



LIP SERVICE
Your Language Consultants

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Welcome to the first edition of **LIP NEWS**, our English language newsletter.

Here we'll bring you up-to-date on our school activities and course offerings, as well as inform you about what's going on in the English-speaking world.

We hope you enjoy the news.

Good reading!

LIP SERVICE TALKS FOR THE STARS

Do you watch “il Teo – sono tornato normale” on Canale 5 on Tuesday evening? Did you wonder who was doing the interpreting during Alba Parietti’s interviews with Elton John and Simon Le Bon of Duran Duran? The man behind the stars was Alex Malavasi, veteran Lip Service teacher and interpreter who was sent to Mediaset to provide interpretive services for these prestigious musical guests on Teo Teocoli’s two opening shows. Alex said it was a great experience, “a real dose of adrenaline”, but a lot of hard work. It took four hours of backstage work to prepare for a two minute interview. Alex helped Alba Parietti write up and translate the questions.

The questions were submitted to the stars for approval and then the rehearsals began. Alex’s services were not limited to just the interviews. He also helped backstage with communication between agents, stars, producers, and film crew members. He even helped “iron out” a small communication issue between Nick Rhodes of Duran Duran and the lady in the backstage “stireria”. Nick wanted to iron his costume by himself but the ironing lady was insisting - in Italian of course - that she do the job. Nick brought in Alex to explain to her that even though he is a rock star, he really likes to iron his own clothes.

IT'S TRICK OR TREAT TIME!

Halloween is celebrated on the night of October 31st and it's origins date back to the ancient festival of Samhain, the Celtic new year on November 1. The word itself “Halloween” actually has its origins in the Catholic Church. It is a contraction of the name “All Hallows Eve”, for the night before All Saints Day.

The Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred and ghosts of the dead returned to earth. To keep away the evil spirits, the Druids built sacred bonfires, where people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically of animal heads and skins. The traditional holiday colors of orange and black recall the orange bonfires and black night-time skies.



In the US and Canada, children dress up and go house-to-house asking for treats, usually candy, and in return, no tricks are played. This tradition of trick-or-treating is a re-enactment of Irish beggars going to the homes of the rich on All Hallows Eve to ask for food or money. If the rich refused, evil spirits, so the beggars said, would destroy their homes.

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US Elections Vocabulary Quiz

Need to add some new words to your English vocabulary? Election time in the US presents us with a wide range of political terms and expressions. Try this quiz to see what you know.

Who was that “Guy” in England?

On the evening of November 5, bonfires are lit throughout England. Effigies are burned and fireworks are set off. Although it falls around the same time, this celebration has little to do with Halloween. The English stopped celebrating Halloween as Martin Luther's Protestant Reformation began to spread. As followers of the new religion did not believe in saints, they had no reason to celebrate the eve of All Saints' Day. However, a new autumn ritual emerged. Guy Fawkes Day festivities commemorating the execution of notorious English traitor, Guy Fawkes.

On November 5, 1606, Fawkes was executed after being convicted of attempting to blow up England's parliament building. Fawkes was a member of a Catholic group who wanted to remove the Protestant King James from power. The first bonfires, which were called "bone fires," were set up to burn effigies and symbolic "bones" of the Catholic pope. It was not until two centuries later that effigies of the pope were replaced with those of Guy Fawkes.

First Graduates Receive Certification from Via Lingua

Graduation ceremonies took place on September 30th for the first class of teachers to receive their CTEFL certification by Via Lingua, the English Teacher Certification Program offered by Lip Service.

The participants, Roberta Mazzesi and Eric Baynes (Lip Service teachers), Parker Maksym of Vancouver Canada, and Elizabeth Oliver from Texas, dedicated 300 classroom hours to gaining their certification. The second certification class is finishing at the end of October. Ingrid Chambers, an already experienced teacher who will be graduating with distinction this month, comments that the course has provided her with new techniques and ideas, enhancing her classroom skills.

1. A landslide. “Bush is not expected to win by a landslide in this election”
 2. Locked in a dead heat. “According to the latest surveys, Bush and Kerry are locked in a dead heat”
 3. Climb on the bandwagon. “Democrats are hoping for more voters to climb on the Kerry bandwagon”
 4. Run for office “Any man who runs for office must be willing to give up his private life during the campaign”.
 5. Swing-states. “Over the past several weeks, both Bush and Kerry have been campaigning heavily in the swing-states.
- A. “candidarsi” in Italian
B. To support or shift support to a cause or candidate who appears to be rising in popularity
C. A race in which two contenders finish at the same time
D. An overwhelming majority of votes for a political candidate
E. The US states with the highest number of voters which, if won by a candidate, can cause a change in the outcome of the election

Lip Service is the third school in Italy to become a Via Lingua program provider. The mission of Via Lingua, a world-wide certification organization, is to raise the quality of English language education around the world. The program is not only for native English-speaking teachers. In fact, Lip Service is proud to be giving CTEFL certification to two Italian teachers in October and plans for more to follow.



Answers to the Vocabulary Quiz: 1D, 2C, 3B, 4A, 5E