

A Day With(out) Art

I love Brighton. I am grateful that I am able to raise my children in a city that embraces the creative spirit of the artist and is tolerant of people of all lifestyles. As you walk around town today, you may notice that some cafes, galleries, and storefronts may "black out" or cover their window displays in support of **Day With(out) Art**, the annual event began on December 1, 1989 as the national day of action and mourning in response to the AIDS crisis. The name is a metaphor for the chilling possibility of a future day without art or artists. To make the public aware that AIDS can touch everyone, and to inspire positive action, some 800 U.S. art and AIDS groups participated by shutting down museums, sending staff to volunteer at AIDS services, or sponsoring special exhibitions of work about AIDS. Since then, it has grown into a collaborative project in which thousands of national and international museums, galleries, art centers, AIDS service organizations, libraries, high schools and colleges take part. So, while you are doing your bit to stimulate the economy, take a moment to count your blessings. Be thankful that in our tiny little corner of the world, we will never be without art...

Delia Chandler, Editor, *LSI Living*

10 Tips to Improve Your English

You are a hard-working student at LSI who needs to improve their English for work, university, or to broaden your horizons. What are some tricks to retain what you have learned in class? Besides doing your homework, here are 10 tips from a workshop in LSI teacher Alex's afternoon class :

- ❖ Write example sentences from your vocabulary notebook (which you should be keeping during discussion time in class).
- ❖ Read books in English that you have read in your own language.
- ❖ Don't be shy. Strike up a conversation with British people in cafes, pubs, acting classes, language exchange nights, Meet up, etc.
- ❖ Sing Karaoke, or go just for fun and listen to people singing while you are reading the song's words.
- ❖ If you are single, start a friendship with an Englishman or Englishwoman (or American, Australian, Irish, etc).
- ❖ Watch documentaries, movies, or TV series in English (with subtitles in English). BBC TVPLAYER is the best.
- ❖ Download Iplayer radio and listen to BBC while you are cleaning your room, on your way to school or having breakfast.
- ❖ Set your computer, mobile phone, laptop, and Facebook to English.
- ❖ Read as much as possible for exposure to accurate language usage in newspaper or magazine.
- ❖ Write new vocabulary on post it and stick them on your wall, fridge, etc.

SYNESTHESIA 0123456789

Hearing Colors, Seeing Sounds

Synesthesia is a fascinating though little-understood neurological condition in which some people (estimated at around 1 in 23) experience an overlapping of the senses. They "see" letters as specific colors, or can "taste" words, or associate sounds with different colors.

A new study conducted at the University of Sussex has shown how people can be trained to 'see' letters of the alphabet as colors in a way that simulates how those with synesthesia experience their world. The research, as recently stated in *Scientific Reports*, also found that the training could potentially boost IQ.

IQ Jump

While the two possibilities are not mutually exclusive, psychologists at the University's *Sackler Centre for Consciousness Science* devised a nine-week training program to see if adults without synesthesia can develop the key hallmarks of the condition.

They found, in a sample study of 14, that not only were the participants able to develop strong letter-color associations to pass all the standard tests for synesthesia, most also experienced sensations such as letters seeming "colored" or having individual personas (for instance, "x is boring," "w is calm"). One of the most surprising outcomes of the study was that those who underwent the training also saw their IQ jump by an average of 12 points, compared to a control group that didn't undergo training.

Mehmet Ali Yaman (Turkey)

Another effective way to improve your English is to join the *LSI Living* staff!! We always need writer, photographers, and graphic designers. We meet **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:30 pm in Room 5**

Teacher Spotlight.....

Justin Franklin

Student columnist Momo (France) interviews LSI teacher Justin Franklin, who is the spearhead of this year's Christmas panto. Daily afternoon classes/ workshops/rehearsals start today, **Monday 1 December from 1:45 - 3:30pm.**

Momo, LSI Living : Hey Justin, first of all, could you please introduce yourself and tell us your background ?

Justin : My name's Jean-Claude and I'm a plumber from Beijing. Only joking – I'm a teacher here at the school. I've been working at LSI for seven years and I love my job.

Momo : How did you come up with the idea of launching a Christmas show ? Could you tell us more about the goal of this project?

Justin : Yes, I got the idea from a friend who used to be a teacher here. She had the idea to work with her afternoon class to write a short drama, which they could perform. It was all about allowing students to be creative with their writing and improve their speaking skills in a fun way. I liked the idea so much I offered to help.

Momo : For how many years have you been in charge of the panto ? And why do you like doing it?

Justin : So after that first time, Karen (my friend) left the school and so I decided to take charge with it and have happily continued ever since. That was six years ago. This year will be the seventh show. There are so many reasons why I enjoy working on the show, but I suppose the biggest reason is that it's huge fun.

Momo : I know that you have to keep secret the subject of the show this year. But could you give us some examples of past years?

Justine: Typical pantomimes are often well-known European folk stories, like *Cinderella*, *Snow White* and *Jack and the Beanstalk* – all of which we've done in recent years, though last year's show was based on *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens the famous English writer.

Momo : What kind of students are suitable to join the class and what are some reasons for doing so?

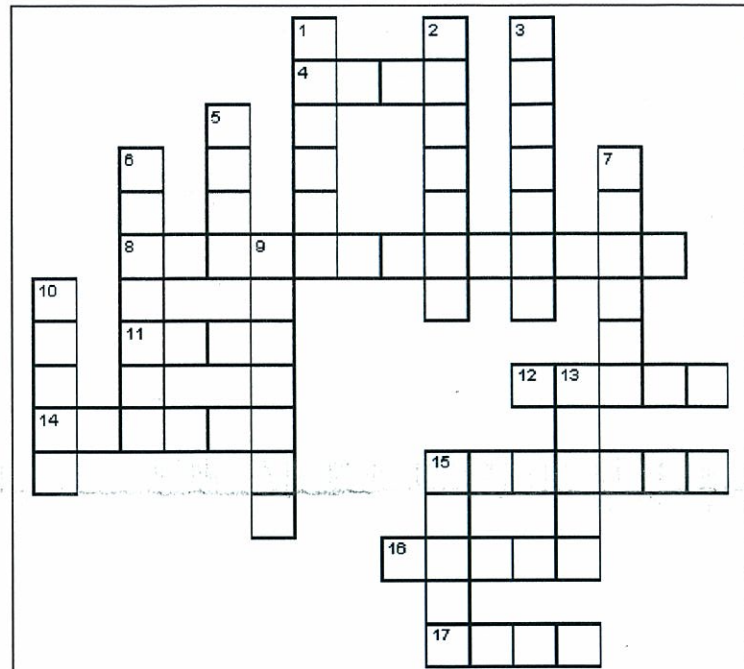
Justin : Good question. The class is open to all students of all ages and language levels, from elementary to advanced but it's especially good for students who want to improve their speaking skills, for example pronunciation, and those who like working creatively. The only condition to join the class is that you have to come every day on time.

Momo : Finally, are you preparing a surprise this year ?

Justin : No. Definitely not. No way. Don't expect any surprises at all. ;-)

Momo : Thank you Justin, we are looking forward to the performance on the 17th December.

Justin: My pleasure. By the way, my name is Justin. Please don't call me Justine – it's a girl's name.



Relationships



Across

4. A flower of love.
8. The holiday for lovers.
11. What you give someone when you get engaged.
12. To see someone other than your boyfriend, girlfriend, husband, or wife.
14. _____ someone. Dating regularly.
15. Stop going out with someone.
16. Love at first _____.
17. Go on a _____.

Down

1. _____ hearted. Sad because a relationship has ended.
2. A celebration where two people get married.
3. Ask somebody to marry.
5. _____ in love. Start to love someone.
6. End a marriage.
7. Someone you are going to marry.
9. People who have agreed to get married.
10. Have a _____ on someone. Be infatuated.
13. The symbol of love.
15. _____ date. A date with someone you've never met.

Answers to last week's crossword: **At the Movies**

DOWN

- 1 SEQUAL
- 4 PLOT
- 8 OSCAR
- 9 CRITIC
- 10 EXTRA
- 12 DOCUMENTARY
- 15 CAMEO
- 16 SETTING
- 19 SCENE
- 20 SPECIAL EFFECTS

DOWN

- 1 SCIFI
- 2 STAR
- 3 BLOCKBUSTER
- 5 ANIMATION
- 6 COMEDY
- 7 HORROR
- 11 ACTION
- 13 ET
- 14 CAMERA
- 17 GENRE
- 18 JAWS