

# *The Faculty of Foreign Languages*

## *The Artifact*

**Vol. 1**

**The Truth Is Down Here...**

**October 4, 2011**

### **OUR CONGRATULATIONS ON THE #1 TEACHERS' DAY!**

#### **The Best Teachers**

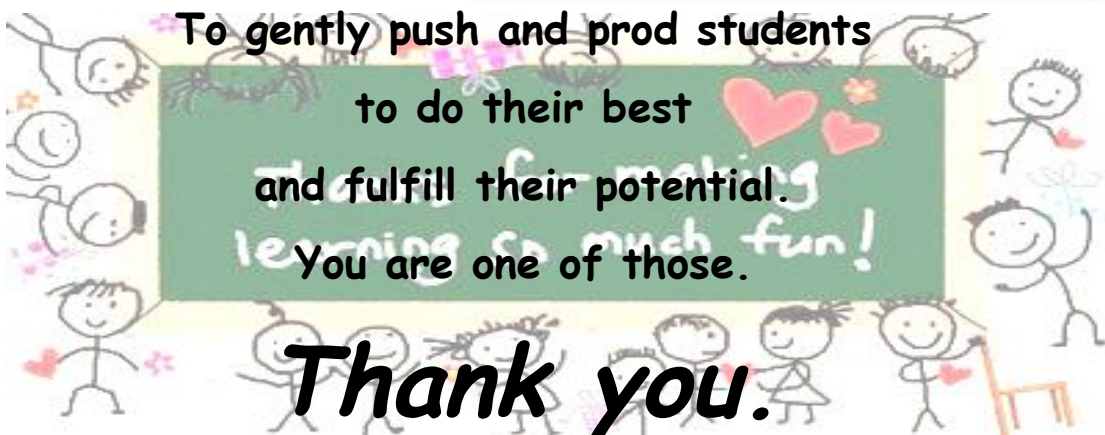
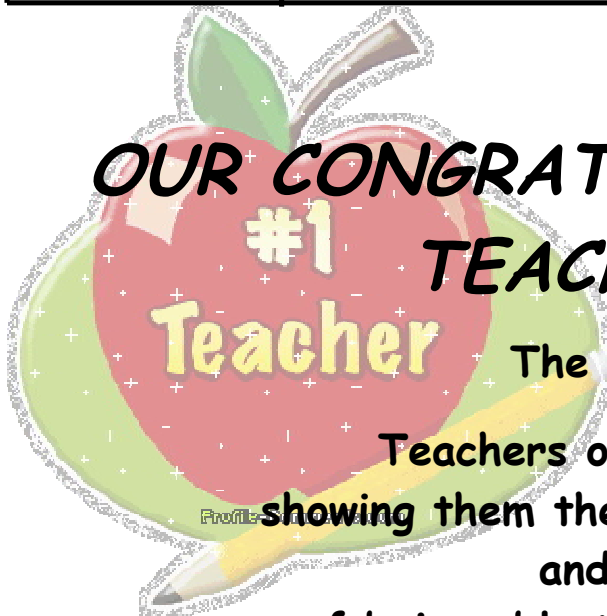
Teachers open up young minds,  
showing them the wonders of the intellect  
and the miracle  
of being able to think for themselves.

A teacher exercises  
the mental muscles of students,  
stretching and strengthening,  
so they can make challenging decisions,  
find their way in the world,  
and become independent.

The best teachers care enough

To gently push and prod students  
to do their best  
and fulfill their potential.  
You are one of those.

**Thank you.**



*By Daria Sido*

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY

Every pupil thinks from time to time of his or her further studies and wants to know what a university may hold. As I am a third-year student already and have at least some sort of experience I would like to tell you about differences between school and university.

As a rule, lecturers are on formal terms with students at university. In the beginning it may seem strange and unwonted. Though, it must be admitted that this manner of communication is rather pleasant.

It is no secret that students' life at university is in full swing: enthralling and informative events, KVN's, folk dancers, different societies and sports classes. In a word, everyone can find an occupation for the good of their soul. Moreover, there is an unquestionable advantage of various activities at university: you can take up with other young people and become very close with your group-mates or maintain friendly relations with lots

of students. Be sure that these acquaintances would do no harm in future.

I also want to point out that the system of education at school differs from that one at university. Teachers often use every trick in the book to make a pupil study. At university everything is in a different way. No one will phone your parents to make a request to influence the child, nobody will force you to do some home assignments - it is necessary *only* for you.

Frankly speaking, to finish school without a school leaving certificate you must do something out of the common. With a diploma, the case is somewhat different. Do not want to study - hard work and the Russian Army (for boys) are always "glad to see you". And such an attitude towards your studies, by the way, adds some consciousness and responsibility.

If you are a pupil your parents can wake you up, feed or even help to pack the school bag. If you are a student this kind of sweet life comes to an end: you

have to do everything by yourself. Sometimes, of course, you may be bored with this state of affairs. You even do not wind up the alarm clock and let God decide for you whether you go to your classes in the morning or not. But it takes only to remember the fact that hard work and the Russian Army are ready to embrace you and your great desire to oversleep vanishes in a flash.

It stands to reason that at school you have to learn and pass exams in some subjects irrespective of your desire. At university you may specialize in a subject which is to your liking. And one more thing - no Physics at the Arts!

But whichever way you look at it, university in contrast to school means adult life. Do not seek after "a five" if there is an opportunity to get "a four". It is not the grades that will influence your future life but your knowledge and ability to put it into practice.

And for all that, student days are, perhaps, one of the best periods in people's life. You should take it into consideration and spend the years to recall them with warm-heartedness in future.

*By Margaret Musaeva*

## Our Plans for Future

This summer was hectic beyond everything: the exams (called in Russian by the ugly abbreviation ЕГЭ and known in English as UTSSs or unified state tests), the School Farewell Party (the Prom, as they have it in America). The anticipation and expectation whether we enter the Institute or not. Now all that is in the past!

September 1, a Red-letter day, started with a festive, solemn meeting. The event still lingers in memory. Nearly a month of hard

study has passed. I asked my group-mates about their first impressions. Here are their responses:

"I like everything: the old building, a sympathetic, likeable and witty dean, excellent teachers and group-mates."

"I love my group. All the girls are very nice and friendly, and the boys are responsive."

"Frankly speaking, I was afraid because everybody said that it would be very difficult to study at the faculty of foreign lan-

guages, but it turned out that everything was not so bad, what you need only is to study seriously, to get ready for every lesson."

"I have some difficulties in writing down the lectures. I think that some teachers dictate very quickly."

"Every day I learn something new, something what I don't know. I don't like physical training in the open. And I miss home badly. There are some difficulties in learning English. I spend a lot of time doing my homework."

In conclusion I'd like to say that we are pleased to be the students of our academy, glad that we didn't make a mistake with the choice of the faculty. In my opinion, it is one of the best in the Republic! No kidding!

We hope that we'll live up to the expectations of our teachers and our students' life will be eventful, showing a great deal of variety and interesting.



By Vlad Shestakov

## SOME CHANGES OF OUR FACULTY

Life is a multicolor river full of events, successes, misfortunes, happiness and troubles. The faculty of foreign languages is a ship which never enters the same water.

A bit more than one year has past since I crossed the line of our front door. Sensations filling me at that time are still in my memory. It was wonderful to have a first meeting with our teaching staff: Yuri Vladimirovich, Raviya Bareyevna, Yelena Aleksandrovna, Yuliya Masnaviyevna, Alla Ralifovna and many others. Even then I understood that there is something special, unusual and magnificent in the corridors, walls and windows of the two buildings the faculty occupies. I call it "the spirit of the faculty", its own atmosphere. I feel and perceive the same every time I come here. I

disclose no secret if I say that the life of our Alma mater can't stay unchanged. Several days of reflection and observation enabled me to register the following facts about the faculty.

Every student whom I asked about changes observes that his or her

to grow: there are 6 boys in the first year!

Moreover, there are some changes in the teaching stuff. Unfortunately, Y.M Tagrifullina., V.N. Chernova, A.P. Guslistaya have left our faculty for different reasons, but some new people have joined in our big and friendly family. The "new blood"

are E.F. Asrarova and D.I.Yakhina. Students of Group 203 miss badly Yuliya Masnaviyevna (their tutor in the first year of study) and wish her all the best. Everybody who gets a higher education got used to watch new teachers every



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knowledge of English has improved a lot. Grammar rules are becoming more understandable, lexical material fills their heads properly; English phonetic patterns are studied intensively. Junior students have become senior, while first-year students have attended their first lectures and English classes. The very poor male population of our faculty has started

year (even every term) but a lot of them become our true friends.

It is necessary to note that the Russian educational system has one important innovation. Our country is involved in the Bologna process. So, all applicants submitted their documents to study in a higher educational institution to be trained in the BA and MA course (to become bachelors and magistrates). All advantages and dis-



and disadvantages of this decision were widely discussed last year.

But on the whole, the faculty of foreign languages hasn't changed considerably. By the way what I find more important is that we follow and observe our traditions and customs. Students took active part in all the planned contests such as Phonetic, Grammar, Practical English, and Writing Competitions. The students of our faculty also like to organize "self-created" performances and concerts like Halloween, The New Year, St. Valentine's Day, etc. There was even an informative class dedicated to Bashkir culture in which we found out a lot of interesting facts about Bashkortostan and had a good opportunity to practice English, speaking and listening. One of the most important events is the Student Spring Festival. Every year the English faculty presents itself in rather a worthy manner. We usually get a big amount of

awards in this Festival. To be in the lead has become a tradition almost. The students of the French department take part in an annual language contest "Les Mots d'Or" ("Words of Gold") and get prizes for that!

To speak about life at our faculty is never tedious or boring because of the students' creative nature and the creative work of our experienced and advanced teaching staff. An every lesson there is a chance to express yourself, to present all your abilities and realize your potential to the full. Contacts with English, German, French or any other language and culture make you feel different from ordinary people. Many students noted that and they also expressed their opinion that the process of building students of the Faculty as personalities is a nonstop process. It's a lot of fun and is like a new stream or current in our everyday life.

***By Irene Pimshina***

## **THE FIRST MEETING**

On the 21 of September there was a meeting at the Faculty of Foreign Languages. Both students and teachers were present there. The students could ask the dean of the faculty Yuri Vladimirovich Gorshunov interesting and problematic questions. The dean gave detailed information about the life of the faculty: about its scientific and social activities, plans for this year and introduced the most active students of the faculty. He told that everyone should play an active part in the life of the Faculty. Everyone is expected to take an active part in different

competitions, concerts and conferences.

At the Faculty there exist various student departments engaged in cultural, educational, sport, and scientific activities. The members of these departments were elected.

Many students joined the "UNESCO" club as well. We hope that due to all these activities our life will be exciting, bright and full of positive emotions.

*By Kugubaeva Alina*

## SHALL WE SURF?

All students, no matter what age, need help when navigating and evaluating the ever-growing store of information available on the Web. Yesterday I looked through some nice websites and realized that I have never written an article on this topic. The Internet is crowded with millions of websites, and some of them are very useful while others can be just a total waste of time! So I decided to write out some useful websites for students and teachers of our faculty. This article provides a list of good websites. They are all free!

I hope you'll found the information useful.

[englishtips.org](http://englishtips.org) - you can find here English books, articles, audio courses, newspapers, magazines, comics in English, fiction and adapted literature, dictionaries, encyclopedias and so on. This site demands registration, but it is worth doing it.

[lingualeo.ru](http://lingualeo.ru) - It is intended primarily for those who want to improve their skills of perception of English speech, listening, reading and pronunciation. And also it is very useful for those who want to expand their



vocabulary quickly. In my opinion, it is the best place for studying and practicing English. This site demands registration.

[www.studygerman.ru](http://www.studygerman.ru) - on this site you can find German proverbs, tests, dictionaries, jokes, interesting and relevant information about the German language, useful information about the German educational system and teaching meth-

ods. You can study grammar rules and check your knowledge by performing exercises. You can play language games online or determine your level of German language skills through online tests. Oh, I have absolutely forgotten to say that you can speak with other people in German on the forum!

[en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org) - As far as I know, it is the most popular website among students. Wikipedia is a [multilingual encyclopedia](#). It seems to have information on almost any topic. The most interesting part of the website is that the articles are written by thousands of volun-

teers from around the world and anyone can edit articles, references, images and other media here. It is continually created and updated.

[www.translate.ru](http://www.translate.ru) - This service allows to translate into seven languages the whole sites and differs from previous possibility to concretize what exactly you translate and to give out a corresponding result. For example, texts of a business orientation and texts about the software will be translated differently. I always use it.

[Www.otlichniki.su/](http://www.otlichniki.su/) - here you can download free of charge English textbooks (For example: Акуленко В.В. «О ложных друзьях переводчика», Елисеева В.В. «Лексикология английского языка») and self-instruction manuals of the English language. You can watch movies in English with subtitles, find abstracts, music, dictionaries in English and create the Blog-page of the academy.

[www.homeenglish.ru/](http://www.homeenglish.ru/) - there are some audio lessons. All grammar rules are in detail described with practical examples.

[www.greylib.align.ru/](http://www.greylib.align.ru/) - the literature in English, Spanish, German, French, Italian and Uzbek languages is presented. It demands registration.

[www.openculture.com/](http://www.openculture.com/) - you can download audio books in English of all classics. The site is in English.

[www.thoughtaudio.com/](http://www.thoughtaudio.com/) - there are some audio books in English too. The website is in English.

[www.litteratureaudio.com/](http://www.litteratureaudio.com/) - it presents more than 600 audiobooks of various genres in French.

That's all !

And an important rule: use the language you learn. Talk even to yourself, if you don't have anyone to talk to. Use educational websites. You might also find someone on the net and talk to him/her on Skype. Do You do it? Great!

One general conclusion is that the sooner you start the better results you get.

**GOOD LUCK!**

*By Irene Starkova*

## STUDENT STRESS

Good morning. Let the stress begin.

**Starting university can be a stressful experience. How you cope with the stress is the key to whether or not it develops into a health problem.**

Stress is a natural feeling, designed to help you cope with challenging situations. In small amounts it's good because it pushes you to work hard and do your best. Stress heightens the senses and

your reaction time, which means it can make your performance better, including exams.

For some students leaving home to start higher education means lots of big changes, such as moving to a new area, being separated from friends and family, establishing a new social network, managing on a tight budget and starting your studies. Even if you are a local resident, it still means a lot of new changes

in every sphere of your life beginning from the increasing amount of information up to the new way of life.

For most students, these changes are exciting and challenging but, for some, they are overwhelming and can begin affecting their mental and even physical health.

Knowing and understanding the early signs of stress can help you take action against it before it leads to a total nervous breakdown. Ignoring the many signs that your body gives

many signs that your body gives you can lead to a total failure of systems. Becoming overly tired and exhausted is the very initial signs of stress. The first signs of stress are irritability, sleep problems, headaches, dizziness and loss of appetite or, on the contrary, gluttony.

So, what should we do to overcome stress? There

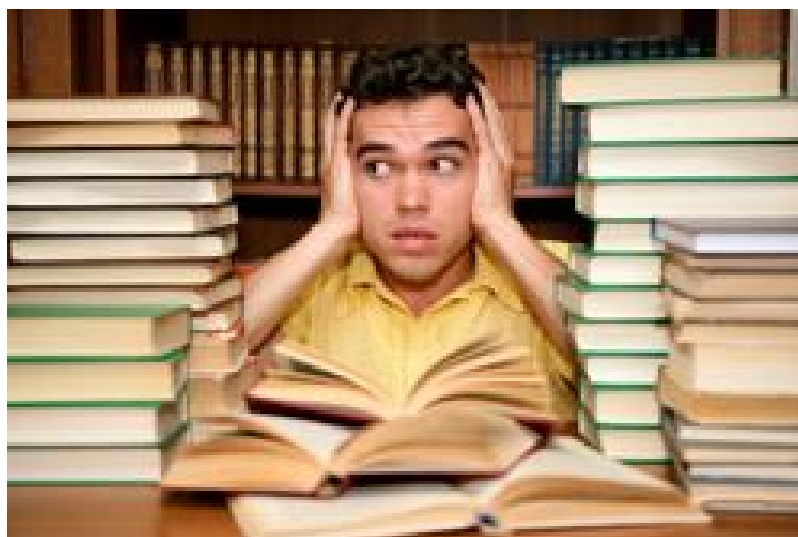
is only one way - you have to do it **yourself!!** So choose one or more of the following suggestions that surely can help:

◆Assess exactly what in your life is making you anxious. For example, is it exams, study or relationship problems? See if you can change your circumstances to ease the pressure you're under.

◆Try to have a healthier lifestyle. Eat well, get enough sleep, exercise regularly, cut down bad habits and spend some time socializing and combine it with working and studying. Go for a walk every day and try to spend

at least an hour in the open air enjoying the sun and the nature.

◆Try not to worry about the future or compare yourself with others.



Love and appreciate what you **are** now but don't mix it up with egoism and self-assurance.

◆Learn to relax. If you have a panic attack or are in a stressful situation, try to focus on something outside yourself, or switch over by listening to your favorite music, writing a letter, chatting to someone or even sharpening a pencil (the monotonous actions may calm down negative emotions). If you like, watch at the light of the candle or at any natural phenomena.

◆Try to resolve personal problems by talking to a friend, tutor or someone

in your family. It is a good idea to avoid "negatively charged people" and find something positive in life - give a compliment or a hug, do something pleasant and kind for the world and people around. Don't be scared or shy to ask for help -someone will lend you a helping hand for sure!

Of course it's just a bit out of a great amount of methods to deal with stress and if you are interested you may

search the Internet to find additional advice. And the most important and the easiest advice is: just enjoy this moment with the people who are near you! Be happy and successful in your studies!



*By Zhanar Zhukova*

## Enough Time to Reach Your Goals

*The bad news is time flies.*

*The good news is you're  
the pilot.*

*Michael Altshuler*

To study at the Academy isn't a piece of cake. Everyone who has entered our faculty realizes that sooner than freshers at other faculties. Students find out that there are too many tasks and too little time. Is it possible, actually to complete all that without losing one's mind? In fact, it seems to be undoable. Day by day you get more assignments for your homework, more material to learn and study thoroughly so your head is in a whirl. Looks like it's time to pack your bags and skip the Academy. But don't be in a rush. There is a way out.

As a rule, the problem is that students can't organize their time properly. That's why late in the evening while you have some time to relax you should think of tomorrow's affairs and set down some points. A good piece of advice is to divide all tasks

into several groups, allocating priorities from A (very important, or very urgent) to F (unimportant, or not at all urgent). Besides, it's not worth overloading your day with piles of serious projects and plans; you should focus on your own abilities



and other peculiarities. There should also be some time for relaxing or an active way of recreation. By the way, the change of activity is considered to be recreation, too. So, after an hour of reading texts of Latin you may relax by turning to translating exercises for the lesson of English. ^\_^

More than that, you don't need to stuff your to-

do list without an opportunity to change. Life is an unpredictable thing. You should remember that there will always be interruptions and distractions. Try to allow time for them!

Such a trifle as the To-Do list will do the world of good for you. It'll help to differentiate all tasks, set everything in an apple-pie order and reach goals step by step. So may success attend you!

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