From the Files of Tantagiorgio: Sangria

Sangria is like a catch all alcoholic punch that is inexpensive and easy to make and whets the needs of many: it is an inexpensive way to serve an enjoyable alcoholic drink to a large crowd.

I first had sangria about 30 years ago while on my first trip to Malaga, Spain in a Flamenco Bar oddly named Mary’s Place.

Ingredients:
- One gallon of inexpensive red wine
- One liter bottle of some form of lemon/lime soda such as sprite.
- One orange
- A lemon
- A lime
- Any other fruits can be used but the favorites are oranges, lemons, limes are the most festive.)

Using a large punch bowl place the sugar in first, pour in half of wine, half of sprite, slice lemons, oranges and into rounds that will float on top. I always use extra fruits to squeeze into the punch, add ice to chill and stir everything together. I have halved the wine and sprite so the sangria can be replenished or so you can use a large pitcher rather than a punch bowl.

I cannot tell you how many hundreds of times I’ve served this at just about any kind of a gathering. It is fortunate that many restrictions make it impossible to serve this at the Language House. However, you will all be invited to Nashio and you will definitely be serving it—but quite possible you will have already tried your own. A bit of Spain served frequently and it always brings back fond memories. Tanta Giorgio

The Mixed Apartment: A Necessary Evil

By Hariton Wilson

Mixed apartments are a necessary evil. They are necessary, because a mixed apartment is often the only solution when more than one cluster does not have enough members to fill an apartment. But they are also evil, because of the obvious challenges and obstacles such an apartment poses to the whole concept of language immersion. What are some of these challenges?

The mixed apartment unavoidably creates the situation where English is spoken between members of each respective language. When immersion is the key, it is obvious why this situation is undesirable. The problem amplifies when two people who speak different languages occupy the same room as roommates; for who does not talk to their own roommate? Ultimately, the mixed apartment requires a heightened level of effort on behalf of its residents to maintain and preserve the language immersion element—our very reason for living in the Language House. How exactly can a resident of a mixed apartment do this?

The first step is to renew one’s resolve to speak to your existing culture and to those who are the only one from your chosen language in the face of your immersion. What are some of these solutions is very satisfactory. They are necessary evils.

House – a group of highly intelligent creatures who eventually invented a method of teleportation so that they could easily study other worlds and habits of foreign creatures.
By Ronit Zelivinski

Hello from France: Meet Anna

Bonjour Language House! I’m Anna from the French cluster, and I’m studying abroad in Paris with ISA (International Studies Abroad). I live with a single mother and her daughter in an apartment in the 14e arrondissement, and I take French grammar, phonetics and culture classes at the Sorbonne through a program for international students.

Paris is very expensive, but there’s a lot to do for free or for discounts with a student ID card, including many museums and major city sites. On the weekends, we can also take the trains for free to visit towns outside of the city. With my program, I’ve visited the chateaux (castles) of the Loire Valley and the Normandy beaches, and during spring break I spent a week in Morocco, where I slept in a tent in the Sahara Desert and rode camels. I’ve also been to wallow away an afternoon sipping espresso in an outdoor café.

Life consists of buying fresh food each day from different small neighborhood stores- bread from the boulangerie (bakery), meat from the butcher, cheese from the fromagerie, and fruits and vegetables from the produce vendor. Life is slower-paced and savored, and it’s common to wallow away an afternoon sipping espresso in an outdoor café.

Some of my favorite moments are enjoying picnics in Parisian parks or walking in the open countryside, and exploring multi generation houses in which the number of children in Japan has reached a new low, while number of people over the age of 65 has reached a record high.

Persian: In Kabul, there was a horrific landslide triggered by heavy rain killing at least 350 people and leaving thousands missing.

Russian: Ukrainian climbers have launched a major assault on Friday only a day after Putin warned Ukraine to withdraw its troops.

Spanish: Panama observed very high voter turnout in its presidential elections, as a result of the very narrow race between the former Housing Minister Jose Domingo Arias, the former Panamanian politician Anderz Colavcar, and former President Juan Carlos Varela.

Arabic: In Libya, it remains unclear who will be the prime minister, after the disputed vote and a walkout by secular lawmakers.

Chinese: Chinese prime minister Li Keqiang, arrived on Sunday to Ethiopia for a four-country tour of Africa seeking to make deeper ties.

French: A deadly outbreak of a new strain of Ebola virus has killed over 100 people this year in Guinea.

German: Germany has developed multi generation houses in which the support is given to people of several generations at once, in a radical new approach to care homes.

Hebrew: Netanyahu reminds Israel not to forget the 23,169 “sons and daughters” that gave their lives in the Memorial Day opening.

Italian: New Italian has been released about the murder trial of Amanda Knox. Ms. Knox has spent four years in an Italian prison.

Japanese: Japanese have recently granted Boeing and General Electric licenses allowing for the export of commercial aircraft spare parts to Iran under a temporary sanctions relief deal beginning in January.

The threat to flight safety in Iran has been one of many consequences of western sanctions that have been criticized for unfairly affecting Iranian citizens. While there’s no talk yet of the possible sale of new jets to Iran, top Iranian aviation officials have recently stated that Iran would be interested in purchasing up to 400 new passenger jets by the year 2025 if sanctions were to be completely lifted. With hope for safer planes and flights for Iranian airlines, perhaps we will soon witness the reestablishment of direct flights between the United States and Iran in the future.