

## Ambassador's Fund Awards \$50,000 to Preserve Herat Historic Site

U.S. Embassy Kabul is honored to announce a \$50,000 grant towards the preservation and restoration of the Khoja Rokhband Cistern Complex in Herat, Afghanistan. The grant is the largest of its kind ever awarded by the U.S. government in Afghanistan. The U.S. grant joins funding from the government of Germany and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in supporting the nine-month long project, which is now underway.

The project will restore a 17<sup>th</sup> century cistern consisting of a small reservoir, a shrine and adjoining winter and summer mosques that are considered the historical lynchpin of the surrounding neighborhood. The complex is steeped in legend, and much more may be uncovered during the restoration, which will include protecting an old graveyard located between the two mosques. In addition to safeguarding an important example of Herat's historic architecture, the project is paying to train local craftsmen in key skills and generating significant employment in one of the poorest quarters of the city.

The Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation has awarded 436 grants in 119 countries since it was begun by the U.S. Congress in 2001, as a way of directly helping countries preserve and rebuild their cultural heritage. Recognizing both the rich cultural heritage of Afghanistan and the critical danger threatening many prime examples of that heritage, the U.S. Embassy has won a grant almost every year since the program began. Embassy-funded projects have also included helping to record traditional music in refugee camps in 2001, assisting the rebuilding of Kabul's Bagh-e-Babur gardens, and supporting the restoration of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Mullah Mahmud mosque.

## AIRC Hosted Internet Training for Officials of Ministry of Information and Culture

On July 30, the Information Resource Center conducted a "Basic Internet Workshop" training session for officials of the Ministry of Information and Culture and Kabul University. The Ministry officials came from Kabul, Herat and Mazar-e-Sharif. This was the first group of provincial officials to receive training at the IRC.



The trainer taught the basic components of internet use, various search engines, and how to evaluate and verify information over the internet. The trainees expressed their appreciation for the program. They said that they had learned a great deal, and expressed their eagerness to share what they had learned with their colleagues.

**AMERICAN INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER, KABUL**

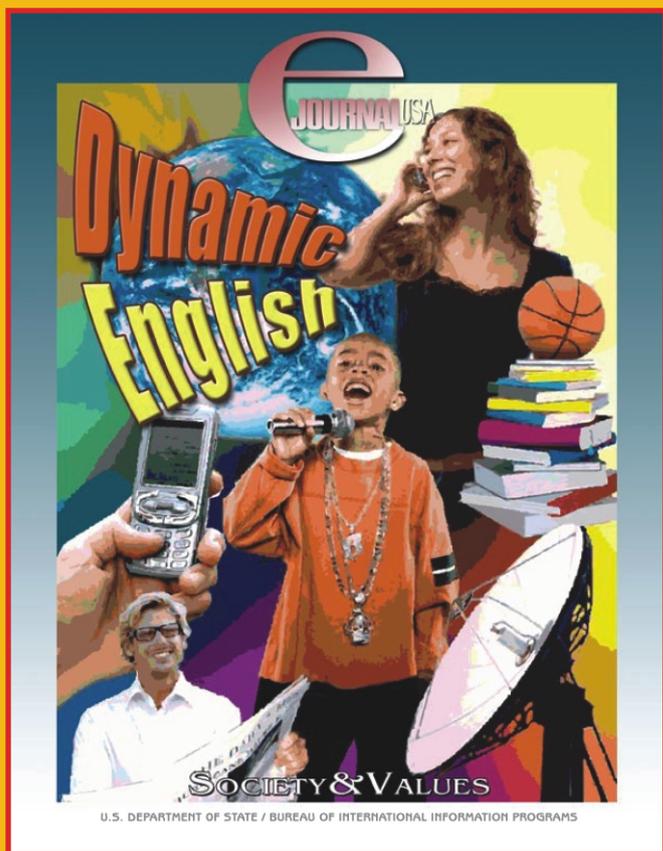
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## WHAT'S NEW? ENGLISH LANGUAGE



This edition of *eJournal USA*, "Dynamic English," discusses forces that shape and change everyday English. From cultural and international influences, such as words that come directly, or in a changed form from another language, to popular media, including movies, music and sports, to changes arising from technological developments, the authors present examples of ways English changes daily. Other articles describe the process of language change, and tips for deciphering slang.

### English Teaching Resources

#### Online English Language Center Homepage

This web site is sponsored by the Office of English Language Programs, U.S. Department of State, and maintained by the American English Institute, University of Oregon. The purpose of this site is to introduce educators and learners to resources available through the World Wide Web for English teaching and learning, and to services and resources available through the Office of English Language Programs (OELP). These resources have been recommended by English language educators and learners worldwide, and are available free of charge.  
<http://oelp.uoregon.edu/>

#### English Teaching Forum online

A quarterly journal published by the U.S. Department of State for teachers of English as a foreign or second language. Over 65,000 copies of the magazine are distributed in more than 100 countries. This site contains articles from issues of the Forum dating back to 1993.

[Http://exchanges.state.gov/education/engteaching/eal-foru.htm](http://exchanges.state.gov/education/engteaching/eal-foru.htm)

#### Functional Approaches to Written Text

This book attempts to bridge the gap between theory and practice in applying discourse analysis in the classroom. Leaders in the field introduce 18 approaches to discourse analysis, apply the approach to a sample text, and provide classroom suggestions. Chapters include applications of contrastive rhetoric, pedagogical summaries, information transfer, critical discourse analysis, hedging, the voices of discourse, concordancing, genre analysis, and various functional approaches to grammar such as functional sentence perspective and systemic linguistics.

[Http://exchanges.state.gov/education/engteaching/pubs/BR/5111TOC\\_nof.htm](http://exchanges.state.gov/education/engteaching/pubs/BR/5111TOC_nof.htm)

#### ESL Independent Study Lab

Contains over 225 Internet resources for ESL/EFL students. All Web sites are clearly annotated. Organization is by skill area and language level.

[Http://www.lclark.edu/~krauss/toppicks/toppicks.html](http://www.lclark.edu/~krauss/toppicks/toppicks.html)

## AIRC Online Databases

### ■ EBSCOHOST

Provides full text for nearly 3,200 scholarly publications covering academic areas of study including social sciences, humanities, education, computer sciences, engineering, language and linguistics, arts & literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies. Includes:

### ■ FACTIVA

Factiva, a joint venture between Dow Jones & Reuters Company, provides world class global content, including Dow Jones and Reuters Newswires and The Wall Street Journal - unduplicated in a single service elsewhere. Factiva offers the only single content solution with multiple language interfaces and multilingual content covering nearly 8,000 sources.

### ■ THE FOUNDATION DIRECTORY ONLINE

The Foundation Directory Online combines two databases - the nation's largest 75,000 foundations, plus a searchable database of grants awarded by the top 1,000 foundations.

### ■ GALENET

This database combines biographies from respected Gale Group sources: Biography Resource Center which includes full-text articles from hundreds of periodicals. Also, you can consulte, InfoTrac OneFile, a one-stop source for news and periodical articles on a wide range of topics: business, computers, current events, economics, education, environmental issues, health care, hobbies, humanities, law, literature and art, politics, science, social science, sports, technology, and many general interest topics. Millions of full-text articles, many with images. Updated daily.

### ■ LEADERSHIP DIRECTORIES (THE YELLOW BOOKS)

Leadership Directories - the Leadership Library on the Internet - is a comprehensive database of who's who in the leadership of the United States.

### ■ LEXIS-NEXIS

A full text database of current and historic federal legislation, bill tracking, bill texts, state legislation, case law, law reviews, etc., plus a full text database of more than 6,000 news sources and periodicals.

### ■ BOOKS IN PRINT

Books in Print provides bibliographic, ordering and publisher information for books currently in print and books soon to be published. Book reviews are also available for many titles.

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