



Cultural Linguistic Services
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Employee Learning Center English Learning Newsletter

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

New words of the week:

When the word **pan** is combined with other words in English, it means “all” (originally from Greek). For example:

Pandemic = “all people”. COVID-19 is a **pandemic** disease affecting everyone in the world.

Pandemonium = “all demons”, noisy disorder, chaos, uproar. There is **pandemonium** when protestors and police meet in the streets.

Panorama = “all view”, complete view of a surrounding area. You can see a nice **panorama** of Madison from the observation deck on the Capitol building.

Pan-Asian = relating to all the people in Asia. The restaurant serves **pan-Asian** cuisine from India, Thailand, and Vietnam.

There are many more! Check a dictionary for others.

Phrases for conversation:

Use these phrases to express outrage (hurt, angry feelings):

- **This is unbelievable!**
- **Have you ever heard anything so ridiculous?**
- **I can't understand how anyone could do that.**
- **What do they think they're doing?**
- **I just don't get it.**
- **Can you believe it?**

-Adapted from **Perfect Phrases for ESL Conversation Skills** by Diane Englehardt

Learn More:

Go to the Story Corps website to listen to and read stories of Americans from all backgrounds and beliefs:

<https://storycorps.org/stories/>



For Fun:

The weather is great for hiking and biking! Try one of these top 10 trails around Madison:

<https://www.visitmadison.com/things-to-do/featured/top-10-trails/>



Famous Quote:

The first step toward tolerance is respect, and the first step toward respect is knowledge.”

- Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Proverb:

“The straw that broke the camel's back.”

Meaning: The “straw” is the last in a series of bad things that happen to make someone very upset or angry. Example: “It had been a difficult week, so when the car broke down, it was **the straw that broke the camel's back.**”