



ISSUE # 39 JANUARY 2016

2016: Year Of
Pachamama

They Left A Legacy

New Building For
Guanacaste Campus

I Love PDF

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CONARE proclaimed 2016 as the year of Costa Rican public universities for the Mother Earth or in Quechua Pachamama. People should learn that traditional values and their bond with the Pachamama are more important than the economical benefits. In this month in which open the celebration

of Pachamama, we selected this beautiful picture of a sculpture in the Pachamama Museum in Tucumán, Argentina for our cover page. 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. 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.

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EDITORIAL

The Throw-Away Culture

by Eric Herrera (ILE Professor)

“We cannot afford the luxury of looking down on leftovers. We are living in a throw-away culture where we easily throw out not only things, but people, too.”

-Pope Francis



CONARE proclaimed 2016 as the year of Costa Rican public universities for the Mother Earth; therefore, it is important to raise awareness about the uncontrollable problem with the throw-away culture.

Remember the old days when a stove lasted for decades? If it broke down, it could be fixed. Nowadays a growing throw-away culture causes people to throw away their goods and replace them with new, latest technology ones available on the infinite market. People throw away without a sense of responsibility; without guilt or shame; without acknowledging the dignity of the Mother Earth that gives all of itself for our so-called gain.

The throw-away culture describes a critical view of overconsumption and excessive production of short-lived or disposable items. For example, it is amazing to see how thousands of people do everything possible to change a mobile phone with only some months of use just because it comes in a new color or size. Some other people change cars every three or five years and not because they really need it but because it is on fashion, or just because they like to boast. The worst of all is that some of them often put themselves into debt to pay for these superficial whims. And what happens to the the discarded items: they become trash. In terms of food, one third of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year — approximately 1.3 billion tons — gets lost or wasted. Some people would think: each person has

free will to do what he/she wants, but the effect of this lack of awareness brings with it serious problems for humanity. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the average person produces about 726 kg of trash a year. Furthermore, the UN Environment Program has recently stressed time and time again the need to speed up the transition to a circular economy. The last century has witnessed a rapid transformation of humanity's relationship with the natural world, with an escalation in the use of resources to the point that people are now living 40% over the Earth's capacity.

When thinking about some factors why people live in a throw-away society, many point out companies because they just do not make things like they used to. In the past, things lasted almost forever: TV's, washing machines, stoves, phones, etc. Now it seems that people buy something and within a couple of years there is some sort of self-destruct button built into it by the manufacturer that forces people to replace it. On the other hand, it is also people's fault not to distinguish between a need and a whim. Besides, people have become mentally lazy or manipulated by consumerism. There are many things that can be easily repaired, but most people do not take into consideration that fact, they just throw or give them away.

Local action, global thinking and above all individual efforts are needed to tackle the menace of this throw-away culture. Just as taking care of a biological mother, let's take care of Mother Earth.

New Building For Guanacaste Campus

With a total investment of ¢1.750.000.000, UTN inaugurated a modern building in Guanacaste campus, in Cañas, on January 11th. The building includes 24 classrooms, labs, parking for 50 vehicles and an area for student administrative services. The municipality of Cañas donated the land where the new infrastructure was built.

The celebrations included a gathering of distinguished speakers, including President Luis Guillermo Solís, who congratulated UTN for such an achievement: "We are here today because an extraordinary body of interdisciplinary work had a dream to see a high quality university established in Cañas. This group has shown that dreams can come true if a conscious effort is made, and you set your minds to it. the opening of The Corobicí Facilities communicates clearly that UTN is committed to the wellbeing of students as well as their intellectual development "

In addition, UTN Chancellor Marcelo Prieto expressed: "We want a safe, healthy and attractive campus environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors by providing both excellent education and the best facilities we can provide."

UTN Guanacaste campus had 1266 students and for 2016 UTN expects approximately 500 more.



Accessibility And Disability Policy

In its meeting held on December 10th, 2015, UTN Council unanimously adopted institutional policies on accessibility and disability presented by the Accessibility and Disability Commission. This policy establishes guidelines for the academic accommodation of UTN students with disabilities in order for them to access learning while maintaining the integrity of course content and objectives, and ensuring fairness for all students. Liliana Rojas, who is in charge of the commission, expressed that: "With the establishment of this policy, UTN marches towards consolidation as an accessible university, free of discrimination and offering every single student the respect and help he/she needs." UTN is committed to fostering an inclusive educational environment that:

- a) promotes mutual respect;
- b) recognizes the equality, dignity and autonomy of all persons;



- c) recognizes that "disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives" (World Health Organization);
- d) provides academic accommodations and equal opportunity without discrimination;
- e) fosters student learning through a range of teaching pedagogies;
- f) protects the privacy and confidentiality of its students.

2367 New Graduates



During 2015, 2367 students graduated from UTN. UTN offers majors, bachelor and licenciatura degrees in about twenty-nine different areas. Chancellor Marcelo Prieto encouraged the graduates on their first job to concentrate on mastering skills and to see the work as a first step. Also he called on them to seek a bigger purpose than themselves.

Puddles At The North Pole

The North Pole looks like it has just spent the day above freezing. Warm air injected from a major North Atlantic storm has flooded across the ice sheet at the top of the world.

The direct cause of the “heatwave” was **Storm Frank**, which would have been called a hurricane had it been within the tropics, and during the season. Its violence has been reflected by wind gusts on the coast of England of 120 kilometres an hour. In the Cairngorms, the tallest mountain range in Scotland, a gust of 180kph was recorded.

Off the coast of Iceland, as Frank passed, hurricane force winds produced waves in excess of 17 metres high. At that time, the central pressure of the storm was about 928 millibars. This figure makes it the third lowest extra-tropical storm pressure seen in the North Atlantic.

The severe weather in the East Fjords of Iceland was among the worst that residents have experienced. The situation was bad in Eskifjordur, where high seas and hurricane force winds threatened the existence of the marina.

This combination of strong southerly winds in the upper atmosphere and Frank's hurricane strength makes an unstoppable pump of warmth over the Arctic. It's difficult to confirm weather conditions at the North Pole itself but records suggest that it is very rare to see such a rise in temperature. This is at least 25C above normal.

As far as we can tell, there are only three recorded incidences of a temperature above freezing in December, since 1948. If this warmth lasts into January 1st, it will be unprecedented. There are no recorded occasions of the North Pole being above 0C in January, February or March.



Information taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/americas/56425-puddles-at-the-north-pole.html>

Photo credit: [Christopher.Michel via Foter.com / CC BY](#)

Mexico Recaptures Notorious Druglord 'El Chapo'

The Mexican druglord who made a brazen prison break through underground tunnels has been recaptured, the President announced on Twitter. “Mission accomplished, we have him,” President Enrique Pena Nieto tweeted on Friday, January, 8th.

Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, the boss of the powerful Sinaloa cartel, was Mexico's most-wanted fugitive.

The Mexican Navy said marines seized two armoured vehicles, eight rifles, a handgun and a grenade launcher in the raid that recaptured the fugitive.

His July prison escape was the second for Guzman in 15 years - and a major embarrassment for Mexico's president.

The notorious narcotics kingpin was first captured in 1993 in Guatemala, but he escaped from a prison in western Mexico in 2001 by hiding in a laundry cart.

In July 2015, Guzman fled a maximum-security prison near Mexico City just 17 months after authorities captured him following a 13-year manhunt.

He escaped through a 1.5-kilometre tunnel with a redesigned motorcycle on special tracks, emerging in a house outside the prison.

Nieto had refused to hand Guzman over to the United States, but Mexican authorities have now secured an arrest warrant to extradite him there.



Information and image taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/americas/56568-mexico-recaptures-el-chapo.html>

They Left A Legacy

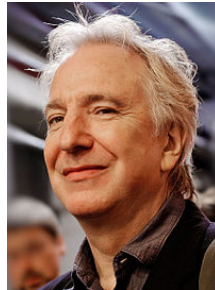
David Bowie 1947-2016



David Bowie was an English singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, record producer, painter, and actor. He

was a figure in popular music for over five decades, and was considered by critics and other musicians as an innovator, particularly for his work in the 1970s. Born and raised in south London, Bowie developed an interest in music while at Burnt Ash junior school and showed aptitude in singing and playing the recorder. When he left school he studied art, music and design, and became proficient on the saxophone, forming his first band that year at the age of 15. He embarked on a professional career as a musician in 1963, and received his first management contract shortly afterwards. "Space Oddity" became his first top five entry on the UK Singles Chart after its release in July 1969. After a period of experimentation, he re-emerged in 1972 during the glam rock era with his flamboyant and androgynous alter ego Ziggy Stardust. Bowie stopped concert touring after 2004, and last performed live at a charity event in 2006. In 2013, he returned from a decade-long recording hiatus, remaining musically active until his death from liver cancer on January 10th.

Alan Rickman 1946-2016



Alan Rickman was an English actor and director, known for playing a variety of roles on stage and screen, often as a complex

antagonist. Rickman trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, and was a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, performing in modern and classical theatre productions. His first big television part came in 1982, but his big break was as the Vicomte de Valmont in the stage production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* in 1985, for which he was nominated for a Tony Award. Rickman gained wider notice for his film performances as Hans Gruber in *Die Hard* and Severus Snape in the *Harry Potter* film series. Rickman's other film roles included the Sheriff of Nottingham in *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, for which he received the BAFTA Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Jamie in *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, the title character in *Rasputin: Dark Servant of Destiny*, which won him a Golden Globe, an Emmy and a Screen Actors Guild Award, among others. Rickman died of pancreatic cancer on January 14th.

Glenn Frey 1948-2016



Glenn Frey was an American singer, songwriter, producer and actor, best known as a founding member of

rock band the Eagles. During the 1970s, Frey played guitar with the band, as well as piano and keyboards. Alongside Don Henley, Frey was one of the primary singers of the Eagles.

After the breakup of the Eagles in 1980, Frey embarked on a successful solo career. He released his debut album, *No Fun Aloud*, in 1982 and went on to record Top 40 hits.

As a member of the Eagles, Frey won six Grammy Awards, and five American Music Awards. The Eagles were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998, the first year they were nominated. Consolidating his solo recordings and those with the Eagles, Frey released 24 Top 40 singles on the Billboard Hot 100.

On January 18th, 2016, Frey died at the age of 67 in New York City of complications from rheumatoid arthritis, acute ulcerative colitis, and pneumonia, while recovering from intestinal surgery.

How To Speak English Perfectly

By Verónica Oguilve (ILE Professor)



According to the newspaper dailymail.co.uk. The expression “practice makes perfect” topped a poll of words of wisdom Britons picked up in childhood and continue to use well into their older years. You would ask yourself why it has been so influential and the answer to that question is: because it is so true! The 1921 Literature Nobel Prize winner Anatole France stated that you learn to study by studying; to run by running; to work by working and to speak by speaking. Therefore, when you are studying a foreign language, practicing is the only way you can improve. Now, is it enough to come to class and talk to your classmates? Definitely not. The reason is that you and most of your classmates have the same background knowledge, culture, mother tongue and make the same mistakes, so it is easy for you to overcome communication breakdowns when speaking English. You always understand what your classmates say, even if they make mistakes, don't you? Talking to native speakers is a must, but finding somebody whose native language is English may seem as a difficult task. Do not worry; social media sites and applications are the solution to this problem. Twitter, Facebook, Interpals.com, Instagram, Tinder, Snapchat, among others could be a starting point to contact a native speaker. You may write to them to improve

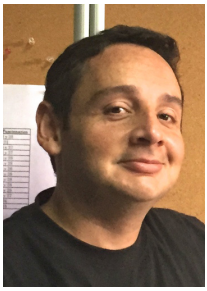
your writing skills (grammar, vocabulary, mechanics, coherence, etc.) and read the interesting information they will share with you. You could also download skype to your phone to practice listening and speaking. From this experience, you will not only develop the four macro skills but also learn about culture, idioms, and the use of language functions in different contexts. Other benefits you can get from having online friends is sharing different points of view and interests and even establishing healthy friend relationships.

WARNING: Not everybody you meet online may have good intentions. So, just be careful with the following:

- If you meet someone in person, make sure it is in a public place and bring more friends with you.
- Do a little of background checking of the person you are meeting.
- Keep your purpose in mind: You would be meeting people for the sake of practicing English. Keeping the relationship online is the best way to go.
- Do not reveal personal information such as your exact address, financial information, phone number, pass words, pictures etc.

Is L1 The Only One To Blame For Our Errors In Second Language Learning?

By Andrés Bejarano (ILE Professor)



Many years ago, I had the chance to teach a course for several years in a row called Interlanguage. This course was part of the DICSEL program in the former Colegio Universitario de Alajuela. I had recently graduated from the University and I had precisely taken the very same course since it was part of the curricula for the Bachelor's Degree at the Universidad Nacional. In that course we learned some of the linguistic phenomena surrounding language acquisition and language learning which made the course very attractive for some and quite unappealing for others. Well, we all know the old saying "**Different Strokes for different folks**" Once I realized that I had been assigned that course, I decided to do the best I could to make the course accessible and attractive for the students. Fortunately, some of them did like it very much and I even remember that one of my students choose one of the topics from the course to do their graduation paper which was a requirement to get their Diplomado degree back in those times. I also recall that some of my students said that they liked this course because it helped them understand all the variables involved in the process of learning a second language and that once they understood the complexity of this process, they knew how important it was to walk the

extra mile to reach their goal of speaking a second language as fluently and as accurately as possible.

Nevertheless, one point that always caught their attention and that it is still an issue of controversy is the fact that, grammatically speaking, second language learners do not always think in their native language to make constructions in the target language.

There are, of course, plenty of examples in which native language influence causes errors and mistakes during the production of the target language utterances. Phrases such as the famous **I am agree** for the Spanish speaking people or **I can English** for the German speaking people and several others can often appear depending on the native language of the language learner.

Nevertheless, there are many other instances in which native language influence has nothing to do with the appearance of errors in the second language. For example, when Spanish-speaking students have to use the plural and they do not use it even though they would use it in their native language.

Once I heard a Peruvian giving a tour and saying to his group that **they were going to entrance a place** where they would see a lot of interesting things of the Inca Culture or the time when I heard a Mexican who was telling her friend **to selection a video to watch it at home**.

These utterances do not belong whatsoever to what is commonly called among linguists as Language Transfer errors but to other categories such as overgeneralizations, communicative strategies or even intralingual as opposed to interlingual error.

Many other errors on the other hand, fall into the category of developmental errors, which are the ones that Native Speakers themselves make when they are infants. For example, words that are wrongly used like **oxes**, **feets** and **sheeps** that do not only happen to second language learners but to native speakers, either because they are just starting to acquire their native language or because they were never corrected or aware that they were wrong. One example of this is the typical overgeneralization of the comparative of good that apparently even George W. Bush used to say it as **more better**. Not to mention that I made that error myself when learning English and repeated it when I started to learn Italian. (I used to say **Piu Meglio** which is precisely the equivalently of saying more better)

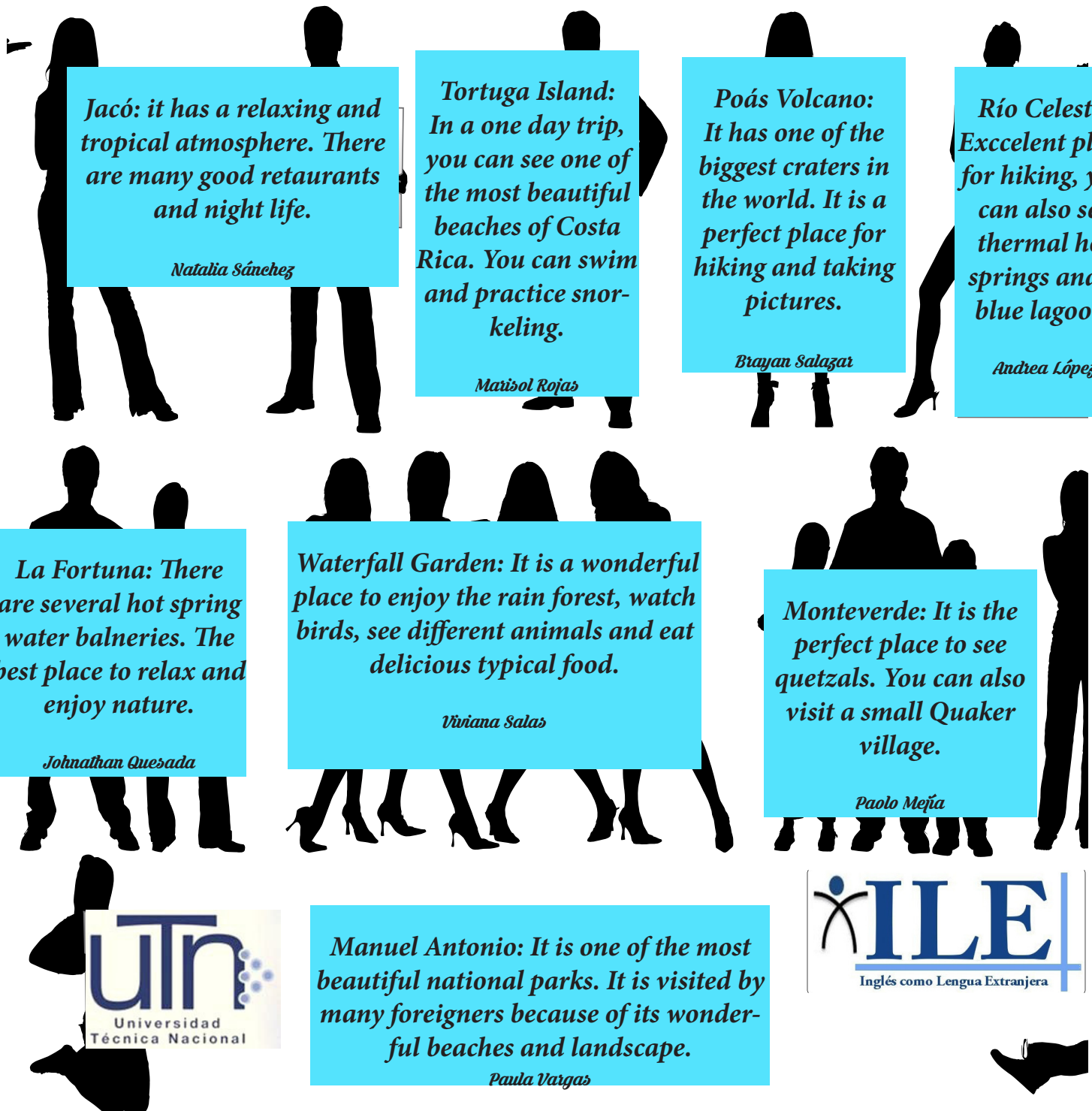
Finally, errors such as mixing up he and she, or is and are like when students say **she are**, or even worse **she name is**, can never be explained through the theory of Language Transfer but rather through the communicative strategies like the overextension of the meaning and the usage of words. This overextension occurs in a very similar way as when some people con-

fuse broccoli with cauliflower, or for example when people say **He learned me how to drive** as opposed to he taught me how to drive or when someone says: **take care!** as opposed to be careful!; leaving aside the fact that in Shakespearean times some of these phrases were commonly seen as acceptable language.

I could go on and on showing examples that prove that the language transfer of L1 interference is not as influential in terms of the grammar mistakes that people make during the learning of a second language and that rather the influence of the native language is more powerful in areas such as pronunciation and intonational patterns that make us think that the person is using or thinking in the native language in order to produce the target language. It goes without saying that learning a language is a very difficult task and now we see, at least with a few examples, that it is not only difficult but complex and that our brain requires a sensible amount of time to go through all the interlanguage process in order to reach a good level of competence in the Target Language. I believe that as one of my colleagues says that being able to reflect on what one is doing while learning a language is very important to be successful, knowing why and how we make mistakes can also help us take steps towards fixing them and readjusting the path in order to reach our linguistic goals much more effectively and hopefully, more rapidly.

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. Since we are in our hot dry season, we asked students:

What place do you recommend for vacations in Costa Rica?



Jacó: it has a relaxing and tropical atmosphere. There are many good restaurants and night life.

Natalia Sánchez

Tortuga Island: In a one day trip, you can see one of the most beautiful beaches of Costa Rica. You can swim and practice snorkeling.

Marisol Rojas

Poás Volcano: It has one of the biggest craters in the world. It is a perfect place for hiking and taking pictures.

Brayan Salazar

Río Celeste: Excellent place for hiking, you can also see thermal hot springs and a blue lagoon.

Andrea López

La Fortuna: There are several hot spring water balneries. The best place to relax and enjoy nature.

Johnathan Quesada

Waterfall Garden: It is a wonderful place to enjoy the rain forest, watch birds, see different animals and eat delicious typical food.

Viviana Salas

Monteverde: It is the perfect place to see quetzals. You can also visit a small Quaker village.

Paolo Mejía



Manuel Antonio: It is one of the most beautiful national parks. It is visited by many foreigners because of its wonderful beaches and landscape.

Paula Vargas



PLACES AND FACES

La Paz Waterfall Gardens Vara Blanca, Alajuela



La Paz Waterfall Gardens is located immediately alongside the road from Alajuela that leads to the northern plains of Costa Rica. The River La Paz forms the waterfalls after traversing 8 kilometers of volcanic terrain, and then continues through the rainforest of the eastern side of Poás Volcano. It takes approximately 50 minutes to get to La Paz Waterfall Gardens from Alajuela downtown.

La Paz Waterfall Gardens is open year round from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and the entrance fee (one day pass with buffet lunch) is \$40 per adult and \$24 per child. The price may sound high for some, but it is completely worth every penny. The restaurant offers typical Costa Rican food.

The scenery of the park is very beautiful. There is a lot of walking up and down steps, but it is worth it. The trails are well laid out and impeccably maintained, and the staff is friendly and helpful. In the aviary, toucans land on your arms, and if you arrive before 9:00 AM or after 4:00 PM you can feed the hummingbirds by hand with a specially designed hand feeding flower.

Attractions

Five waterfalls, cloud forest and rain forest, safe hiking trails, aviary with 40 species of birds, toucan feeding, marmoset monkeys, insect exhibit, butterfly observatory and butterfly gardens, butterfly laboratory, two-toed sloths, Capuchin (white-faced) monkeys, black-handed spider monkeys, hummingbird garden with 26 documented species, hummingbird hand feeding in the mornings and afternoons, serpentarium (snake exhibit), Jaguar, pumas, ocelots, jaguarundi, margays, casita de la paz with petting zoo and ox cart, ranarium (frog exhibit), orchid exhibit, heliconia exhibit, bromeliad exhibit.



UTN continues with its Value of the Month campaign, but for the month of January, we want to take some time and talk about something that is affecting many people today: burnout.

Professionalism at the Workplace

Professionalism is defined as the strict adherence to courtesy, honesty and responsibility when dealing with individuals or other companies in the business environment. This trait often includes a high level of excellence going above and beyond basic requirements.

Professionalism may be built around an internal moral system or code of ethics. Some simple attitudes to pay attention to in order to be professional at the work place are:

a) Dress appropriately: whether or not you have to dress up for work or you can wear more casual clothes, your appearance should always be neat and clean.

b) Watch your mouth: swearing, cursing or cussing—whatever you call it—has no place at work.

c) Offer to help Colleagues: a true professional is willing to help his or her co-workers when they are overburdened.

d) Don't Gossip

e) Try to stay positive: if you think something can be improved, try to do something to make that happen.

f) Don't hide from your mistakes: take ownership of your errors and do your best to correct them.

g) Fight fair: don't let yourself lose control.

h) Don't air your dirty laundry: be judicious about whom you talk to, particularly when it comes to discussing problems with your spouse or other family members.



SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
You're at a party. You tell a friend that you're going to leave.	I intend to depart for my place of abode.	I'm going home.	I am off.
You tried to convince a friend to lend you \$1,000, but she refused.	She abstained from acquiescing to my demands.	She refused to lend it to me.	She wasn't having any of it.
A colleague seems to be angry with you for no apparent reason.	She appears to be averse to my personage.	She doesn't seem to like me.	She's got it in for me.

Information taken from: Hot English Online Magazine #109, p.36

“ENGLISH FOR YOU CR” PRESENTS, WHAT IS AN PUN?

The pun, also called paronomasia, is a form of word play that suggests two or more meanings, by exploiting multiple meanings of words, or of similar-sounding words, for an intended humorous or rhetorical effect. Puns are a common source of humor in jokes and comedy shows. They are often used in the punch line of a joke, where they typically give a humorous meaning to a rather perplexing story. Examples:

“thirty sons, who “rode around on thirty burros and lived in thirty boroughs.”
- *The Bible*

“it is the unkindest tied that ever any man tied.”
- *William Shakespeare*

“On the contrary, Aunt Augusta, I’ve now realised for the first time in my life the vital Importance of Being Earnest.”
- *Oscar Wilde*



Definition taken from: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pun>

You can listen to our podcast including this section, music in English, news, and more in:
<http://www.EnglishforYouCR.com> and www.facebook.com/english.foryoucr

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:

Federico Arce Jiménez, Cinephile, Globetrotter, Hardware Tool Collector, Watch Lover and UTN Publishing House Director.

Where do you live?

I was born and raised in San Sebastian, San José, and I am lucky enough to continue living in this place.

Best childhood memory?

Believe it or not, I have a memory from my early age. I was 2 years old, and my father was an architect. United Fruit Company in Golfito offered him a job, so we moved for some time to live there. I remember the beautiful house in the paradisiacal countryside; there I played around with friends and ate tropical and in some cases note very common fruits such as the purple mangosteen (mangostan in Spanish).

Favorite food

My favorite food is fish, especially grilled fish: on the contrary, something that I cannot eat is cucumber. It affects my stomach.

What is always in your fridge?

In my refrigerator, you will always find fresh milk. In the past, it was very common for parents to teach children to drink milk daily, and that is particularly my case.

Favorite Music?

Just like the song: I love rock and roll. I really like 80's music, bands like U2 and INXS.



90 SECONDS WITH...

Would you class yourself as a day or night person?

My job demands to work with deadlines, and sometimes there are unforeseen issues, so usually I start work early in the morning, and I finish late at night if necessary.

First job

It was in 1983, I had a girlfriend, so I had to make money to buy her a present. There was a man in Desamparados who made party cap and masks and basically most products you see in a party for Rodolfo Leitón Bookstore. I was in charge of the stencil process.

A good book

There are several. One of them is *What Am I Doing Here?* by Bruce Chatwin. Whether he is discussing art, describing his travels in West Africa, or having a chat with aging Russian poets or Patagonian residents, he envelopes everything by his acute observation and curiosity that makes you devour every page.

Another book I really enjoyed was the novel *On the road* by Jack Kerouac. This novel explains many aspects about the Beats generation and the unavoidable glory that you come to associate with the road and freedom of its characters.



One of your favorite place

I got a scholarship to study for four months in Japan, and a place that really impacted me was Hiroshima and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum; particularly, there are some human shadows left permanently visible after the atomic bomb explosion's incandescent destruction. I was there during 2007, just one week before the anniversary ceremony, so you could perceive something solemn in the environment, a very difficult sensation to explain with words. Everything that surrounds this majestic place is amazing for me.

Any proverb or idiomatic expression?

As an employee, worker and as a boss, I have learned that a leader should be respected, not feared.

What is your greatest fear?

Fear changes with age. When I was a child, I feared vampires; however, I admired and love vampire stories and movies. Today, there is a little fear inside me about aging. It is not to become old itself what I fear, but to lose friends and loved people, to feel lonely because you do not have people to talk about experiences in common.

THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON

Describing is very important when you write. The way a writer details his/her characters may or may not cause a real, vivid image in the mind of his/her readers. Here are a couple of examples of the descriptions that students work with in the creative writing course.

My Weird Classmate

By Karolain Ugalde (ILE Student)

Sitting on my desk, looking for the perfect person to describe, I suddenly spotted the interesting classmate wearing an old black cap. He had his eyes focused on a piece of paper, concentrated in his job with a fatigued face like the one you have when you do not sleep well. A striped light-blue shirt with a turtle caught my attention because it looked very similar to my classmate. In addition, his black baggy pants and white shoes made him look out of place. One last thing that caught my attention was his pen, one of those pens you buy in a souvenir store with some animal engraved. His oval, face decorated with some mustaches made me think about what he was really thinking: a poem, a story, a suicide note, who knows. However, he was the perfect person to describe for this assignment.

The New Janitor

By Yesenia Soto (ILE Student)

It was a sunny and windy morning when I was walking down the hall. For a moment, I had to close my eyes because some dirt came into my eyes, but when I opened them again, there he was. A heavy old man cleaning the floors of the building. He was new. I remember a young woman doing it during all this semester. Well, what really caught my attention was the way he was doing his job. For many, cleaning floors may be the last job to do, but he looked happy. In fact, he was whistling and moving his head while working. His attitude just reminded me what my mother used to tell me about facing everything with the best attitude. His job is very important for the university. I cannot stand taking classes in a dirty place. This janitor really made my day.

THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON

An emotion is defined as a person's state of feeling in the sense of an effect. The word emotion was adapted from the French word émouvoir, which means "to stir up." It is difficult to express feelings with words, but an example also works to communicate a feeling. Here is how some students explain feelings with examples.

Peace

By Gabriela Rodríguez (ILE Student)

*Peace is when my family is together
Peace is when I see my friends smile.
Peace is when I spend my day in a beautiful place.
Peace is when the wind runs around my face.*

Peace

By Josue Solano (ILE Student)

*Peace is going to bed with no worries in your mind.
Peace is staying out of trouble and danger.
Peace is when others respect my personal space.
Peace is living in a Costa Rica, with no army and many friends*

Respect

By Yesenia Soto (ILE Students)

*Respect is earned with honesty.
Respect is to know that my rights end where someone else's begins.
Respect is the first thing a person should have for others.
Respect is to act in a way that shows you care for others*

SOME BRITISH HUMOR

One day teacher asked Sam that did his father help him with his homework.

Sam simply said that "No, he did it all by himself"!



Q-Do you know how two programmers can make money?

A-Yeah. One can write virus programs and other can write anti-virus programs!



Q- Why leopards can't hide anywhere?

A- Because they are always spotted.



Q-What kind of tea do soccer players drink?
A-PenalTEA

Mona has a beautiful and naughty daughter called Sona. She is very naughty and mischievous. One day, the little Sona with great curiosity asked her mom, 'Mamma why your hair is turning grey? I don't like it.'



Mona decided to teach her child about good behaviour and replied, 'Dear, my hair is turning grey only because of you. Whenever you do any bad action, one of my hairs will turn grey.'

Sona was thinking for a while in silent and laughed loudly. Mom asked, what happened?

Sona replied, 'Momma now I understand why grandma's hair is completely grey!'

A woman went to a sporting goods store to buy a rifle.

Women: "It's for my husband."

Shopkeeper: "Did he tell you what type should buy?"

Women: "Are you kidding?," "He doesn't even know that I'm going to shoot him today!"



Q-Which sports vampires love to play?

A-'Bat'minton!





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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

IT HAPPENED IN JANUARY

January 1 st , 1801	The legislative union of Kingdom of Great Britain and Kingdom of Ireland is completed to form the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.
January 7 th , 1959	The United States recognizes the new Cuban government of Fidel Castro.
January 10 th , 1994	Ukraine says it will give up world's 3rd largest nuclear arsenal.
January 14 th , 1960	Elvis Presley is promoted to sergeant in the U.S. Army.
January 16 th , 1980	Paul McCartney jailed in Tokyo for 10 days on marijuana possession.
January 18 th , 1986	AIDS charity record <i>That's What Friends are For</i> hits #1.
January 19 th , 1921	Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras & El Salvador sign Pact of Union.
January 24 th , 1978	A nuclear-powered Soviet satellite disintegrates as it falls into the atmosphere, spreading radioactive debris over parts of northern Canada.
January 27 th , 1785	The University of Georgia is founded, the first public university in the United States.
January 30 th , 2003	Belgium legally recognizes same-sex marriage.

FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN THIS MONTH

PERSON	JOB	BIRTHDAY
	Scientist	January 4 th , 1866
	Actor	January 5 th , 1975
	Scientist	January 8 th , 1942
	Novelist	January 12 th , 1876
	Rapper	January 15 th , 1981
	Opera Singer	January 21 st , 1941
	Soccer Player	January 25 th , 1980

2016: Year of Pachamama

CONARE declared 2016 as the Year of the Earth/ Pachamama to increase awareness of the importance of taking care of our planet.

In this issue, we want people to know more about the term Pachamama.

Origin

Pachamama is the Supreme Goddess honored by the indigenous people of the Andes including Peru, Argentina and Bolivia. She is referred to as both the physical planet Earth as well as the universal Feminine Energy in time and space. Her name literally translates as Pacha – meaning world, land, earth, universe; and Mama, meaning Mother. She is the Mother of the World.

Obvious Reasons to Take Care of the Earth

- a) It's the only home we have.
- b) It grounds us.

c) It provides us with food and water.

d) It gives us a place to run and play.

e) It is a living entity.

Climate change is the greatest humanitarian crisis of our time, responsible for rising seas, raging storms, searing heat, ferocious fires, severe drought, and punishing floods. It threatens our health, communities, economy, and national security.

Making a Difference

The Earth provides so much to us, from food and housing to all the material goods that we use. How can we help her and minimize the harms we're doing to her?

Recycling

By recycling what we would otherwise simply throw out with the garbage, we can reduce the need to extract

new raw materials from the Earth and better protect the Earth from being damaged. When recyclable materials are sorted by type, they can serve as raw materials to be remade into new products.

Conserving Water and Electricity

With the damage done to the environment, Nature's capacity to retain water is becoming diminished. Water isn't going into rivers and many are drying up. When it doesn't rain, we may face a water crisis. Though many people have turned to using groundwater, over-pumping of groundwater has already caused land to sink. As there are so many people who need to use water in this world and water resources are limited, if every one of us can use less water, the limited water resources can last longer.



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. In this month, in which we dedicate our proverb to Mother Nature, its importance and our responsibility to take care of it:

*“When a man moves away from nature
his heart becomes hard.”*

– Native American Proverb, Lakota Sioux

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.



To buy the books and learn more about Discovering Pura Vida go to: [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)

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.

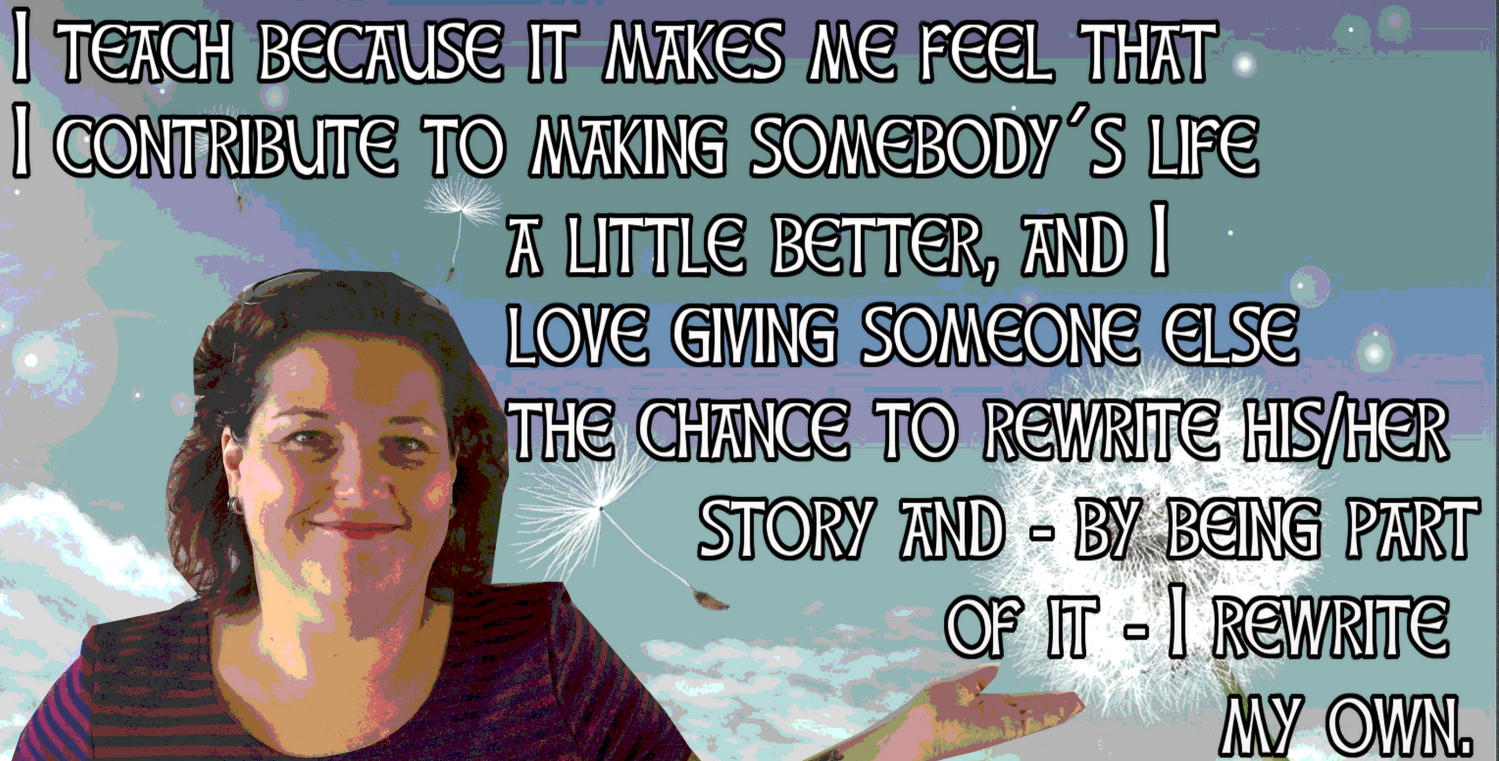
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- 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



WHY DO I TEACH?

A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue and white striped t-shirt, stands in a field of tall grass. She is holding a dandelion seed head in her right hand, with some seeds blowing away. The background is a bright, sunny sky with white clouds. A ladybug is visible on the stem of the dandelion she is holding.

I TEACH BECAUSE IT MAKES ME FEEL THAT I CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING SOMEBODY'S LIFE A LITTLE BETTER, AND I LOVE GIVING SOMEONE ELSE THE CHANCE TO REWRITE HIS/HER STORY AND - BY BEING PART OF IT - I REWRITE MY OWN.