LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the spring/summer 2009 edition of Accents! This issue showcases PCCC ESL students’ writings and artwork inspired by class readings, surrounding changes, college experiences, and lots of conversation. I hope you enjoy the work of such diverse body of students who continue to contribute with their life experiences, ethnic backgrounds and culture. Our ESL students’ achievement should make us all proud and willing to keep helping and encouraging them throughout their journey.

Ana Paula Lawrence  
Editor-in-Chief/Layout & Design

In an effort to acknowledge top writers in the ESL program, submissions for each issue are juried by a committee of full-time faculty. Awards are given in the following categories:

- Best Fiction
- Best Non-Fiction
- Best Poem
- Best Art / Photography Composition

Winners will be recognized at the ESL Awards Ceremony in November.

Cover photograph by Yves– Mary Fontin

THANK YOU TO…

Spring/Summer 2009 Selection Committee  
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Robert Salvato, Instructor ESL

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Passaic County Community College ESL Department &  
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**Award winners are designated in RED.**
My name is Andres Miyagusuku. I was born on August 29, 1986 in Lima, Peru. I am single, and I am a student. I like to play soccer, and I like to listen to music.

I moved to The US. on September 28, 2008 because I was with my uncles in my country. My father lived in Japan, and my mother moved here on June 24, 2008. Also I moved to this country to study and work.

Now I am a student at PCCC. I am studying ESL program to learn more English, and speak it well. Also I am sometimes helping in my aunt's restaurant on the week.

I like this country, but I miss my family and my friends in Peru too much, and I miss my father too.

This country is very interesting. The people are friendly and hardworking. People come from all over the world to study and work here.

I think this country has many opportunities to make our lives work better, and maybe in few years my dreams could come true only if I know how to take advantage of the opportunities that this country gives to me.
Vitamins are essential nutrients which contribute to healthy life. Everybody needs vitamins because people can’t produce them on their own. People can get vitamins in two ways, from food (especially rich in vitamins are vegetables and fruits) or from pills, powders, liquids or capsules, and all vitamins in these forms are known as dietary supplements. Providing vitamins is very important because a lack of some vitamins can cause harm. For example, a lack of vitamin D leads to rickets or a lack of vitamin C can cause scurvy. But most studies in the past weren’t focused on vitamin deficiency but on high doses of vitamins. Today people spent a lot of money on vitamins as a dietary supplement because they believe that high doses of vitamins can prevent or even treat some illnesses. The question is: Are vitamins worth it?
Some of the research in the past has disproved the theory that vitamins can help prevent some chronic diseases or prolong life. There are some examples of that research.

First instance, a large study, took a place with 161,000 older women. For 8 years, those women took high doses of multivitamins. After that time, scientists didn’t find that extra doses of multivitamins can lower the risk of heart diseases or certain cancers. That study was published in The Archives of Internal Medicine.

The other study, which was concerned with higher doses of vitamin E and vitamin C, was conducted among 15,000 male physicians. There were two groups of recipients, one of them got high doses of vitamin C and E, the other group got placebo. The scientists didn’t report any differences in cancer or heart diseases between both groups. Both studies don’t show any benefits of taking extra doses of multivitamins, vitamin C and vitamin E.

Some vitamins in high doses not only don’t give any benefits, but they can even do harm for people’s health. For example, one study, which took place among users of Vitamin B9 and other users who were taking placebo. The results showed a higher risk of precancerous polyps in users from first group.

Vitamins A, E, C, which belong to the category of antioxidants, deserve special attention. Those vitamins lower the level of free radicals in people’s bodies. Free radicals are atoms or molecules which have lost one electron. Because they want to get back that, unpaired electron, they are very reactive. They attack other molecules from cells and this association leads to cell damage, mutations, or malignancies. As a result, this process is responsible for aging, heart diseases, cancers or other diseases. Many studies in the resent years show that Vitamin A, C and E can react with free radicals and, thanks to this, protect cells.
One of the studies, at University North Carolina, shows unexpected results. Scientists used two groups of mice, both with brain cancer. One of the groups was given a normal diet; another was given a diet with lesser amount of antioxidant vitamins. The results of that research were shocking for scientists. The mice which ate a vitamins depleted diet had smaller tumors and 20% of tumors cells were undergoing of cell death. In the second group of mice with a normal diet, just 3% of tumors cells were dying. This one research shows that some results of taking high doses of vitamins are unexpected and unknown by scientists.

All those studies show no benefits of taking extra doses of vitamins. Today taking vitamins as a dietary supplement by healthy people seems to be a new trend. But many times those extra vitamins can be a cause of many problems. For example, high doses of vitamins lead to hypervitaminosis, what means that vitamins are not dangerous unless people get too much of them. Vitamins which are soluble in fats (A, D, E, and K) especially can be dangerous because those vitamins can’t be removed when the organism doesn’t need it and the body stores them for use as needed. In contrast to those vitamins are water–soluble vitamins. Water-soluble vitamins (B complex, C) can be removed through the urine if the organism doesn’t need it. The symptoms of hypervitaminosis are different for different vitamins. Sometimes the effects can be mild, sometimes very serious. For example, symptoms for vitamin A are: headache, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, blurred vision or loss of muscular coordination; for vitamin D symptoms are more serious: Polyuria, Polydypsia, Anorexia, lethargy, dehydration, fatigue, hypertension and many other.
From a proper diet, people can get all the vitamins which they need. Vitamins from food are better than vitamins as a dietary supplement because food contains many other different compounds like, minerals, amino acids or herbs. Vitamins in food can “work” together with those other compound. As a result, organisms can absorb most amounts of those vitamins. Vitamins as a supplement provide plain vitamins without any other compounds. They “work” in isolation and the organism can’t absorb them in large amounts, just about 40-60% of them. As a result, vitamins from food are more efficient then those from pills.

In conclusion, vitamins are nutrients which our bodies can’t synthesize on their own. That’s why people have to provide them to their bodies. In spite of the fact that we can’t survive without vitamins, there are no reasons for taking extra doses of vitamins because those doses don’t give any benefits and sometimes can cause harm. There are also no advantages to substituting vitamins as dietary supplement rather than getting them from vegetables or fruits. Finally, the last disadvantage of taking extra doses of vitamins is the risk of hypervitaminosis.

This work was written according to the article from The New York Times “Vitamin Pills: A False Hope?” by Tara Parker-Pope from February 17, 2009.
June 5th I went on a trip provided by my college, Passaic County Community College. The minute I decided to go to the trip, I was looking forward to it because I never visited the place we visited, which was Williamsburg, Virginia.

The day of the trip, the weather was rainy and continued to rain throughout the whole entire ride. Our departure was at 8am from PCCC. The distance to the place we were visiting was 8 hours, but due to weather conditions, it took us about 10 hours to arrive at our destination. When we arrived to the hotel, we checked in to our rooms and then we had a delicious dinner that was reserved just for us.

The second day of the trip was one of the days that I will never forget, due to the wonderful places we visited. First, we stopped by Jamestown, which is considered a very historical place due to the fact that the first true settlers landed in that area before the pilgrims did. Entering this amazing place and seeing all the sculptures and pictures of famous people who lived there from 1607-1975 attracted my attention. I learned so much about American history such as the people who governed in that area. I was surprised when I found out that King James ruled that land while living over 3000 miles away. The way he was able to keep his colony under his control was amazing.

After we had a light lunch, we went to another historic and beautiful place called Yorktown. In this city was the last battle of the American Revolutionary War, the victory of this battle for the Americans won the war against Britain. Wandering around this area with my group and the tour person, taught me how farmers used to make their food, live their daily lives, and their different ways of trading. Furthermore, there was a lady who explained to us about using natural medicines to cure sick people, which reminded me of what my grandparents used to do when I used to get sick. The most amazing thing that caught my attention was seeing the flags of each state that were under British rule.

Our last stop in that day was the spectacular Bush Gardens. This area attracts all visitors attention due to the entertainment it includes, such as the theme parks, zoo, and restaurants that represent different countries; Italy, France and Ireland. My group and I had so much fun while exploring this place as a reminder of how joyful and educational the trip turned out to be. Before going back home, we visited the capitol of Williamsburg, which is a building that was used back in the day to hold meetings for government and private issues. The ride back home was fun, exciting but tiring due to the activities we did at Williamsburg, Virginia.

To conclude, I really encourage all students at PCCC to take the advantage whenever they hear about a trip provided by our school. These kinds of trips are really interesting, joyful as well as very educational. In my case this trip taught me a lot and I got to socialize with people I have never met before.
Virginia historic, **Jamestown Settlement**. Before the first colonists arrived at Plymouth Rock, a group of men and boys came to Jamestown under the endorsement of The Virginia Company of London. In this settlement a president and an entire form of government was formed, which makes this historic settlement one of the true backbones of our country.

Virginia historic, **Yorktown Battlefield and Victory Center**. Yorktown is where the last major battle in the American Revolutionary War took place. At this battle, the British surrendered their weapons and forces, which lead to the victory of the War for the Colonies. This is a very historic place, not only did the students enjoy this field trip, but also they learned much from it.
Virginia historic, **Historic Williamsburg**. Williamsburg Virginian was one of the first settled lands before the arrival of the first colonists at Jamestown. This area is mostly educational with tours, museums and parks that teach the visitors much about the history that took place in that town. One of the major things in Williamsburg was that one of the first House of Burgesses was built here, and the colonists held many meetings in this area.

Virginia entertainment, **Busch Gardens**. Busch Gardens is an amusement park in Williamsburg, VA. The theme of this amusement park is mainly about the Old Country, dating back to the 1700’s. Also, a European theme was incorporated into the mix of the making of this park. In this park reenactments of historic events of our country are made, which not only entertain the viewers but also educate them.
Do immigrants work the same jobs they used to work in their native countries when they come to the United States of America? Immigrants don't usually work the same jobs (practice the same profession or pursue the same careers) that they used to do in their native countries when they come to the United States of America. Some people are getting better jobs, and others are having worse jobs here compared to the ones they worked in their native country. Thirty-five (35) immigrants that were interviewed around Bergen, Union, Essex and Passaic Counties, twenty-nine (29) of them don't like the jobs they are doing in America. They don't work in their professions and they cannot go to school and not speaking the English language are some of the great points that prevent a number of immigrants from not getting a better jobs in the United States of America.

Many immigrants don't work in the professions that they studied in their countries. Marie Angel who was working as a nurse in her country Haiti said she cannot pursue her career in health because they ask her to take too many classes in a college. “My husband is in Haiti, I have two kids with me to take care of, and I cannot pay my school, I cannot have financial aid, and what should I do? I work like a man for a security company to take care of myself, my two children and my family in my country” she said. There are so many educated persons that have the same problems that Marie Angel has. In contrast, most of them claimed to be earning more money in the USA than in their countries where they usually were paid a monthly salary, and not by the hour, as they do in America.

One of the great causes that prevent the immigrant-workers from pursuing their careers or having a better job is the English language. For a number of immigrants, especially Latinos, speaking English is the most difficult requirement of life in the United States. Sackotho Rivera, who was a high school teacher in Venezuela, has worked in America for eleven years. He cannot even go to a store alone to buy something; he has to go with one of his children or one of his grand children as translator. His supervisor is Cuban; almost all of his co-workers in the warehouse where he works speak Spanish. Most of the immigrants interviewed said they cannot go to school to learn English because of the responsibilities that they have in their families. However, a few of them, mainly young people, make sacrifices to go to school to learn English. As a result, they can have a better job and pursue their careers in what they want.
Some people who think the English language is the most difficult language to learn believe that it’s easier for someone to live in America without speaking English especially when he lives in his own community. It looks like a true point on surface. However, even though someone can survive in America without learning English, that person is living at the risk of not fully benefiting from the advantages that are offered in this country. Nobody can have a better job in the US without speaking English. Furthermore, the road signs, the jobs applications and the medical instructions are all in English. Whatever the ethnic population of your community in the US, speaking English is a great requirement if you live in the United States of America. I would advise everyone, young and old, to make a big sacrifice to learn English as a second language to be better able in gaining more opportunities in this country.

Now, I invite you to read slowly the answers of some immigrants that were interviewed in New Jersey about what they used to do in their native countries and what they are doing in America. I am sure that you will have a better idea about the problem of not speaking English while living in the US.

“I had a job at a cafeteria where my brother was the owner. Now, I am working for Ballet Maker Company as return department supervisor.”

Jonatan Basora, Puerto Rico

“I was doing an electronic building job. In the USA, I work as a custodian in an office.”

Shella Arrias, Dominican Republic

“I played soccer as a professional and I helped my father in his disco club. Now, I work in a store where they sell fish in Passaic, New Jersey.”

Chridtiano B., Brazil

“I was working as a secretary and receptionist in a hospital in Venezuela. In America, I work as a secretary in a warehouse.”

Nellia Castilana, Venezuela

“I was working in my own tobacco farm and I was a singer to a popular musical group. Now, in America I work as a taxi driver.”

Bathista Rodriguez, Cuba

“I was a full time student in my country Peru. I used to work during vacation times. I did play soccer too. In this country, even I still go to school; I work for a store on Route 4.”

Miguel Flores, Peru
“I didn’t work in my country, I wanted to study psychology but when I came to the USA, I changed my mind. Now, I am thinking about studying graphic design.”

Claudia Zegarro, Peru

“I am an electronic Engineer. I was working as a technician in data communication and networking. I taught math too.”

Javier Martínez, Colombia

“In my country, I used to teach in primary school. I was elected to assist the mayor of my town. Now, in the USA, I work for the city of Paterson and I own a driving school.”

Daniel André, Haiti

“I was a teacher in my country. Now, in the USA I am working as a substitute teacher in Paterson public school.”

Supti Biswas Nal, Bangladesh

“I was a student in my native country. In the United States of America, I am a student and I have a part-time job, at a Nail Salon.”

Lan Chan, Vietnam

“I was working in Rwanda Hospital as a nutritionist and dietician in the rehabilitation department. Now, I am a certified home health care aide with the Loving Care Agency, in the USA.”

Marie Ntawizera, Rwanda

“I was a professional painter in Jamaica. Now, I work in a warehouse where I drive a forklift.”

Wilford Clark, Jamaica

“I was working as a maintenance person in a Catholic school in Peru; I was doing an electrical job too. Now, my job is to open boxes at a company in Totowa.”

Vicente Martínez, Peru

“I used to teach reading comprehension in English at an university for students in different fields of study.”

Mauricio Franco, Colombia

“I was teaching literature in Haiti. Now, I work as a security officer and receptionist in a Tower. But I go to school and I am working on transferring my credits to be able to teach in America.”

Issa-el S. Fontin, Haiti
“I didn’t work in my country, Burkina Faso, I was studying. Here in the USA, I just started working in the P.C.C.C. cafeteria.”

Payidwende Balima, Burkina Faso

“I was playing basket ball for my city. I learned carpentry. In the United States of America, I work as a pizza delivery person.”

Jose Luis, Puerto Rico

“In my native country, I used to work as a cashier in a supermarket. Now, in America, I am a machine operator in a warehouse in Totowa, New Jersey.”

Jonathan A., Argentina

“I was studying and playing music for my church as a volunteer, in my country. In the United States of America, I work in home construction and play music for my church.”

Chris Pekala, Poland

“In my native country, I was a student and I was working for FV Company. Now, in the U.S my job is as an assistant manager at Edible Arrangement.”

Sebbar, Morocco

“I didn’t work in my country, Ecuador. But here in the US, I work for a company where my job is assembling Panasonic laptops.”

Jonathan Freire, Ecuador

“I was driving a forklift for Coca Cola Company Callao, in Peru. Now I drive a forklift in a warehouse in Totowa. And I also just got a CDL license.”

Ricardo A. Cardenas, Peru

“I was a commanding officer of Police for 28 years. I was working in natural medicine. I was studying in Japan, Israel, Germany and Spain on my specialization. In the US, I work for Bed Bath and Beyond.”

Paulino L. Sequeiros, Peru

“I taught English as a second Language in high school. When I first came to America, I did work for the journal The Record. Right now, I work in a warehouse as a picker.”

Solanki S., India

“In my country, I didn’t work. I came here when I was eighteen years old. I went to work in a factory. Now, I am a housewife, only my husband works.”

Anna Skubisz, Poland
Dates Over the Internet

By Ibet Pina

Have you ever asked yourself why people are using the internet to find love more often? Today the internet has become part of everybody’s lives. It is very popular. Now this new technology has become easier to use and many people are looking to find love over the internet. Using the internet to fall in love has many advantages, because you can find exactly what you want, and you can meet people all over the world.

First of all, using the internet, you can find someone that has the qualities you want. When you go to the internet you can describe all the characteristics you are looking for, like age, height, hair color, profession or culture. Then you can share pictures, and you might find what you want. In addition, when you start chatting with that person you will get to know him or her a little bit before dating them. If you think this person is not good for you, then you can delete him from your list and start looking again. However, in case you date him or her and you both like each other it can be love for ever. Therefore, using the internet can help you find your other half.

Another advantage of using the internet is that you can meet people all over the world. When you enter a site looking for a date, there are millions of people doing the same thing. Because these people are from all over the world, you can find a person from your own culture if that is what you want. Sometimes, because of where we live, we don’t find people from our culture or from the same country, but you can find them on the internet. However, if you don’t want someone from your country, you can also find someone different. In addition, if you don’t date any one you can still meet many people and make friends. Because of all this, the internet helps you to meet people from all over.

In summary, using the internet has many benefits for people that want to fall in love. They can find exactly what they want, and also meet people from their own or a different culture. In my opinion, this is a good way to find someone. I recommend it to everybody if they want to fall in love. They should start doing it and in the end, they will be surprised when they find a mate.
Three Things I Would Like to Change if I Had to Live My Life Over Again

By Luis Rafael Sanchez - ESLG-004 X2 - Prof. Silvestro

Many people make a lot of mistakes in their lifetime, and I'm not an exception. If I had to live my life over again, I would change my whole life from the beginning to the end. If I had to live my life over again, I would be more adventurous, I would eat my favorite dishes and I would spend more time with my family.

I would be more adventurous and I would visit exciting places that I have never been to before. I would insert more adrenaline in my life and practice extreme sports. For example, I'd go skiing in the mountains, I'd go sky diving, I'd drive my car at 150 miles per hour and I'd also learn how to surf. I would see the sunrise at the beach and then the sunset. It would be a special moment between nature and me. Besides, it would be nice to get away from the city and enjoy something that could make me happy.

If I had to live my life once again, I would enjoy all my favorite dishes. I would eat fruits and vegetables almost everyday. I would also eat lasagna, which is my favorite type of pasta. I would go to a five stars restaurant and have a great meal unless it was inexpensive.

Finally, I would spend more time with my family. I would go to the park with my family and have a good picnic. Even though I don’t like to talk about private things with my family, I would share my secrets and opinions. I would also go out with my family more often.

In conclusion, it would be a great experience for me to do all these things if I had to live my life over again because I’d do many things I haven’t done yet.
LOVE IS

By Raed Yabroudi

LOVE is a hand
held fast in your own ...
LOVE is a kiss
the sweetest you've known ...
LOVE is a joy
you feel from the start ...
LOVE is a dream
you keep in your heart ...
LOVE is a world
that's shared by two ...
LOVE is a wonderful thing
because LOVE is YOU?
Wonderful and beautiful pearl
You snatch my son
Without penalty or glory.

Suffering by finding
And now it is easy to leave
You destroyed my family
Destroyed my life
Now I suffer for having found you
My life was lost.

The sea and the waves made me reach
Without knowing that some day you
Would fall out of my hands
Advantage without knowing.

My hands touched you and caressed you
And my dreams longed for you.

Everyone was desiring, everyone was wanting
But only I had you.

At one time you were my joy
At another my destruction
But I love you unconditionally

I fought to have you and not to lose you,
I killed and cried to find out
That I one day had to lose you.

All my dreams were destroyed
After losing the one I loved.

Evil pearl, now I only know that
This afternoon my reality begins
I do not have pearl or child to love.
The Pearl

By Johanny Tejeda - ESLR002-LC - Prof. T. Fink

One day without thinking
The ocean pulled me
To seek a pearl
And I found Kino
Looking for
What I didn’t find
he best pearl of the world
I finally saw
All neighbors
Wanted to obtain
Kino obtained
So many problems
That he didn’t know what to do.
That the only thing he thought of
Was the pearl into the
Ocean to throw.
Mask of a Clown

By Carlos Vassallo - ESL G004 - Prof. N. Silvestro

Take a close look at the clown
Whenever you see him,
There’s never a new frown.
All kids laugh and smile away.
What a great job that he does every day!
When he puts on his mask,
He has no fears,
But before he paints, he sheds some tears.
Nobody ever asked how he was doing.
They only asked what jokes he’d be doing.
His emotions were dull and completely caved in.
How does he operate if his life is so thin?
When he looks in the mirror, he sees white and red.
He paints on the body that he’s declared dead.
Center of attention throughout all his years
When he runs out of paint, then there’re no more peers.
A man that can glance at his own face
You won’t understand until you’ve had a taste.
This is his life; it’s just a show.
Ashamed of his past, he won’t let go.
He continues to paint to crack a smile.
I guess you get used to living in denial.
PEARLS TREACHEROUS

By Wilfredo Rodriguez - ELSR002-LC - Prof. T. Fink

Maaybe now I cannot recite a poem of joy
Perhaps because I’m sad
Sad because of a beautiful pearl
My life was changed
And my family destroyed.

At the bottom of the sea you can find
A bright and white pearl that will change your life.
For its beauty everyone wants it,
For his courage you will have to kill
Some people who want to remove you.

In this pearl I have put all my faith
And I could see a good future for my family
Future that was only
A mirage in the vast ocean.

Because of this gem I lost my friends
Beat my wife
And I did terrible things.
I lost the most precious treasure of my life
I lost something more valuable
More valuable, than the most beautiful of the pearls
I lost my beautiful little son.
A New Ending
By Yecenia Almonte - ESLR002-LC - Prof. T. Fink

The night was quiet, the wind was soft. The wind was brushing Kino’s and Juana’s faces. They walked through the city trying not to let anyone see them as the mysteries rushed out of the city. Kino was guided by the stars. He began his way to Loreto. He thought of what he was going to do when he arrives there. In his mind was the thought of selling the pearl.

As the sunrise came they were tired, hungry, and thirsty. “I need to rest,” Juana stated. A few feet away from the trail Kino saw an immensely huge tree. Kino and Juana ran over to the tree and sat there, so they ate corn cakes that Apolonia gave them for the trip. Coyotito woke up, and Juan a lay down and carried giving him the breast. So when they were lying down Kino said he was going back from the way they came to see if someone followed them.

As he walked back he hid behind a bush to see if someone was coming. When he looked back no one was there. But he was so tired he fell asleep. Suddenly he heard a voice far away like echoes. So Kino stood up and looked back to see who it was. He saw two men and they were the trackers. The trackers were looking for clues to find Kino and Juana.

Kino ran to Juana to tell her “The trackers are looking for us and by every second the trackers get closer and closer.” Kino helped Coyotito and Juana to get up. They started running, trying to find a hiding place. As the night fell the trail had rocks and cactuses and their legs were bleeding because of the cactuses that were still growing.

As the night falls, Kino’s and Juana’s vision was getting blurry. Kino cached to see a lonely cabin so he told Juana “Let’s go see it.”

Juana told Kino that “The trackers are going to find us here because it’s an obvious place.”

“We don’t have another choice,” Kino believed. “When the trackers come in I’m going to attack them with my knife,” Kino stated.
It was dark. All they could hear were grills singing. Kino waited all night for the trackers, but they never showed up. During sunrise Kino spotted the trackers’ bodies messed up like a beast attacked them. Kino though “God has protected my family and me from the cruel.” After a while Kino, Juana, and Coyotito went back to the trail. In the evening they arrived at Loreto and got settled in. The next day he sold the pearl.

Five years later Kino was waiting for Coyotito outside of the school because it was his first day of school. Kino changed his whole life. He will never forget the bad things that the pearl got him in. Kino learned that money can’t buy all the beautiful things in the world. The beautiful things are in the simple things like the smile of a child.
Kino crept around the cliff and climbed down quickly with all power to stay quiet, and didn’t breathe so he won’t make a sound. Kino had to get down and to the watchers before the moon came out so Kino won’t be seen. He got down and got behind a bush. When he was in the middle of his leap the moon came out. But he still managed to get to them before he was seen. Then he took his knife and slit the first watcher’s throat, and the second stabbed in the neck, the third tried to get away but he grabbed the rifle and shot him and he fell into the pool. So when Kino got back to the cave, he found Juana and Coyotito still asleep. So Kino went next to them and slept. In the morning they decided to go back to the north. When they got there he went and sold the pearl and got the money. They bought a new big house where Coyotito can play and he decided to invite his brother Juan Tomas and his family to live with them since the house was so big. Coyotito grew up to go to a wonderful school, where he lived a great life with his parents. He ended up buying Juana a pearl necklace just to remind her of how life is fragile at the beginning, like a pearl first starts. Then it grows to a pretty, hard, wonderful thing that everybody will respect and see that life is always rough, but if you never complain and give thanks for everything you have, life will get better and wonderful.
The Pearl, Chapter 7
*By Muharrem Ustan - ESLR002-LC - Prof. Fink*

Kino and his family moved to the capital of Mexico. When he arrived in the city he met one of Tomas’ friends. He took him and his family and they went to the house to stay for a while; his name was Many. He had a small business on the pearl. He knew all the pearl buyers in the city. When Kino showed the pearl to him, he has already decided what to do. One of the bigger pearl buyers in the city was his friend. After Kino talked to him about what happened in La Paz, he understood how dangerous Kino’s situation was. He couldn’t trust anyone so he didn’t tell anyone about the pearl and Kino. Next day when the darkness came, they went to his friend’s house who was one of the bigger buyers in the city. His name was Bill. They didn’t take the pearl with them, but they explained to Bill everything about the pearl. He looked very happy when he heard the news of the pearl. He said to them “I have never seen a big pearl like that in my life, if my guess is correct. Can you please bring it to my store tomorrow? I’m really looking forward to seeing it.”

Next day Kino and Many went to Bill’s store with the pearl during lunch time. They chose this time because everybody left for lunch.

When Bill saw the pearl, he was very happy, like he was happy with a nice toy. He said “Oh my God, it’s unbelievable! It is like a star, like a real star,” he said. “I don’t have enough to buy this pearl but I don’t want to miss it too. Therefore, my suggestion is to you that I will give you a big nice and expensive house and you will become my partner to make this business together.” Kino’s eyes met Many’s eyes. Many’s eyes were smiling. Kino understood that it was a very important moment in his life.

He started hearing his family song again but now it was different than before. It was a cool nice and happy song, for him and his family.
Kino made the pearl business with Bill for a long time. Juana went to the church every weekend and prayed to God. She said “Oh my God, I really want to thank you for helping us and you made our dreams come true.” This church also had a beautiful wedding ceremony of Kino and Juana.

Coyotito graduated from Mexico University. His major was Marine. After Kino’s dreams became true, he wanted to go to La Paz and visit his brother and neighbors. When he arrived in La Paz, he knew that Tomas was very old and Apolonia died. Kino, Juana and Tomas went to church and prayed. The priest was dead. So Kino explained to the new priest his old story. The next day, Kino, Juana and Tomas went to the church for their second wedding ceremony. He donated huge money to the church. While he was leaving the church, he gave a lot of money to the beggars outside.

The doctor died so his house was for sale. He bought that house and gave the key of this house to Tomas. After they moved to the doctor’s house, they invited all the neighbors. When they came to that house they told Kino, “Oh Kino, we are proud of you. You are such a lucky guy. You have all this happiness.” Kino said “Thank you, all of you. From now on I am going to be the buyer for your pearls in La Paz so I will not cheat you and I will not disappoint you.”

They opened a pearl buyer store in La Paz, then they came back to the capital.

They had a happy life until they died in the capital. He was 92 years old when he died. Juana was 89 years old. Coyotito had a family and 3 children in that time.
Art Appreciation
By Yves-Mary Fontin

I am a young poet who was born in Petit-Goave, Haiti. I came to the USA in 2006 and quickly discovered that I needed to go to college. I was placed in the ESL program, which has helped me with my English. This Fall I will start taking courses towards a major. As of this moment, I’m indecisive of what my major will be. Nevertheless, I want to pursue my education in the medical or education area. As an immigrant, I know how important education is. I like taking pictures because every single picture has many significant messages hidden. For this issue of Accents Magazine, I share with you some pictures that I took around the city of Paterson: Carnival on Eastside Park ground, art exposition in PCCC and the new bridge that connects the parking garage and the Hamilton building. These pictures were taken to remind the readers of Paterson they once knew, how it is now, and also to predict the future of it.

Rainbow (mixed media on paper) by Lisa Petsu Lagunes

The African Heart (Mixed media and acrylic) by Marilyn Simon
The statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. between flowers and garbage

Autumn Reflections (Harriman State Park, NY. Digital pigment glicee print) by George Garbeck
PCCC BRIDGE
By Yves-Mary Fontin

The first steps...

PCCC bridge is the first step between your... today and your excellent tomorrow
Submission Guidelines

Requirements ...

• All writers must be ESL students enrolled in a 2-year community college.
• All submissions MUST be original work.
• All submissions must be submitted electronically.
• Writers may submit a maximum of one piece of work in each genre: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Narrative, Reaction, Poetry, Art, Photography
• All work MUST be submitted as MS Word files. Art and Photography submissions must be submitted as JPEG files.
• Submissions MUST be typed, double-spaced in a 12 pt. font and shouldn’t exceed 2000 words.

Contact Information ...

Please send all submissions to:
Ana Paula Lawrence
Passaic County Community College, ESL Department
alawrence@pccc.edu

NEXT DEADLINE FOR FALL ISSUE — DECEMBER 4th, 2009