there were some delays because of everything a friendly environment facility like this demands. The technology used in its construction



and implementation follows international standards so that in a future UTN can become an Eco Campus which aims to move UTN facilities towards environmental sustainability through good operational

and management practices. In addition, with this new building, UTN stopped renting Carmen de Alajuela and Redentorista high-school facilities.



However news does not stop there. On July 17<sup>th</sup>, earth moving for the new laboratory building began. Specialized laboratories for the electronics, electro mechanics majors will provide students with cutting edge technology matching the needs of modern instrumentation and experiments. This building will be completed towards the end of 2015. Well before earthmoving could begin at the start of June, an extensive team of civil engineering and environmental architects worked to ensure that the new experimental facilities would have the minimum impact on the landscape surrounding the laboratory.

(Pictures taken from UTN Alajuela Campus Dean Emanuel González FACEBOOK profile)

## 2015 Registration Process

From July 14<sup>th</sup> to September 12<sup>th</sup>, UTN will receive admission forms for its 2015 registration process. Applications for admission will be only considered if applicants submit their form during this time. To see the requirements visit: <http://registro.utn.ac.cr/admision2015>.

**PROCESO DE ADMISIÓN 2015**

Del 14 de julio al 12 de setiembre

**UTN**  
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# UTN NEWS

## ***The Scope of ESP as a Transdisciplinary Learning Approach in Higher Education***

*by Jose Soto*

PIT, Programa de Idiomas para el Trabajo, and the US Embassy presented the Forum "The Scope of ESP as a Transdisciplinary Learning Approach in Higher Education".

The analysis focused on the impact of English for Specific Purposes in the universities in Costa Rica, and how to promote a Transdisciplinary approach in the teaching of the language and curriculum design.

The panel members in the forum were M.A. Bonnie Brown, retired English professor of the School of Modern languages of UCR. She pioneered the beginning of ESP in Costa Rica, and PhD Alonso Canales, English professor of the UCR. Along with them via electronic conference was Kay Westerfield, Director of the International Program for Business Communication of the University of Oregon. M.A. Yorleni Romero Chaves, Dean of Education and General Studies of Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnología, ULACIT.

The conversation, led by ULACIT Dean, addressed a few ideas and strategies to come up with programs and projects in the universities. A collaborative work would promote the development of

innovative proposals of mutual learning, resource center of didactical materials, open e-learning classrooms, and more. This is in order to offer higher education in Costa Rica the possibility to get into the area of foreign languages and ultimately improve professional profiles.



PIT Director Marisol Rojas pointed that they look forward to identifying the actions of the past and present experiences related to ESP in Costa Rica. She also explained how they attempt to bring forward the advantages of English for Specific Purposes as a transdisciplinary area. In this way, they want to be able to create strategies to implement ESP as a tool into the action of the learning and teaching of English as a Foreign Language.

# WORLD NEWS

## Malaysian Jet shot down over Ukraine

A Malaysia Airlines passenger jet which crashed as it flew over eastern Ukraine with 295 people on board was reportedly shot down.

The aircraft, which was flying from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, was travelling at an altitude of 10,000 meters when it was shot down on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, Russia's Interfax reported.

An adviser to the Ukrainian interior ministry told the news agency the Boeing 777 was brought down by a Buk ground-to-air missile.

Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko denied his armed forces were involved in the downing of the airliner.

"Armed Forces of Ukraine did not take action against any airborne targets," Poroshenko said.

Malaysian Airlines confirmed it had lost contact with flight MH17 from Amsterdam, saying the aircraft was carrying 280 passengers and 15 crew.

The aircraft was flying normally, without problems until it disappeared from the radar, the head of the Ukrainian airspace regulatory body told Reuters news agency.

Malaysia's Prime Minister, Najib Razak, reacted on

Twitter saying: "I am shocked by reports that an MH plane crashed. We are launching an immediate investigation."

The Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said he had been in touch with Ukraine's



President. "I am deeply shocked by the dramatic reports on the crash of Malaysia Airlines MH17," Rutte said.

Dutch tour operators have told local media they had booked dozens of Dutch citizens onto the flight.

Prior to Thursday's Malaysian Airlines crash, a Ukrainian SU-25 attack plane was taken down by an air-to-air missile according to Andriy Lysenko, a spokesman for Ukraine's national defense and Security Council. The pilot safely ejected.

On March 8, Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 passenger jet disappeared from radar screens en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board, two-thirds of whom were from China.

The aircraft, yet another Boeing 777, is believed to have crashed in the southern Indian Ocean, but an extensive search has turned up no sign of wreckage so far.



(Information and picture taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/europe/43284-malaysian-jet.html>)



# WORLD NEWS

## Pope calls Destruction of Nature a Modern Sin

Pope Francis has called for more respect for nature, branding the destruction of South America's rain forests and other forms of environmental exploitation a sin of modern times.

In an address at the University of Molise, an agricultural and industrial region in southern Italy, Francis said the Earth should be allowed to give her fruits without being exploited.

"This is one of the greatest challenges of our time: to convert ourselves to a type of development that knows how to respect creation," he told students, struggling

farmers, and laid-off workers in a university hall on Saturday.

"When I look at America, also my own homeland (South America), so many forests, all cut, that have become land ... that can longer give life. This is our sin, exploiting the Earth and not allowing her to her give us what she has within her," the Argentine pope said in unprepared remarks.

Francis, who took his name from Francis of Assisi, the 13th century saint seen as the patron of animals and the environment, is writing an encyclical on man's relationship with nature.



Since his election in March, 2013, the leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics has made many appeals in defense of the environment.

After the university meeting, Francis said mass for tens of thousands of people in a stadium.

(Information taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/europe/42728-modern-sin.html>)  
(Image taken from: [https://farm3.staticflickr.com/2012/1524189000\\_b34c025e74\\_z.jpg](https://farm3.staticflickr.com/2012/1524189000_b34c025e74_z.jpg))



## UN says ending AIDS is Possible by 2030

The UN says new HIV infections and deaths from AIDS are decreasing, making it possible to control the epidemic by 2030 and eventually end it "in every region, in every country".

UNAIDS said that at the end of 2013, 12.9 million HIV-positive people had access to antiretrovirals - a dramatic improvement on the 10 million who were on treatment just one year



earlier and the only five million who were getting drugs in 2010.

Since 2001, new HIV infections have fallen by 38 percent, it said. AIDS-related deaths have fallen by 35 percent since a peak in 2005.

According to UNAIDS, \$19.1bn was available from all sources for the AIDS response in 2013, and the estimated annual need by 2015 is currently between \$22bn and \$24bn

(Information taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/europe/43228-ending-aids.html>)  
(Image taken from: [https://farm4.staticflickr.com/3440/3846819118\\_41b624fc0b\\_z.jpg](https://farm4.staticflickr.com/3440/3846819118_41b624fc0b_z.jpg))



# WORLD NEWS

## Our Heroes

After the FIFA final group draw for the Brazil 2014, even the most optimistic person had the idea that Costa Rica's participation in this World Cup was going to be short and catastrophic. Taking part of the same group that former champions Italy, England and Uruguay (the death group) made gamblers bet on how many goals Costa Rica was going to receive instead of the winning-loss alternative. However, Costa Rica unexpectedly won the group and classified to the second round. Little by little, Costa Rica's expectations sky-rocketed, not just because of the results but the way they earned them. Coach Jorge Luis Pinto infected his players with that hunger that this kind of once in a lifetime opportunities brings with it. He made players and fans believe that it was names and not names the ones who won games. The rest of the story is already known. We were one of the only two unbeaten teams during the World Cup, and we were dramatically eliminated by the Netherlands in the quarter final round. In brief, Costa Rica showed the world how a serious process with the correct support from authorities and fans can take a small country to stand tall among the best soccer teams in the world.

Here, we leave a brief summary of Costa Rica's participation in Brazil 2014.

### Costa Rica 3 Uruguay 1 (June 14<sup>th</sup>)



Two goals in four dramatic second-half minutes set slowly Costa Rica on their way to a deserved 3-1 victory over Uruguay on June 14<sup>th</sup> in the biggest upset of the World Cup so far.

The Uruguayans took the lead in the Group D clash thanks to a penalty during the first half.

Young striker Joel Campbell chested down a cross from the right and slammed a low shot past keeper Fernando Muslera. Then centre back Oscar Duarte gave Costa Rica the lead with a brave diving header at the back post from a Christian Bolaños free kick. Marco Ureña completed the remarkable victory with a third, silencing an army of sky blue-clad Uruguayan fans in Fortaleza's Castelao arena.

### Costa Rica 1 Italy 0 (June 20<sup>th</sup>)



Costa Rica produced another huge upset to reach the knockout stages of the World Cup for the second time on Friday with Bryan Ruiz's goal securing a 1-0 Group D win over Italy that also ensured England were eliminated. Ruiz headed powerfully home a minute before halftime to leave Costa Rica fans dancing in the sunshine at Recife's Pernambuco arena.

# WORLD NEWS

## **Costa Rica 0 England 0 (June 24<sup>th</sup>)**



In a thrilling tournament with no pushover teams, the Central Americans proved the biggest surprise, fully deserving wins over two former world champions that have taken them beyond the group stage for the first time since 1990. Having beaten Uruguay 3-1 in their opener, then marked Italy's Andrea Pirlo and Mario Balotelli out of the second game in a 1-0 win, the 'Ticos' tied against England who they have never played before.

## **Costa Rica 0(5) Greece 0(4) (June 29<sup>th</sup>)**



Costa Rica secured a place in the World Cup quarter-finals for the first time on Sunday after beating Greece 5-3 on penalties after the teams finished level at 1-1 after extra time, the Central Americans playing for almost an hour with 10 men. Costa Rica keeper Keylor Navas dived to superbly save Theofanis Gekas's fourth penalty for the Greeks, leaving Michael Umaña to stroke home the decisive kick.

## **Costa Rica 0(3) Netherlands 0(5) (July 5<sup>th</sup>)**



The Netherlands survived a nerve wracking penalty shootout against Costa Rica. In Salvador, Krul was brought on specifically for the shootout at the Fonte Nova Arena after the teams finished extra time locked at 0-0. Diving full length to his left, Krul saved from Bryan Ruíz and Michael Umaña as the Netherlands triumphed 4-3 to end the fairytale run of tiny Costa Rica, who had defied the odds just to make the quarter-finals for the first time. The heavily-fancied Netherlands dominated their game with Costa Rica but could not find a way to get the ball in the net, squandering a series of chances and being denied by some acrobatic saves from Keylor Navas.

# THE ILE ETHOS

## Green Culture

by *Charlie McDermott (ILE Major Collaborator)*

The latest survey by the Global Tourism Monitor lists Costa Rica as the most "recommended vacation destination" in the world. The Costa Rican Eco-destination brand is now world famous. Last year, Costa Rica had a record 2.5 million tourists. The new President has promoted the Tourism Bureau to a cabinet level Ministry.

This is fitting. If each tourist spends \$1,000 (not farfetched, when you consider zip-lining, guided tours, dining out, hotels, etc.) that would be \$2.5 billion (that's Billion, with a B!) per year. And as the Costa Rica Brand gets traction, the number of tourists could skyrocket.

Costa Rica has already paid a very high price for its Eco brand. By eschewing cheap coal-fired power generation, Ticos pay more for electricity than every other Latin American country, a fact not lost on Intel and other multinational companies scouting cheap factory locations.

But it's all worth it to protect The Brand. Unfortunately, the Brand is very vulnerable these days.

Why?

One word: recycling.

Tourists from North America, Europe and Japan already fastidiously separate their trash for recycling at home. But when they take their Green Vacation to Eco-friendly Costa Rica, they are shocked to discover that Ticos don't share their concern for the environment but instead lump all their waste together and dump it into a landfill.

Mixing cans with burnable trash seems so unpleasant to these visitors. They cringe every time they do it.

And when they return to their home country they mention their disappointment to their friends.

One day, one of these "friends" may turn out to be an investigative reporter from the New York Times or the Toronto Star.

And then the gig will be up!

Costa Rica's hard-earned Brand will be down the drain. Say goodbye to all those Billions, say hello to being just another typical Central American destination, albeit a relatively expensive one.

But like Ebenezer Scrooge in "The Christmas Carol", it doesn't have to be that way; Costa Rica can still change its future.

One point in their favor is that they are the only Latin American country that has actually passed a law already that requires city governments to recycle. But now it is time for that 2010 to be funded and strictly enforced.

One company in Tres Rios was so excited by the Recycle Law that they opened a \$14 million recycle plant, the highest tech plant of its type in Central America. Unfortunately, with no enforcement of the law, the company couldn't make a go of it. In May of this year, they had to shutter the plant and layoff the workers.

Costa Rica has the Law, it has the Recycle Plant and it should have the desire to save the environment.

Now all that's lacking is Action.

# THE ILE ETHOS

## ***The Good Learner in an English as a Second Language Class***

For us to understand who a good learner is, various issues have to be considered. For example, a learning environment should be such that it favors the students' performance and readiness to learn, especially those who use English as a second language. Equally, the teacher should understand his or her role so that the right information is delivered to the students. In this case, that interactive process should prevail. Good learning can only be obtained when these factors are emphasized. In this paper we are going to discuss who a good learner is, and what qualities that he or she must possess.

Motivation is a very important aspect for the student to excel in all areas. When teachers fail to recognize and appreciate their efforts to perform well, students get discouraged, and some may give up. Therefore, teachers should be aware of the need for motivation. Whenever they perform well, or even make an attempt, students should be rewarded. This will boost their morale to learn more and impress the teacher next time.

Willingness to listen and the confidence to ask questions in class and even outside classroom is of prime importance. Students or learners who are shy or have low self esteem tend to perform poorly because they fail to ask where they have not understood. They cannot present items like poems or term papers in class. This may make students to go for those careers that will make them avoid audience. Therefore, parents and teachers should instill this for the learners' excellence.

A good learner should be ready to move out of the comfort zone so as to accommodate different learning

strategies. For example when the teacher gives another method of reading and summarizing essays, the student should not stick to the old method. Learning from mistakes, and that willingness to be corrected, and any positive criticism from other students and the teacher is very important. This will help the learner to avoid mistakes either when speaking, writing or carrying out any task given by the teacher.

For students to perform exemplarily, good study habits must be put into consideration (Kizlik, 2009). These habits include the following:

- The value of the schedule: that is, valuing the time that you have allocated for your study.
- Make every minute to count: include lectures, social activities, and any other work that you might do in the course of the day.
- Decide when to study; mostly when the body is alert and relaxed and have planned for it.
- Decide on where to study and how to study
- It is good to revise your schedule after sometime if it does not work.
- Reflection and meta-cognitive skills can help the learner to do well. When the teacher understands the diversity of the classroom, he or she will help the learner a great deal. Also the learner should be aware of their personalities, how they get motivated and how best they can learn. The auditory learners can do well when they take lectures or form discussion groups. On the other hand, visual learners can think well when they are given illustrations on pictures while kinesthetic

# THE ILE ETHOS

learners comprehend well with active experiences. It is therefore necessary for the learner to know where he or she can fit for better performance.

Teachers should be equipped with teaching methodologies, depending on where their student comes from in terms of culture, ethnicity, religion and gender. This will help the learner to appreciate the

approaches that the teachers are using and be ready to cooperate with them.

A student cannot be effective without a good teacher. The teacher ought to know that students are different and should be handled carefully, with a lot of understanding. Proper learning strategies should be put into place for the student to learn efficiently. Also, students should be ready to work hand in hand with the teacher, knowing their weaknesses and have that willingness and flexibility to change and learn .

(Article taken from: <http://www.articlesbase.com/languages-articles/the-good-learner-in-english-as-a-second-language-class-4871136.html>)

## The Universal Nature of Figurative Language



As many of you may know, idioms, metaphors, proverbs and many other styles of figurative language

take place in practically every language around the world. Even though we might not notice when we use them in our native language, they do occur on a daily basis in all types of contexts. In fact, when we attempt to study them in another language, we generally come across textbooks or other resources that classify this figurative language based on different kinds of criteria.

One interesting aspect of idiomatic expressions is that they are often taken from an important event in history or from books that are widely recognized such as the bible or sometimes from old English Literature, including Shakespearean works. For example the famous phrase do not cast pearls before swine or as goes the adapted version of Shakira and Alejandro Sanz in

by Andrés Bejarano (ILE Professor)

their popular song "La Tortura": "*andar arrojando a los cerdos miles de perlas*" is in fact attributed to Jesus Christ (Matthew 7:6); the meaning being that we should not give anything valuable whether material or not to those who do not deserve it.

The second aspect that I would like to draw your attention to is the fact that in addition to idioms being popular in all languages, many of them are either exactly the same with even the same words and once they are put together in the new language, the metaphorical meaning is also the same. And in the case when words do not translate one by one, there is often an equivalent that carries the same idiomatic function. For example it is better late than never translates to "*más vale tarde que nunca*" in Spanish, *Meglio tardi che mai* in Italian and *mieux vaut tard que jamais* in French with almost identical choice of words and with an exact idiomatic meaning in the four languages. The same applies for

## THE ILE ETHOS

"Throwing in the towel" or "Tirar la toalla", except that in Italian and in French people throw in the Sponge. *Gettare la spugna* and "jeter l'éponge". But in all languages the meaning is the same as the idiom originally comes from boxing for when the coach used to throw the towel into the ring to signal that the fighter was ready to give up and acknowledge defeat.

It seems like you can go on and on giving examples of idioms such as the ones above, keeping in mind that the variations are either culturally bound or plain whimsical. Such would be the case of speaking of the devil that has its counterpart in Italian, French, German, Hungarian, Spanish and many others, except that in Spanish we talk about the King of Rome instead of the devil, the Czech would talk about a wolf and the Greek and the Jewish would talk about a donkey, all of them showing up unexpectedly if we "mention" them during the conversation.

One final instance that illustrates how figurative carries a universal component is the not very well known and often misspelled phrase "**sic**" or "**sic m**" that

one uses to urge a dog to attack somebody. The first time I heard that expression was many years ago, when a little girl was teasing me by making me believe that she was asking her cute but huge German Sheppard to attack me.

When I asked her why she was telling the dog "to make me sick", she told me the right spelling and what she really meant by that. Then I decided to do some further research about the origin of the word and discovered that it came from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and that it was a dialect variant of seek. Then it suddenly clicked that our parents and grandparents used an expression that originated in the very same way as with the transition the English speaking people made from seek him to "**sic m**"

So if you are not a native speaker of Spanish or if you are too young to understand the meaning of this idiomatic command and happen to bomb into somebody who is walking an angry looking dog and suddenly hear the phrase "**ushca**" or "**uscale**", I think it would be better if you run as fast as you can.

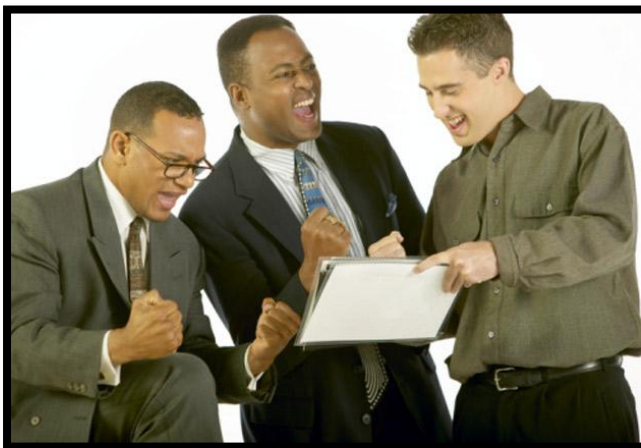
# Value of the Month

UTN begins Value of the Month campaign. For the month of June, the value is QUALITY CULTURE. This campaign has the objective to permeate school life and, as students and staff live these values, their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development increases.

## **Positive Reinforcement**

Positive reinforcement is saying or doing something that will encourage a person to repeat a behavior. It is the opposite of punishment, which is providing a consequence that discourages a person from repeating a behavior. People want and need to be appreciated for their efforts. There are few things more motivating than a pat on the back or a few words of appreciation from those in charge. Conversely, it is demotivating and demoralizing when basic appreciation and recognition are missing from a work or personal relationship. Since something so powerful takes so little effort and costs nothing, it is hard to understand why more people don't take advantage of it both at home and in the workplace. Using the following few simple guidelines for positive reinforcement will help you maximize its effectiveness:

- ✓ Be specific in your praise. Say what you are recognizing and why it is significant.
- ✓ Praise right away. Don't wait a day or a week to thank someone for a job well done. The closer the behavior is to its positive consequence, the more meaning it will have for the person being reinforced.
- ✓ Praise publicly. Let's take a work example. When Susan, your assistant, finishes the spreadsheet on the markdown project, you can post a note for all to see on the employee bulletin board, saying, "Susan, great job finishing the markdown project one day early."



(Information taken from: <http://hcswnku.edu/counseling/clienteducation/prevention3/positivereinforcement.html>  
Picture taken from: <http://cdn.blackenterprise.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2011/05/Good-Job-620x480.jpg>  
<http://www.ecometize.com/?q=node/8>



## VOX POPULI

The UTN community includes professors, administrative staff and students. Each individual has something to say about everything. In this section, we give the university community the opportunity to express what they feel about different school, country and world issues that in one or another way affect or impact our lives, feelings and opinions. Professor Cindy Rodriguez is in charge of this interesting section. In this issue, we asked ILE students:

### Why do you think Costa Ricans are considered some of the happiest people in the world?

Awesome nature, no army, friendly people, what else can we say?

-Ana Mercedes Castro

We are not used to complaining with strangers, and we accept our reality even if it is not the most wanted.

-Vivian Montalvo

We follow our hearts, so we enjoy to celebrate, to eat, to dance, to talk. We make friends easily because of our way of being.

-Dayana Vargas

Our peace and our flora and fauna are the envy of most countries around the world.

-Yoseth Vargas

We are conscientious people. Our country is so beautiful, and we love it. In spite of social and economical problems, we are proud to live here.

-Jazmin Valerio

In spite of the problems we may have, we always try to look on the bright side.

-Diego Rubí

Even though we are a small country, we have many things many other countries don't. We don't have an army and a democratic republic. We are friendly and try to help each other. Above all, natural resources are our treasure.

-José Miguel Espinoza

When a situation comes out of the blue, we take it easy and make jokes about almost everything possible.

-Victor Romero



## 90 seconds with...



We see them walking around the UTN campus. They are always willing to help us when we need information, advice and guidance. UTN academic and administrative staff is an important element of the university. However, people hardly have the chance to meet them. In this section, we will try give you a glance of the other side of all those people who are behind UTN organization and functioning. In this issue, let's meet:

### **José Alberto Rodríguez Arguedas: *Public Affairs and Communication Department Director, Master of Ceremony, Radio Announcer and Presenter,***

#### **Where do you live?**

I am originally from La Agonía, but now I live en La Trinidad, Alajuela. I am 100% Alajuelense.

#### **Best childhood memory?**

Even though right now Alajuela looks like a small city, when I was a child there were a lot of green areas and farms where I used to go with my friend. I enjoyed getting guayabas, mangoes and jocotes. Children today cannot do that. There is a tree, guapinol, that many people do not know. I used to get guapinoles and play with them. I made rings with guapinoles. It was great.



#### **First job**

Believe it or not, my first job was in the Public Affairs and Communication Department at CUNA, so that mean I have been working 25 years for the same institution, first CUNA and now UTN.

#### **Favorite food**

I am a food lover. I love Olla de Carne. It is my favorite dish. However, when I go out, I like to go to grill restaurants. Ah! I also love Chinese food.

#### **Something you really can't stand.**

I hate peppers, onions, cilantro, and garlic. When I eat, I separate all these things and leave them aside.

#### **Would you class yourself as a day or night person?**

It's funny you ask this because I am a mixture of both. I can start working early in the morning, then by noon, more or less, I get sleepy, but then by 3 or 4 pm my energy comes back, so I can continue working.

# 90 seconds with...



## A good book

An old book called Free Will written by Saint Thomas Aquinas. In this book, he addressed appropriate social behavior toward God. In so doing, he gave his ideas a contemporary—some would say timeless—everyday context.

## Favorite music

I am a romantic man, so I love romantic music in Spanish.

## What is always in your fridge?

There are always natural drinks in my refrigerator.

## Dream house: rural retreat or urban dwelling?

### Where would it be?

I would try to look for a place near the beach. I really like it.

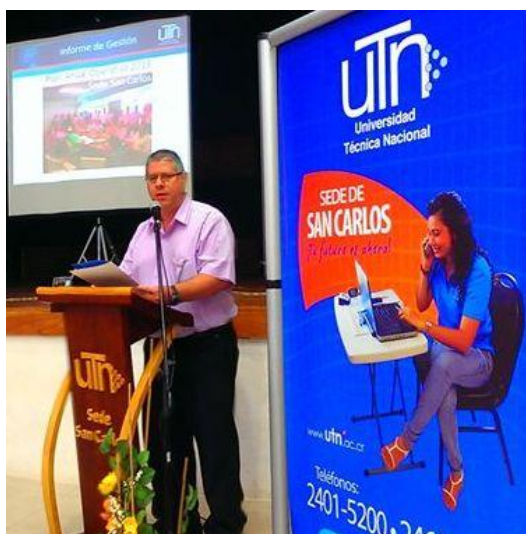
## What's your dream trip?

I would see The Vatican City.

.

## What is your greatest fear?

Uh! There are two to draw because I do not know how to swim, and to die in a fire. It must be terrible.



## Someone you admire

First of all my parents, but I really admire Pope Jean Paul the second's work, doctrine and messages.

## Tell me a joke or proverb you remember right now.

Something I think is very valid in a person's life is: you cannot be completely happy at least you give all the love you have and have received all the love you need.

# The Attic of Bertha Mason



## *For those Facebook Lovers*

Despite complains that many people are turning FB into an online psychotherapist where they vent all their unresolved issues, it is still a tool that can be used for learning.

Specifically in the case of literature lovers or writers there are several great sites to go for inspiration or information.

Here are a few:

1. **World Literature Today (worldlittoday)**  
It includes news, stories and everything related to literature of the world.
2. **Writers Write (Writers.Write.Company)**  
They publish literary memes, inspiring quotes, and useful articles for writers and lovers of literature alike.
3. **Writing Prompts (writing-prompts/58006503266)**  
People publish writing prompts to get you started.
4. **Radom's House Readers Circle (rhreaderscircle)**  
Though it is a site for RH to advertise their titles, it also offers interesting articles.

If you, like me, like to spend sometime Facebooking, it's a good idea to learn in the process. Enjoy!

# The Attic of Bertha Mason

## Zoo Ave

by Abigail Molina (ILE Student)

With beautiful green and blue feathers, the peacocks gave us a surprising and warm welcoming. As soon as we got to Zoo Ave, we could appreciate the beauty inside. Even though there was no guided tour, we could easily make our way through it. This must-go to place is located in Garita, Alajuela. It is home to a huge diversity of birds of different colors, and sizes. Costa Rica is known as an ideal destination for those who are interested in bird watching, such as parrots, the mute swan, peacocks, different species



of Hawks, owls, and also exotic birds from Africa and America. We could also see reptiles, koi fish, and mammals. I enjoyed watching the monkeys that gathered to play and some of them fought for a mango that fell close to them. One of the biggest surprises I got was seeing the enormous boa constrictor that was lying down in a cage above my head. I ran away as soon as I saw it because I am

afraid of snakes. Almost at the end of the walk, we could go on the canopy tour. This adrenaline rush has 3 cables that completes 500 meters, which is full of excitement. I have to say that the first cable is scary, yet while going down the second cable, you start looking at the splendid panorama, and finally while I was on the last cable, I did not want to come down.

I will never forget this field trip because it provided the opportunity to learn about the different species of birds and animals. In addition, this place helps create awareness regarding the risk in which animals are in. I thought about this quote by Mahatma Gandhi *"The greatness of a society and its moral progress can be judged by the way it treats its animals"*. Changing the way we think and treat animals will help us change our society and make progress.



# The Attic of Bertha Mason

## The Evolution of "Pulperías" in Costa Rica

by Edwin Murillo (ILE Student)

Many Costa Rica's visitors may wonder what a Pulpería is when they first hear the term. But what does the term "Pulperia" refer to? It refers to the first grocery stores that began in Costa Rica. In colonial times, they were known as "Comisariatos", and the majority of them were owned by foreign capital. They sold and traded items such as: rice, beans, butter, coffee, salt and liquor. Some of them traded their items by food tickets or by



"Boletos" as it was commonly called by Costa Ricans at that time. However, the image of Comisariatos changed significantly in the last 2 centuries. At the beginning, Comisariatos consisted of a person selling behind a counter, where the owner was the only one who could manipulate the products. Many years later, a new term appeared, and it was used by Costa Ricans to name the old Comisariatos. This term was "Pulpería", and it is currently the name that remains. In these new groceries stores, customers could have access to many varied products that were not found in the ancient Comisariatos, and the difference was that they could use cash instead of the well-known Boletos, and could also pick out the products they wanted to buy.

Nowadays, Pulperías can be found everywhere along the country, it does not matter if the place is located in a remote area of Costa Rica, there will be always at least one Pulpería where foreigners as well as Costa Ricans can get many products.

Pulperías have changed the way they store their products. In the past they, they could not sell products as meat or cheese, but with the introduction of technology in their business owners were able to do it. Once you step in, it is easy to notice many technological devices that were not present in the old Comisariatos, devices as freezers, dispensers, and balances make their business more sophisticated.

In Costa Rica, Pulperías constitute an important business for some people. They are the mean in which many honest citizens make a living. Sometimes their economy is menaced by big companies as super markets, but they will always find the way to succeed and keep on working. So every time you see a Pulpería, think of it as a business that is part of a cultural legacy in Costa Rica.

(Picture taken from: [https://farm1.staticflickr.com/24/65358736\\_88a4507bbf\\_z.jpg](https://farm1.staticflickr.com/24/65358736_88a4507bbf_z.jpg))



# The Attic of Bertha Mason

## A Walk in the Clouds

By Cristina Dall'Anese (UTN Professor)

I had just left work; heading back home there it was: my cherished town of Alajuela, all wrapped in mist! All of a sudden, the memory of my father stroke me as though he were sitting right next to me, and then I remembered this story, which I am about to share:

When I was a little girl, 4 or 5 I guess, I used to daydream of sleeping on top of a cloud. I longed to fly on a plane, cross the sky, grab a cloud and bring it back with me and, keep it in my room. Then I realized that I didn't have a container large enough to carry my cloud back home. That's when I figured out a solution: baby food jars! I had to collect lots of those small jars, so I could take with me lots of tiny little clouds that would gently waft in my room.

Once I had accomplished to gather quite a few small jars I asked my father: "*Daddy, I want you to take me on a flight on plane, so I can capture lots of tiny, little clouds; I've already got the jars...*" and I explained my reasoning. Those who met my dad may imagine the astonishment in his face, before he laughed his head off. Patiently, he explained to me facts on clouds, and that my plan was quite unreal. Boring explanation and frustrating reality! He said, nonetheless, that if we ever had a chance to touch the clouds, not necessarily going all the way to the sky, we would do it.

Time went by, and then my project was forgotten.

Some other day we were coming back from Puntarenas; I believe we were going through *Monte del Aguacate* and fog was as dense as it could be. Dad was driving when he told me to open the window and feel the cloud; that is what clouds were like. That was the first time in my life to feel and touch a cloud. I was delighted with that cheerful moment: I had finally touched a cloud!

Today, as I was driving back and it was foggy, I pulled out my hand and recalled that precious moment I am telling you about now and I thought to myself:

*Shoot!! I don't have any little baby-food jars with me...no need to travel by plane to touch the clouds!*

# LANGUAGE BITS

SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
A friend is under a lot of pressure and stress at work. It's starting to affect her mentally.	She is commencing to suffer as a result of stress-related professional issues.	She's having a mental breakdown.	She's cracking up.
You heard a joke that made you laugh.	That amusing quip caused me to guffaw hysterically.	That joke made me laugh.	That joke really cracked me up.
A friend asks for some money. You say no emphatically.	Under no condition whatsoever.	Never!	Over my dead body; No way, José!

(Information taken from Hot English Online Magazine #102, p.36)

## Idiomatic Expressions

One of the most difficult aspects of a language to master is the usage of idiomatic expressions. An idiomatic expression or idiom is a combination of words that has a figurative meaning owing to its common usage. An idiom's figurative meaning is separate from the literal meaning. There are thousands of idioms and they occur frequently in all languages. There are estimated to be at least twenty-five thousand idiomatic expressions in the English language. During the next editions we will show some idiomatic expressions, and we will divide them according to a particular word or topic. Here there are some idioms that use numbers:

IDIOM	MEANING	EXAMPLE
On cloud nine	This expression is used when someone feels very happy.	<i>She's been on cloud nine since since her boyfriend proposed to her.</i>
At sixes and sevens	When someone is confused or in a state of disorder.	<i>The government was at sixes and sevens over what to do about the unemployment rate.</i>
Take five	When we take five we take a short break. The five refers to five minutes.	<i>I'm tired of walking, let's take five.</i>
One-horse town	To describe a town or village that is very small and boring.	<i>I grew up in a one-horse town. I moved away at the first chance I had.</i>
forty winks	To have a short sleep, or a nap.	<i>Dad likes to have forty winks after a game of golf.</i>

(Information taken from: <http://www.ecenglish.com/learnenglish/lessons/idioms-using-numbers>)

# HUMOR



Who has not watched The Simpsons? The series is a satirical depiction of a middle class American lifestyle. It has been on for more than 25 years. In this edition, we share with you some of Homer Simpson's funniest quotes.

Ah, TV respects me. It laughs with me, not at me!

I'm normally not a praying man, but if you're up there, please save me Superman.

Just because I don't care doesn't mean that I don't understand.

Son, if you really want something in this life, you have to work for it. Now quiet! They're about to announce the lottery numbers.

Operator! Give me the number for 911!

I want to share something with you: The three little sentences that will get you through life.  
 Number 1: Cover for me.  
 Number 2: Oh, good idea, Boss!  
 Number 3: It was like that when I got here.

I think people pick me because of my motivational skills. Everyone says they have to work a lot harder when I'm around.



(Information taken from: [http://www.2spare.com/item\\_61333.aspx](http://www.2spare.com/item_61333.aspx))

(Pictures taken from: <http://wirgelis.deviantart.com/art/Homer-Simpson-166526968>)





# Technology

## TeacherTube

Teachers now have their own place to learn and to teach: TeacherTube.com. Since this site is designed specifically for education, there is not as much concern about "public" contributions and appropriateness for school! Teachers will find videos



suitable for classroom instruction. It is free for all users, but to upload videos and comment you must be registered, which is also free. Members are encouraged to share educationally related videos. As a member you are also encouraged to make useful and constructive comments about content and use the rating system to help all members of the Teacher Tube community. There is a site search facility.

The site is divided into Home, Videos, Docs, Audios, Photos, Groups, Classrooms and Collections. There is the ability to share materials through other social networking sites such as FaceBook, Twitter and Pinterest, and also by email.

Within the Videos section, you are given a breakdown of further options, including Teacher Tube Tutorials, Fine Arts, Math, Health and Physical Education, History and Social Studies, Professional Development, Reading, Science, Social Sciences, Special Education, Student Products, World Languages, Writing, Elementary. When clicking on an option, you are able to sort videos by recent, viewed, featured and top rated. This is handy if you are looking for those videos that others have found particularly useful and interesting. You can use these videos in your classroom to illustrate certain points to your students, set homework to watch a video for a class discussion, direct students to watch a video in their own time to help with particular areas and other purposes.

Within the Docs section you can find materials that are useful for in the classroom. You will probably need to spend a fair amount of time searching for relevant documents, but if you do spend a bit of time to look you will likely find something useful.

The Audios section is good for if you want to use listening material in your class but do not have the facilities to show a video. Audio can be used for class activities, perhaps comprehension exercises, for students to listen to other accents, and a whole host of other ways. You can also refer students to audio exercises to listen to for homework, and providing the link to the specific audio file means it is easy for students to listen to the correct file.

The goal of the site is to "provide an online community for sharing instructional videos." The site also states:

*"We seek to fill a need for a more educationally focused, safe venue for teachers, schools, and home learners. It is a site to provide anytime, anywhere professional development with teachers teaching teachers. As well, it is a site where teachers can post videos designed for students to view in order to learn a concept or skill."*


To learn more about this interesting website, go to: <http://www.teachertube.com/>

# This Month in History

## IT HAPPENED IN JULY

July 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1947	An object speculated to be a UFO crashes near Roswell, New Mexico, though the United States Air Force claims it is a weather balloon.
July 5 <sup>th</sup> , 1865	The Salvation Army is founded in the East End of London, England.
July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 1785	The dollar is unanimously chosen as the monetary unit for the United States.
July 9 <sup>th</sup> , 1887	The first paper napkins are introduced at a dinner at a British hotel by John Dickenson, a stationery manufacturer.
July 12 <sup>th</sup> , 1898	The Philippines declare their independence from Spain.
July 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1955	Eighteen Nobel laureates signed the Mainau Declaration against nuclear weapons, later co-signed by thirty-four others.
July 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1872	The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland introduces voting by secret ballot.
July 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 1903	Ford Motor Company sold its first car.
July 26 <sup>th</sup> , 1847	Liberia, settled in Africa by freed U.S. slaves, becomes the first African colony to become an independent state.
July 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1966	Musician Bob Dylan crashes his Triumph motorcycle in upstate New York. He goes into seclusion for over a year before reemerging and reinventing himself artistically.

## FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN THIS MONTH

PERSON	JOB	BIRTHDAY
	Author	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1883
	Singer	July 5 <sup>th</sup> , 1950
	Actor	July 9 <sup>th</sup> , 1956
	Actor	July 13 <sup>th</sup> , 1942
	Poet	July 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1304
	Singer	July 26 <sup>th</sup> , 1943
	Race Car Driver	July 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1981

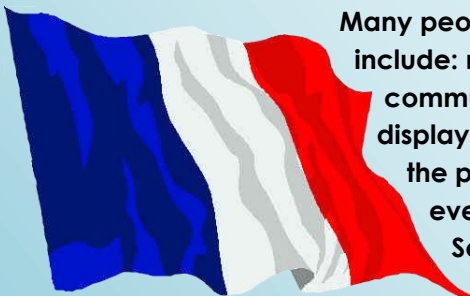
# This Month in History



## Bastille Day

Bastille Day is celebrated on July 14<sup>th</sup> in France, New Caledonia, Tahiti, and other French territories. It is known as the birthday of the French Republic.

Originally built as a medieval fortress, the Bastille eventually came to be used as a state prison. Political prisoners were often held there, as were citizens detained by the authorities for trial. Some prisoners were held on the direct order of the king, from which there was no appeal. Although by the late 18<sup>th</sup> century it was little used and was scheduled to be demolished, the Bastille had come to be associated in the minds of the people with the harsh rule of the Bourbon monarchy. During the unrest of 1789, on July 14<sup>th</sup> a mob approached the Bastille to demand the arms and ammunition stored there, and, when the force guarding the structure resisted, the attackers captured the prison, releasing the seven prisoners held there. The taking of the Bastille signaled the beginning of the French Revolution, and it thus became a symbol of the end of the *ancien régime*.



Many people attend large-scale public celebrations that include: military and civilian parades, musical performances, communal meals, dances and spectacular fireworks displays. The president gives an interview to members of the press, discussing the situation of the country, recent events and projects for the future.

Some typical dishes eaten during this celebration include: onion tart, Peanut Dacquoise with Peanut Butter Mousse, Red Onion and Goat Cheese Tart, and French yogurt cake

The Eiffel Tower in Paris and the French national flag, or tricolor, are important symbols of Bastille Day. The French national flag is one-and-a-half times as wide as it is tall. It consists of three vertical bands of equal width colored blue, white and red. The same colors are displayed in bunting and banners of many shapes on Bastille Day. People may also wear clothing or face paint in these colors.

(Information taken from: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastille\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastille_Day))

(Pictures taken from: [https://farm4.staticflickr.com/3796/8824775312\\_2dbd8005ba\\_c.jpg](https://farm4.staticflickr.com/3796/8824775312_2dbd8005ba_c.jpg)  
[http://www.sar.org/Youth/Exchange\\_Program](http://www.sar.org/Youth/Exchange_Program) (flag))

# PROVERB OF THE MONTH

A proverb is a short saying or sentence that is generally known by many people. The saying usually contains words of wisdom, truth or morality that are based on common sense or practical experience. It is often a description of a basic rule of conduct that all people generally follow or should follow. Proverbs can be found in all languages. After the outstanding representation of Costa Rica National team in the World Cup, we want to close this month's edition with this Chinese proverb about victory:

**The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.**

~ Chinese Proverb

## Discovering Pura Vida

Remember if you want to read authentic stories made in UTN-ILE, you can find them in Discovering Pura Vida. The books are series of language learning and culture immersion original stories in English with an interesting way of learning Spanish. They are for kindle readers at the moment, but any PC or tablet can display them, too. Each book is \$3.99.



(Images taken from: Amazon: [http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=discovering+pura+vida&prefix=discovering+pura%2Caps&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Adiscovering+pura+vida](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=discovering+pura+vida&prefix=discovering+pura%2Caps&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Adiscovering+pura+vida))

To buy one of these wonderful titles go to [DISCOVERING PURA VIDA](#)

# PROGRAMA DE IDIOMAS



## Description

Our language open courses have been designed to provide students an environment in which they can participate and role play everyday situations.

Experienced teachers and small groups complement a process applying appropriate foreign language learning strategies. Phonetic concepts are included to reinforce oral abilities in a way students can integrate other language skills, such as reading comprehension, listening, and grammar structures.

Besides, students are able to discuss and express their opinions on several topics regarding a variety of common interest issues such as sports, culture, pollution, social problems, and the like, by using proper grammar structures and pronunciation.

At the end of the program, students achieve an intermediate level of language production (B1 according to the Common European Framework) intended as satisfactory to fulfill their academic and professional requirements with native speakers.

## Academic program

Our program consists of the following academic offerings:

### English Introductory Level (INGLES NIVELATORIO)

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Registration fee is not charged.
- Placement test (Optional).
- Age requirement: 15 years old minimum. (does not include the Children Program)

**Further information:** Tel. 2435-5000 ext: 1192-1193 or through e-mail [programaidiomas@utn.ac.cr](mailto:programaidiomas@utn.ac.cr)

A basic two-month course designed to provide students elementary language tools.

### Regular English Program (INGLES REGULAR)

A two-year program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.

### Intensive English Program (INGLES INTENSIVO)

A twelve-month program in which students attend three times a week, morning or evening schedule.

### English For Children and Teenagers (INGLES PARA NIÑOS Y ADOLESCENTES)

A two-year program designed for children and teenagers up to 14 years old. Students attend classes on Saturday evenings.

### Portuguese

A fourteen-month program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.

### Italian

A sixteen-month program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.