

Family for the Holidays, by Juanita Hernandez



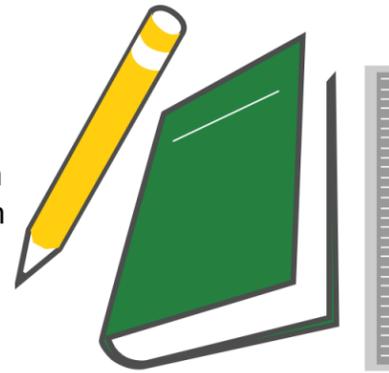
My parents came to visit in December for a Merry Christmas. They stayed in my home.

Maybe in July they will be coming back from Mexico. For now I am content when they are here. We go many places like Jacksonville and Raleigh.

They like America a little bit. They only come to see family.

Education Is the Main Key, by Omar Epps

Education means a lot to me. It will help me to read better and learn more words and get a job. Education will help me keep in touch with my family through letters and email. Work on the computer would help me too. I enjoy reading books and magazines. They will help with my education.



Poem, by Greenlay Naw

Greenlay

I am from Burma
Daughter of Laran and Ehlay
Sister of Glo, Po, Eh Htoo, Gan Htoo, Thawah and Salay
Who feels glad to be here
Who likes sunny days and fishing
Who needs family, friends and work
Who lives in New Bern, NC

Naw



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Read All About It!

Craven Literacy Council's Student Newsletter 2015

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Student Stories

Send us your stories or poems
for the September newsletter

Why I Want to Learn English, by Htun Thein



I want to read more books. I want to know about developing countries' history. Japan, England and the United States of America are more developed countries. The county of Japan is in Asia. England is in Europe. The United States is in North America. So I want to learn English.

I want to read something. I want to buy food. I want to buy vegetables, meat, and fruit when I go to Walmart market. Not many sale prices are the same. I need to look at the price in the paper. Price amounts in the paper are written in English. If you want to know the price, you need to speak the English language. I need to listen and understand. I want to buy medicine. Everybody should know how to read and understand the labels.

I want to read English better. I want to read English books and I want to read English poems so I need to learn English. I need to read English, hear English and write English. I need more practice to understand, read, write, and speak better.

Studying To Pass the Citizenship Test, by Say Ku

My name is Say Ku. I'm thirty-four years old. I'm from Thailand. I have five kids, four girls and one boy. My family came to the United States seven years ago to have a better life and education for our children.

I worked in many different jobs in the past. I am now working in a part-time job at Thai Thai. I have trouble knowing English and that is why I need a teacher to help teach me English. I hope to pass the citizenship test with the help of Mrs. Maureen. Thank you to Mrs. Maureen for helping me with the citizenship test questions so that I could pass the real test. Thank you again, Mrs. Maureen and may God bless you.



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If This World Was Mine, by Morro Keys

If this world was mine, I would change all negative things and make them positive. I would feed all the hungry and provide homes for the homeless. If this world was mine, I would teach all infants nothing but love. If you teach them as an infant, then love is the only thing they will know. If this world was mine, I would make the world full of respect. Respect should be endured and always given to everyone. If this world was mine, I would make every human the same color so there wouldn't be such a thing as race because we shouldn't be competing against each other.



If this world was mine, I would give every human being the knowledge so they can protect themselves from crooked people. In this world if you don't know, you will pay dearly. If this world was mine, no one would have to work on Sundays. Sundays should be a day for family and friends to worship together. If this world was mine, Martin Luther King wouldn't have been the only one with a dream for equal rights.

If this world was mine, love, trust, and loyalty would be practiced more. If this world was mine, families would still be close and our youth wouldn't have to resort to street gangs. If this world was mine, I would make many changes but, since it's our world, we have to become one and change the world collectively as a whole.



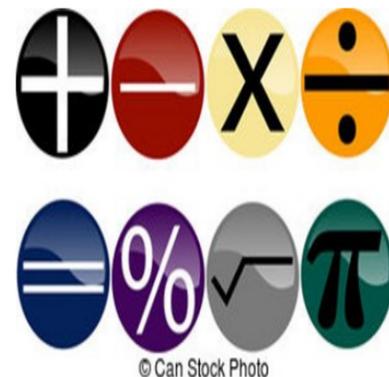
One Special Day in My Life!!!, by Joselyn Vargas

One day, seven years ago, I was very nervous and excited. I had to make a difficult decision. Although I was sure I wanted to get married, this decision changed my life forever. We have been together for seven years now. It has been seven years with good times and some not so good, but always we have been together. From this great love came our two beautiful treasures, Jahir and Aymed. I hope that with God's help we continue together forever. I love you, Manuel.

Working With Craven Literacy Council, by David Heath

One reason I am happy with Craven Literary Council is I am working to get my GED. Also, thanks to two great tutors, I am having fun at it. I am having fun learning math like division, multiplication and fractions.

I like it here very much. An excellent group of people. I also have fun working on models.



My Dream, by Phimpisa Bwint



I would like to become a teacher and teach children. Many people in Thailand are poor and would benefit from getting an education. I need to further my education too so that I can receive a teaching license.

If I get my degree in teaching, I plan to go back to Thailand to help my friends. Thailand needs teachers because they have so few. I am happy for my people because even though they are poor, if they can get an education, they can be happy and successful. As for me, if I have a place to live and a little money I can be happy and successful,

Why I Want to Learn English, by Thet Mon San

I want to read more books, stories, magazines and newspapers. I want to know United States history because I am interested. I want to speak more of the English language because I want to learn.

I go to work and everybody uses the English language so I want to be able to speak more in English. I need to study vocabulary.

When I go shopping all the sellers use the English language. All items are written in English words. Because I want to learn English, I want to have more practice speaking. I also want to learn writing.

When I arrived in the USA everybody used the English language, English letters and English vocabulary. All refugees need to learn English.



Congratulations to our newest citizens

Say Ku took the citizenship oath Friday, May 1. Her tutor is Maureen Smith.

A Bu became a new citizen in June. Her tutor is Debi Lupia.

This is a long and difficult course of study and we are so proud of all of our students — both current citizens and those student/tutor teams working together toward tthis goal.

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A safe and happy Fourth of July to all