



My Walking Trip

By Louis Moseley

Everyone should know how to walk if they have two legs and have learned how. My walking had to be relearned due to a stroke. The doctors give me hope that with exercise I can walk better. I am going to have to make and keep some goals.

Learning how to walk again after a stroke is a "trip". My left leg suffers from neuropathy. It is a condition where your nerves don't work with the muscles. I lead with my right leg and have little feeling in my left leg. To help I prefer to walk with a cane.

My doctor recommended me to a therapist. (He also recommended a walker.) I see the therapist twice a week.

I know I need goals so I will go to the YMCA one hour a day. I can build my muscles this way. I need to remember to get up and stretch every 30 minutes when I have been sitting. When I am at home or go to church I will pray for the Lord to bless me with patience with my legs.

I feel I'm getting better with walking because I'm feeling stronger. I definitely don't want a walker because I don't like being handicapped. It is my wish that that the Lord is going to bless me and my legs to get better.

Why I Left My Home Land

By Hyor Ksor

Because my people want freedom, our land, and Christianity. We live in Central Highland of Viet Nam. French call us Montagnard, Degar also. We speak Jarai language. It was during Viet Nam war my father fought with the U. S. Special Forces. The Viet Nam government, the communist will not allow my people to be free.

They take my people, put in prison and some they kill. For my Dad the police put him in prison too. For me I can't stay home because anywhere I go the police keep following me and search my home day and night. Sometime they come to my home 2am in the morning. I was scared of police.

That's why I left my home land. My brother-in-law and I escaped across the border and traveled 3 days and nights to Phonompenh in Cambodia. We stay in U.N. Refugee camp for 6 month. They loaned us money to fly to America. I paid back the loan 1 year after finding a job.

We're lucky to be here happy with my family. I live in New Bern for 10 years. In March 2012 I became a U.S. citizen. I'm happy. Right now I need to learn more English, I want to learn writing and reading. My goals are to get GED and to get a better job. First thing I would like to say *Thank You* to everyone who helped me and my people. God bless all of you.



Read All About It!

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Student Stories

SEND IN YOUR STORIES

Write a story or poem for the next newsletter.

The Election Day

By Tatiana Greene

Every vote in the Election Day is very important and can make a difference. Every person has the right of choice. If you want your city to be clean, a better place, and to be safer, you have to give a voice in good city government.

Oriental's government (mayor, commissioners) is very good now. They take care of the city and people who live here. We have problems and the government has meetings where people can decide and give advice about different ways to help solve those problems.

Past problems were about cleaning the city after a hurricane, and a ferry toll, and about building a WalMart.

All problems are discussed on the pages of the newspaper and on the TV shows.

The citizens of Oriental try to make life here better, safer, cleaner together with government, because we vote.



Planting Flowers and Vegetables

By Greenlay Naw

I love to plant flowers and vegetables in the Spring. I pull up the grass and clean the garden. My boyfriend digs the dirt and mixes plant food. I plant the seeds and wait for them to grow. The leafy vegetables are ready first. Onion, garlic, and hot chili peppers are next. The cherry tomatoes are last.

My flowers from Burma come up from last year's plants. When they bloom they are many beautiful colors. The colors are white, pink, orange, red, purple and yellow.





Why I am Learning English

By Erika Gamboa

My name is Erika. I go to Literacy council two days a week. My teacher Nancy helps me in learning English.

When I started English class, I did not speak English. Now I speak better English and am happy for me and my family and my work.

When I did not speak English, I had many problems in my work. Some people made trouble for me. I could not defend myself because I did not speak English.

Now there are no more problems. I am happy, and no more crying because people understand me now.

Escape From Myanmar

By Ah Htu

In 2003 I escaped from Myanmar by illegally crossing the border. I went to India. I lived there 8 years. While there I applied for a refugee card to go the United States. While in India I worked different jobs. I learned to speak some English. I edited books, and made key ring holders on an assembly line. Finally, I was able to move in with my pastor and his family and became their cook.

India was very dirty and very crowded. Most people traveled on buses and trains. The land was flat around New Delhi. The landscape was plain and barren. When I lived with the pastor, it was also smelly and dirty and crowded. There were 3 bedrooms for 3 adults and 2 children and 6 dogs.

I was glad to be able to leave Myanmar though I missed my family. It was scary being in India at first because I had no friends or family and I couldn't speak English or Hindi. After some time passed, things got better.

Since moving to the U.S, in 2010, I have never been happier. I met my husband here and we were married in 2012. we both work and share a nice apartment (no dogs). I am improving my English skills at CLC. I hope to become a U.S. citizen in 2015. I see God's hand in bringing me here.

Just depends on your point of view

By Viangie Martinez

When we talk about change we never think if this will bring impacts that mark our lives forever. I will tell you a little bit of radical change that I have experienced. I am Puerto Rican and my first language is Spanish. When my husband told me that he signed for the Marine Corps to improve our quality of life, everything collapsed around me. I had never been out of Puerto Rico. I did not know any English and with three children it felt like a horror story.

This change contributed to my life knowledge and teachings. But the reality is that all these teachings are acquired with good experiences that give happiness to my life, and bad experiences that made me shed many tears, but in turn give me strength. I can say all those moments were necessary because thanks to them today I can speak, read and write in English. I'm still working to improve every day, and thanks to all I have acquired the determination to handle any impact with good vibes.

Homesick

By Myint Thein

My name is Myint Thein. I am from Burma and Thailand. When I was young, I lived in Burma. After I was married, I lived in Thailand for 18 years. Now I live in the USA. I came here on January 29, 2009. I miss my small bamboo house, my father, sisters, brothers, relatives, and friends. I miss some foods, trees, rivers, mountains, and some animals.

So, I want to go back to my native country. But, my country is not good. The government and ethnic groups have been fighting for a long time. Now, they are talking about peace. There is peace in some places now, so I heard.

I don't know how to go back. What airlines should I take? What are the departure and arrival times of the different flights? I want to make certain I ask the right questions.

It is so difficult for me. So, I need to learn more English. All English words are new and difficult. However, it is important for me to learn all that I can.

A Typical Departure Board At An Airport

Time	To	Flight	Gate	Remarks
0815	SIKAIKAI Chiang Mai	MI 702	238	Boarding
0830	SIKAIKAI Hong Kong	SQ 860	259	
0830	SIKAIKAI Kuala Lumpur	SQ 106	250	
0835	SIKAIKAI Solo	MI 212	210	
0835	SIKAIKAI Taipei	SQ 872	241	
0840	SIKAIKAI Phnom Penh	MI 622	25	
0840	SIKAIKAI Medan	MI 232	235	
0845	SIKAIKAI Bangkok	SQ 60	224	
0850	SIKAIKAI Phuket	MI 752	27	
0850	SIKAIKAI Beijing	SQ 802	234	

Gates will be closed 10 mins before departure. No board

Cinquains By Louis Moseley April 2014

Easter

Eggs all colored.
Going to church all day.
Buying new clothes just for that day.
God's day.

Florence

My grandmother.
She was understanding.
She taught me how to get along.
Mother.

Melisa

A girl.
I married her.
She is pretty and looks good.
I am glad she is in my life.
My wife.

A Firefighter Experience By Mandy Blickensderfer

My class went outside to see a fire truck. We turned on the water hose. We wore boots. The water came out fast and went far.

We saw three men from the fire department. We learned about fires. We sat in the truck. We heard the siren and horn. They were loud.



We had fun together. Thank you to the firefighters for coming to my class.