

# Elizabeth Claire's E-News - October 2009

Hello. Thanks for opening your email. Remember, you can unsubscribe at any time by clicking here: [Unsubscribe](#).

It's a busy time at schools, as well as here at *Easy English NEWS* and Eardley Publications.

I was pretty thrilled last month, after the first Elizabeth Claire's E-News went out, to hear from people I hadn't heard from in a long time: friends, colleagues, old customers, former students. Wow! I was overwhelmed and tried to answer all personally . . . but ran out of time. So if I missed greeting you and thanking you for your comments and well wishes, please know that I do appreciate hearing from you and from new subscribers, too. I don't want to be just "talking to flap my gums" (er, fingers) but want to deliver something of value each month in this newsletter, without the constraints that the format of a newspaper or book demands.

I want to hear from you, too. Let me know what's working in your classes, who your new students are, what challenges you face this year. I'll read them all, as I like to be informed about school situations. Are your budgets cut? Program reduced? More students than ever? Students coming from new places? Special challenges? I spend a lot of my time at a computer, researching and writing, and don't get into many schools, so you can be my resource for keeping in touch with today's realities in different parts of the country.

## **This month's E-News Contents:**

[People and Languages of the world](#)  
[Special: Help Your Buddy Learn English free offer](#)  
[What to do if your newspapers don't arrive on time](#)  
[Coming Attractions in October's \*Easy English NEWS\*](#)

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## **People and languages of the world:**

According to U.S. Census Population Clock estimates, on September 13, 2009, the U.S. had 307,431,470 people and the world had 6,783,787,608 people.

*Ethnologue* reports that there are at least 6, 909 distinct languages spoken in the world today.

**Students often ask: What languages are spoken most in the world? The answers depend on whether one is referring to "as a native language" or "by anyone." And depend on the date of the survey . . . . So take these numbers with a grain of salt. It's really hard to count accurately, and the best estimates can be off by tens of millions . . . .**

As a native language, Chinese Mandarin wins. It's spoken by 873 million people. It is the official language of China, Taiwan and Singapore.

Spanish is spoken by 322 million people. It is the official language of 21 countries.

English is spoken by 309 million people as a native language. It is spoken by 700 million people as a foreign language. It is the official or co-official language of 58 countries. It's the most often used language for business, the Internet, science conferences, and publications.

Arabic is spoken by 206 million people. It is the official language of 25 countries.

Hindi is spoken by 177 million people. It is the official language of India.

Portuguese is spoken by 177 million people. It is the official language of 8 countries.

Bengali is spoken by 171 million people. It is the official or co-official language of Bangladesh and India.

Russian is spoken by 145 million people. It is the official language of Russia and Belarus.

Japanese is spoken by 122 million people. It is the official language of Japan.

German is spoken by 95 million people. It is the official language of 6 countries.

French is spoken by 79 million people. It is the official or co-official language of 26 countries.

*Source: Steven Moore, Adjunct Professor of Communications and Communications at the Queen's School of Business in Kingston, Ontario.*

Article Source: [http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Steven Moore](http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Steven_Moore)

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### **Special Offer: FREE! Help Your Buddy Learn English.**

October is "**HELP YOUR BUDDY LEARN ENGLISH Month**" at our website. From **now until October 31, 2009** we are running a special to help teachers and tutors enlist all the help you can get to serve your students. This book, written for native English speakers, 5th grade and up, shows classmates how to reach out to, communicate with, and get the conversation and games going between themselves and newcomer buddies.

Put *Help Your Buddy Learn English* in the hands of a willing English speaker, match him or her with an entry-level newcomer who could use some social and language interaction, and watch the synergy.

The usual price of *Help Your Buddy* is \$8 plus shipping and handling.

However,

from September 19 to October 31, 2009,

you can get one **free** copy or stock up for a buddy squad.

1. We will include a **FREE** copy of Help Your Buddy with any order of books or subscription to *Easy English NEWS* on the website order forms.

Or

2. Buy a set of books using the website order form. The first copy is **FREE**. Additional copies-- will be \$5 each, plus shipping and handling.

[Click here to read more about \*Help Your Buddy Learn English\*, or to order.](#)

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## What to do if Easy English NEWS doesn't arrive on time

*Easy English NEWS* will be shipped from New Jersey by or before September 22, and delivered to subscribers on the east coast of the US by or before August 24, and reach the west coast by October 1st. Our "promise date" however, on both coasts, is the first of the month. We don't have a promise date for other countries as mail deliveries vary from country to country.

If you haven't received your papers by the first of the month in the US (or the fifth of the month in other countries), email us at [ESL@ElizabethClaire.com](mailto:ESL@ElizabethClaire.com) with complete details: name, address, apartment or suite number, city, state, country, postal code and quantity of papers. We want you to have your papers!

However, *first*, be aware of when your subscription ends: There is a code on the top line of your address label telling the beginning and ending dates of your subscription, and the quantity. Example: **9/09 - 5/10 35** means your subscription began in September and will expire in May, and you get 35 copies per month. We send out ONE brightly colored reminder to renew with your last issue. Unlike most magazine subscriptions, we won't send additional notices.

*Second*, it often happens that UPS delivers a package, someone at your school signs for it, but doesn't get it to you. So before calling, please check at your school office to see if someone else has inadvertently gotten your papers, and hasn't passed them on to you.

For orders over 12 copies per month, we ship by UPS and can track the package and find out who signed for it. We ship orders under 12 papers by priority mail or first class mail. We can't track those, but will make sure you get them. FYI: 90% of "Where's my papers?" calls are due to expired subscriptions or someone else at your school receiving the papers. If your school is closed for holidays, UPS will make three attempts to deliver, and then return the package to us.

## Easy English NEWS for October 2009

- October's current events feature article is "**When will the recession end?**" bringing students into the discussion of the economic conditions we are facing.
- Life in the U.S.A. [Shopping for groceries](#) -- survival skills, vocabulary and conversation
- President Obama's speech to students (in shortened form and easy English.)
- **Covered Events in October are**
  - **Columbus Day**
  - **Hispanic-American Month (part 2)**
  - **German-American Day**
  - **Fire-prevention week**
  - **United Nations Day**
  - **Halloween**
  - **Return to Standard Time**

Ask Elizabeth features [measurements with feet, yards and inches](#). ([Click here for a printable Metric/US Measuring system conversion chart](#).)

*America the Beautiful is combined with Heroes and History this month:*

**How did the United States grow?** This gives an overall synopsis of how the various parts of the U.S. were added.

Plus the regular features: This Is Your Page (readers' stories), Ask Elizabeth, Funny Stuff, Idioms, Crossword Puzzle, Let's Talk about It, and Word Help.

[Click here to learn more about Easy English NEWS.](#)

### **Free materials at the ElizabethClaire.com website:**

Subscribers to our 12-page monthly newspaper, *Easy English NEWS* receive a monthly teacher's guide with background information on the stories and three reproducible quizzes.

[Click here for the October Teacher's Guide.](#)

Also available free at the website is a printable

### **24-page HOW TO Use Easy English NEWS in your ESL Classroom.**

This is a comprehensive guide, showing techniques to use with beginning students, intermediate, and advanced, and with 10 reproducible, generic student activity sheets including self evaluations that you can use each month. [Click here for the HOW TO.](#)

Updates on the September article "Wash Your Hands" about preventing the H1N1 virus are at the website now. [Click here for an easy English version of news from the centers for Disease Control.](#)

Teachers who want to learn about another side of vaccination can go to [http://www.organicconsumers.org/articles/article\\_18884.cfm](http://www.organicconsumers.org/articles/article_18884.cfm) to see Dr. Gary Null's video Vaccine Nation.

I'm glad to be here to serve you in your classroom or in your studies of English as a new language. I hope this extra effort will be helpful to you. Your comments are most welcome. [Click here to send a message.](#)

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