

## ANA HITS SPAIN

The storm Ana, which entered the Northwest of the peninsula this Sunday, is a deep depression accompanied by an explosive cyclogenesis, with strong winds, rain and snow.

#### <u>By Ángel Luis Salinas</u>

This is the first storm that the Portuguese, French and Spanish meteorological agencies have decided to "baptize". From this month **on**, they will give names to all phenomena of this type, but only the Atlantic and not the Mediterranean storms will get names, by now.

The storm will only be named when conditions cause orange or red wind alerts, and that – in the case of Spain – consists of more than 90, 100 and 110 kilometers per hour depending on the areas. In this way, the meteorological service of any of the three countries that foresees the storm will name it

according to the following list and inform the other two countries: Ana, Bruno, Carmen, David, Emma, Felix, Gisele... In the event that the storm is post-tropical or extra-tropical, and has already been named by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) of Miami, the same name should be used, adding the prefix "ex".

Therefore, this Sunday, the best place to be will be at home, under a blanket, with or without Ana.

Weather alerts for whole of Spain as Storm Ana set to hit TODAY



# AN ENGLISHMAN IN... LA ALBERCA?

Last week I had the opportunity to check it myself in a four-day intensive program, in which teachers, behaving as students, had a diverse daily schedule.

By Rosalía Almansa

A group of teachers from Castilla-La Mancha were selected to go to La Alberca (Salamanca), to do a linguistic immersion course, to practice and improve their English and teaching skills.

Diverbo (this is the name of



the company), structures *Pueblo Ingles* so that Anglos (this is what they called English-speaking volunteers) help Spaniards perfect their English. It works like this: it is a program where volunteers speak with Spaniards —only in English— all day long. One-on-one sessions, discussion groups and



mealtimes are designed for Spaniards to perfect their English. In return, the volunteers have free lodging and boarding.

Teachers took part in grammar and pronunciation classes as well, and in the last session, they had to "give a lesson to the Anglos and the rest of the students". It was called Class Simulation, and of course, students did not always behave themselves.

I found that the Spanish teachers really improved their English speaking and by the end of the stay they felt a lot more confident with the language.

Rosario M<sup>a</sup> González 2º Advanced English

### THE COMMUNITY COMES RUNNING TO THE RESCUE

Hello everybody. I am going to tell you how important is having friends around the world, although all of them are online friends from a website called Italki.

Fortunately, I have found very good people there and the best thing is that all of those language partners are always willing to helping you when you have a doubt or you are curious about something. Let me share my last entry to ask Italki community about the topic;

"How many British people are living in South America and how many American people are living in Spain"

This raises the question of why. What is the main reason why the British, who live near Spain, prefer to move to South America to work as an English teacher, for example, and why the Americans, who live closer to South America, prefer to do it in Spain.

My very close friend called Ray from Bradford and I argue that one of the main reason is because they want to experience a greater adventure. What do you think about that? If you are one of those adventurers, why don't you tell us your own experience and put an end to our doubts?

### After having uploaded the entry many responses arrived from other native English people to share their opinions and experiences. I have pasted some of them bellow:

From Italy; Hi, my answer is going to be very simple but I'm planning to move away from here because being born in a country doesn't necessarily make it your home. Home is just a place I haven't found yet. But that's just me, other people leave for different reasons.

My answer; Maybe I had to be clearer, I meant as your home, not only the place where you was born, but also the place where your whole family live, your closest friends, your memories from your childhood.. but your answer leads me to another great discussion!!! what place do you consider your home; the place where you were born or the place where you find the happiness? jajajaj thank you friend.

From Italy again, the same language partner; I agree, that is an interesting conversation :) I understood your questions, it's just that my idea of home differs from what your idea of home might be. Of course I have family and friends here and I understand if they think this is their home, it's just not mine. I would say home is a place where you feel like you can plan your future.

From Mauricio; The place where I was born and the place where I grew up are different. I don't consider either my "true" home, even though my family still lives in the place I grew up. As for my friends, they are scattered all over the world. I don't consider any one physical place my home because they have all been homes for a while. It's a bit of a cliche but I think being truly home is being with the person who knows you best.

From Detroit; Could be for the sake of the adventure, to get as far away from their current life as possible, or just because. I've considered doing it and, for me, it'd be more for the sake of the adventure. I'd miss my home, family, and friends, but living abroad and far away from home would be a great experience, in my opinion.

From Chicago; There's an English saying, "Home is where the heart is". To some, this may very well be true. My home is where I was born, but I think that is primarily because 'home' is where I have fond memories. And I'm not talking about the physical building in which I grew up, but my city as well. I think our experiences and memories make up who we are. I'm not sure if those two are inseparable. At least they are not for me.

From China; I think the reasons are various. Maybe the most attractive reason is people want to experience exotic cultures, delicious food, developing a romantic relationship or others, when they found an ideal one then they settle down, they thought all they done were deserved even though living very far from familiar environment in the past. Another reason was they got a good position in abroad, I wish someday I can get a chance too to work abroad to experience more challenging life. The last, they wanted their children can receive more advanced education, enjoy good social welfare, superior living environment in abroad.

From Egypt; According to what I have witnessed myself, I would simply say, it's MONEY. Good money and low cost of living are the reasons why Americans, Australians or British teachers come to teach in Saudi Arabia; the desert!

From The Netherlands; Your original question about Americans preferring Spain and British people preferring South America is interesting. Being European and having lived in the US for half my life, I can try to guess. :) I think Europeans are generally more adventurous and both willing and wanting to go to far away places, while Americans to me seem to be like people who are used to all their comforts and more careful travelers. Europe (and Spain) are generally considered to be a bit higher in comforts than South American countries. Of course this is major generalizing and there are plenty of exceptions, but that's my general feeling. :)

From Australia; I consider some of the people moving to another remote country is just for sake of adventure and they are seemingly eager to explore their limit to their capacities and strength. There is nothing to do with home or not. For them who are moving to another place, it is thought as another form of adventure. Also very likely some time in the future these immigrants would treat the overseas home as another new home. They would become the first generation of ancestry living in a new country, why not?

From United Kingdom; I think you and Ray have hit the nail on the head. If I had to teach English in a Spanishspeaking country I would choose a South American country as well, even though Spain is on my doorstep.

I have considered not writing more of them but there were over forty answers! I would like to encourage you to take a look to that website (Italki) as not only will you improve your English skills by practising with native English speakers, but you will also learn about other cultures from home.