

Istanbul Gelişim University

School of Foreign Languages' Monthly Bulletin

December 2023



Latest News of SOFL

- World AIDS Day 1st December
- International Day of People with Disabilities 3rd December
- St. Nicholas Day 6th December
- Nobel Prize Day 10th December
- World Human Rights Day 10th December
- International Animal Rights Day 10th December
- Christmas 25th December
- New Year's Eve 31st December
- Christmas Traditions Around The World
- English Idioms
- English Riddles
- Our Staff's Academic Activities
- SFOL on Social Media

**What you
will read
in this
month's
issue:**



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Latest News of SOFL

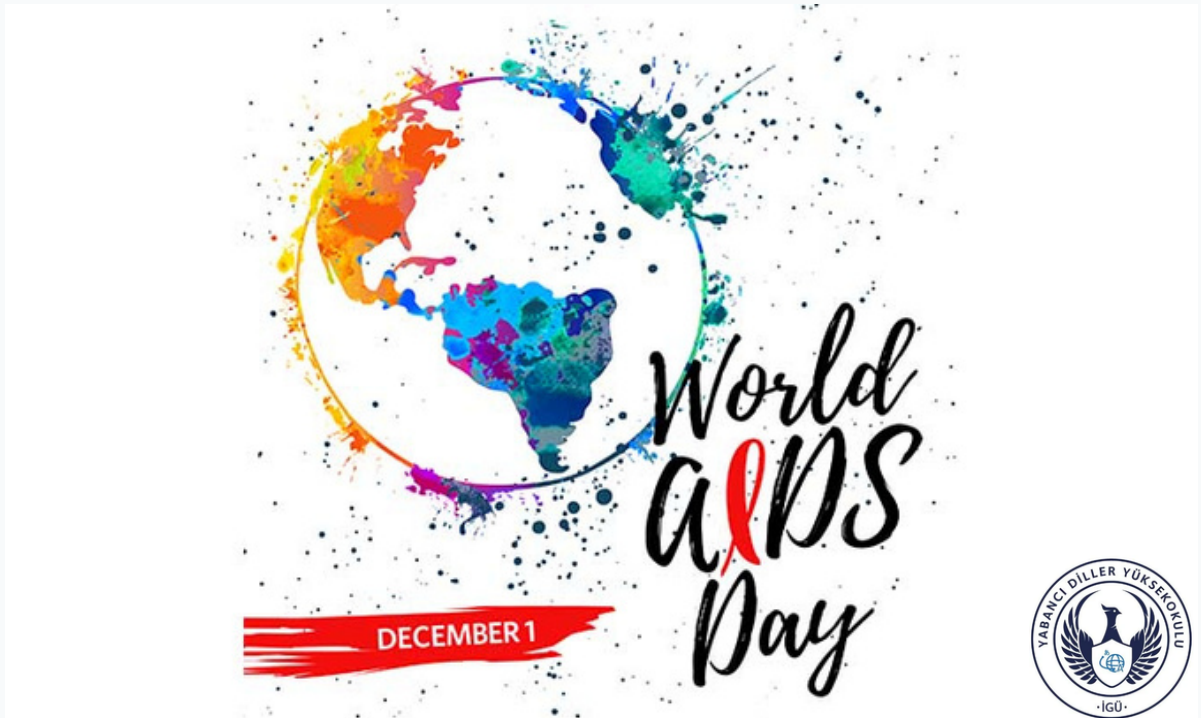


- **Track I Progress Test Appeal Forms are announced on 6th December.**
- **The Online Assignments for the Second Track has begun on 12.12.2023.**
- **The date of Track I Progress Test Make-up Exams and Student Lists are announced.**
- **Track II quiz dates and student lists are announced.**

♥ DECEMBER ♥

December 1st

World AIDS Day



December 3rd

International Day of People With Disabilities



December 6th

St. Nicholas Day



December 10th



NOBEL PRIZE DAY
DECEMBER 10

December 10th

World Human Rights Day



December 10th

**International
Animal Rights
Day**



**OUR PLANET.
THEIRS TOO.**



December 25th



December 31th

New Year's Eve

**Happy
New Year**



Christmas Traditions Around The World



Christmas is an annual festival which began as a day to honor the birth of Jesus. It has been celebrated by billions of people around the world. We will take a look at some traditions in some countries such as Germany, China, France, Spain and United Kingdom.

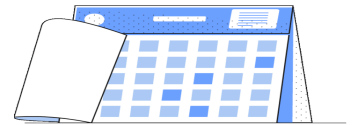


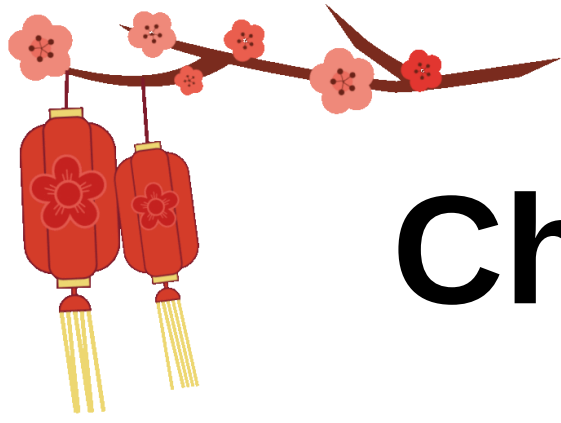


Germany



“Germany has been celebrating Christmas going back to at least the eighth century, when Winfrid, Saint Boniface, introduced the Germanic tribes to Christianity. And it has brought the world a number of Christmas customs that have been widely adopted, including Christmas trees, Christmas ornaments, Advent calendars, and Advent wreaths, to name a few” (Palmer, 2020).



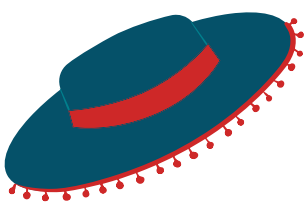


China



Christmas is not a public holiday in China, nevertheless, its popularity has been growing especially among the young. Chinese people give red apples one another as Christmas gifts. The reason behind this is that “The Chinese term for Christmas Eve, píng’an yè (平安夜) translates to “peaceful night.” The word for apple is píngguo (苹果), which translates to “peaceful fruit” and sounds very similar to píng’an yè” (Palmer,2020).





Spain



When it is time for Christmas in Spain, one of the most striking traditions is lottery. A lot of people participate in it and the winning numbers are sung by children .



As for the food, starters are followed by tapa (appetizer) called Gambas al Ajillo(Spanish Garlic Shrimp)





FRANCE

French people put up gigantic trees in public places.



CHAUSSETTE D'ENFANT SAGE

In France, children leave their shoes by the fireplace so that Father Christmas could fill them with presents.





For dessert, French people prefer Chocolate Sponge Cake called a “Bûche de Noël”



The French set up mistletoe in doorways during the Christmas season. “This plant is considered to be a symbol of good luck” (www.purevow.com).





United Kingdom

Christmas tree was a German tradition which came to the UK with Prince Albert.



During Victorian Period, Christmas trees were decorated with candles “to remind children of the stars in the sky at the time of the birth of Jesus” (<https://projectbritain.com/Xmas/trees.htm>).



**Christmas decorations today
English people believe that one
should take down all the
decorations before January 5th.
Otherwise, it is believed that it
brings bad luck.**



**As for dessert, Mince pies are served and eaten
traditionally.**

Did you know?



Shakespeare invented many words, such as birthplace, blushing, undress, torture and many more.



The most common adjective used in English is “good”.

English Idioms

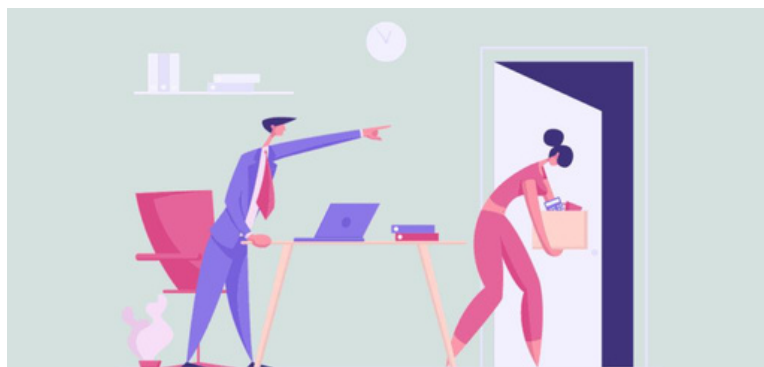
Feeling under the weather

To feel ill.



Read the riot act

a vigorous reprimand or warning.



English Riddles

What gets shorter as it grows older?



Answer: a candle

What has many keys but cannot open a single lock?



Answer: a piano.

Our Staff's Academic Activities

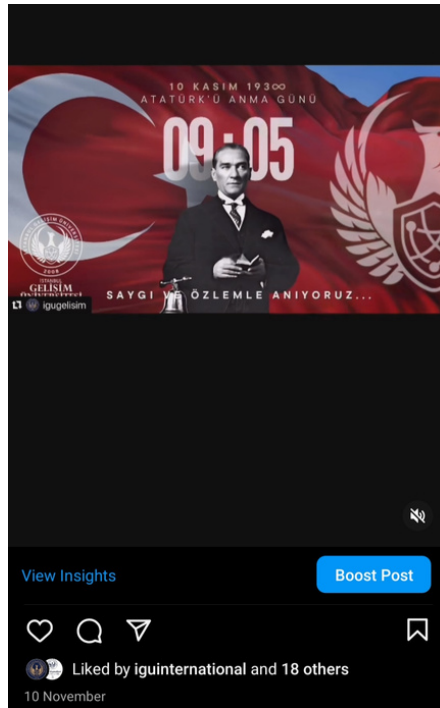
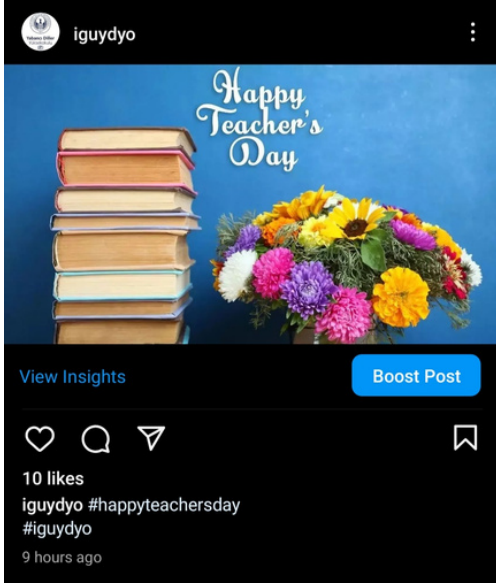
In SFOL, we support our instructors' academic endeavors.



Webinars

**Webinars and events take place on a regular basis because the need for being up to date when it comes to teaching in the 21st century, makes seminars an inseparable part of professional development. For a detailed list of webinars on English language teaching, you can visit the following website:
<https://webinars.eltngl.com>**

Our School On Social Media

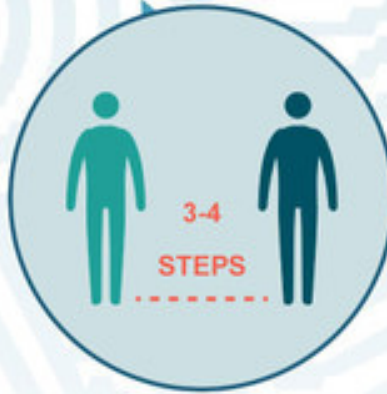




PROTECTING FROM THE VIRUS IN OUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE WITH DISPOSABLE PAPER TISSUES DURING COUGHING AND SNEEZING. IF THERE IS NO TISSUE, USE THE INNER SIDE OF YOUR ELBOW.



AVOID CLOSE CONTACT SUCH AS HANDSHAKING AND HUGGING.



AVOID CROWDED PLACES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.



DO NOT TOUCH YOUR MOUTH, NOSE AND EYES WITH DIRTY HANDS.



WASH YOUR HANDS WITH WATER AND REGULAR SOAP FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS.



USE HAND SANITIZER IF THERE IS NO WATER AND SOAP.