

So, I got a bottle of the Christmas Cake Pepsi that I wrote about last week. It was ... interesting. It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. I don't think it tasted like Christmas Cake, but it wasn't bad and I wouldn't mind drinking it again. Did any of you try it? I think they should make a UK style Christmas Cake drink. Complete with the dog hair my gran always dropped in.



### Something Interesting (Black Friday<sup>1</sup>)

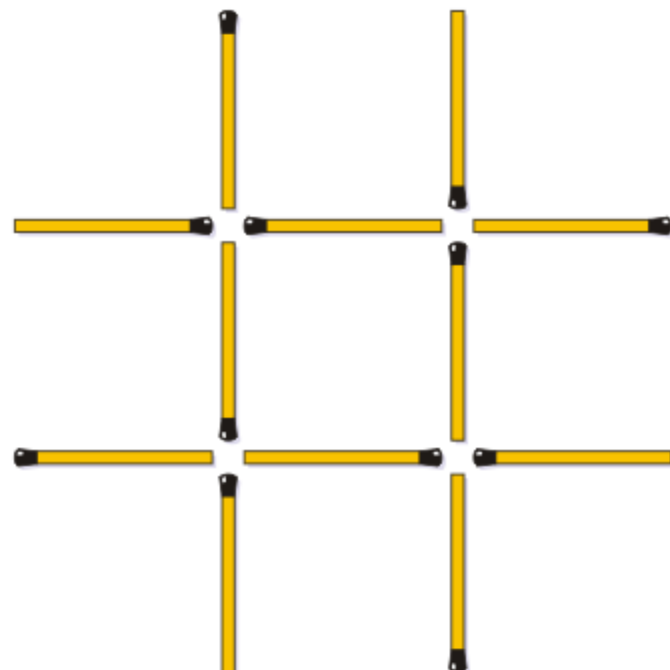
1. It is called "black" Friday because it is supposed to<sup>2</sup> be the day where shops' balance sheets<sup>3</sup> go from being in the red (in debt) to being in the black<sup>4</sup> (a positive balance). They are called black and red because accountants<sup>5</sup> write positive balances (profits<sup>6</sup>) in black ink and negative balances (losses<sup>7</sup>) in red ink.
2. Black Friday is the busiest shopping day and weekend in America. In 2006, \$655,800,000,000 was spent over the Black Friday weekend. That's about \$1,000 per person. The second busiest shopping day is the Saturday before Christmas, because everyone has forgotten to buy gifts.
3. Since 2006, there have been 7 deaths and 98 injuries<sup>8</sup> caused by violence<sup>9</sup> on Black Friday.
4. Stores used to open at 6:00 am, but, gradually<sup>10</sup>, over the years, they became earlier until, now, some shops actually open on Thanksgiving Day, making it Black Thursday, and making it meaningless<sup>11</sup>.

### Black Friday

Last Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, was Black Friday. This is a day that started in America but has now spread<sup>12</sup> to the UK and is even reaching Japan. Black Friday is the Friday after Thanksgiving, in America, and is a day when shops reduce<sup>13</sup> the prices of the items<sup>14</sup> in their stores. It started in 1952 and is considered to be<sup>15</sup> the first day of the Christmas shopping season.

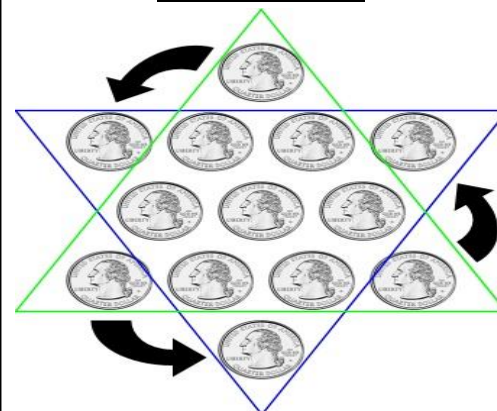


The Black Friday culture has spread to Asia and is even online. Amazon has a Black Friday sale. However, hopefully, if you go shopping in Japan on Black Friday, you probably won't find many people fighting over a reduced-price<sup>16</sup> TV, but if you go in America or England, you may see the police being called in to separate<sup>17</sup> people fighting. Every year, shopping turns violent<sup>18</sup>.



Can you move only 3 matchsticks so you get three perfect squares?

### Last Week's Answers



### Announcements

1<sup>st</sup> Hallelujah practice on Monday. I love the Hallelujah practice. I like the song and listening to everyone sing, but, more than that, Hallelujah practice means we are not far from Christmas!

It is strange to see how the words "cheap" and "free" have such an effect on<sup>19</sup> us. If someone said, "this TV is ¥100,000," you wouldn't think anything of it, but, if they say, "this TV, that was ¥100,000 is now free! And we only have 20 of them!" your heart starts pounding<sup>20</sup>, your vision narrows<sup>21</sup>, and you think, "I've got to have one of those! No matter what<sup>22</sup>!" What a strange thing.



- 1.Black Friday 収支が黒字になる金曜日 2.Supposed to~のはず 3.Balance sheet 貸借対照表 4.In the red / black 赤字で・黒字で 5.Accountant 会計士 6.Profit 利益 7.Loss 損失 8.Injury けが 9.Caused by violence 暴力のせいで 10.Gradually 少しずつ 11.Meaningless 無意味な 12.Spread 広がる 13.Reduce 下げる 14.Item 商品 15.Considered to be~であると 考えられている 16.Reduced-price 値下げ 17.Separate 引き離す 18.Turn violent 暴力化する 19.Have an effect on ~に影響を与える 20.Heart pounding 心臓がドキドキしている 21.Vision narrows 狭い視界 22.No matter what どんなことがあっても~



# ★ English News Page 2 ★

Hello everyone! Thanksgiving has finished, so it is now officially the Christmas season! I think you are all very lucky to be students at this school this time of year, because you can experience a true Christian celebration. Jesus is the reason for the season! - Krystal

## ★ Dear Krystal ★



Do you have questions about English? Do you need some advice about a problem in your life? If so, **put your questions in the pink envelope near the English Board on the 2nd floor.** Write "Dear Krystal" on your question. Anything is ok, and you can remain anonymous.

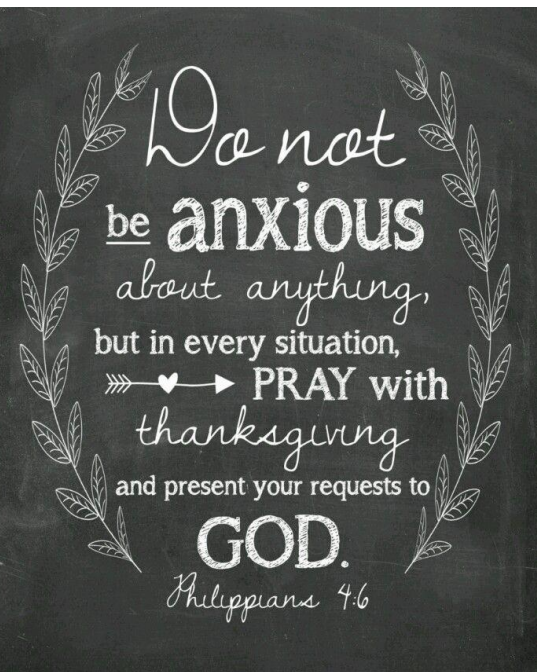
Q: Dear Krystal,

I get an allowance<sup>1</sup> from my parents, but it isn't enough. How can I get a higher allowance?

A: In order to get a higher allowance, you need to show your parents that you deserve<sup>2</sup> it. How can you do that? First, you should start by helping your parents with more chores<sup>3</sup>. Offer to help cook, clean, walk the dog, etc. Next, you should study hard. If your grades improve, your parents will know you're responsible<sup>4</sup>. Finally, you should listen to your parents and follow their rules. Be good and try not to argue<sup>5</sup> with them. When it's time to talk about a higher allowance, tell them the reasons why you need it. Prepare what you are going to say in advance<sup>6</sup>. If they say no, then keep working hard and ask again later. If they say yes, be grateful<sup>7</sup>, and don't stop the positive changes you made to get the allowance!

Philippians<sup>8</sup> 4:6

This is an excellent Bible verse to keep in mind while you're studying for your exams. You probably have a lot of anxiety<sup>9</sup> about your test scores. However, this verse says that instead of worrying, we should pray. We should thank God in our prayers for what we have, and ask God humbly<sup>10</sup> for what we need. Praying alone probably won't improve your test scores, but speaking with God will help you to relieve stress and focus on your studies. Just remember that God loves you and always does the best for you. With God on your side, you have no reason to worry!



# ★ English Speaking Celebrities ★

**Kate Winslet** is an English actress. She was born on October 5, 1975 in Reading, England. She was born into a family of actors and grew up acting in many plays. She was overweight<sup>11</sup> as a child, and was often bullied<sup>12</sup> by her classmates for her size. In the mid-90s, she started her film career by appearing in a number of period dramas<sup>13</sup>. She became an international super star after starring in *Titanic* with Leonardo DiCaprio in 1997. Filming *Titanic* was very difficult for Kate. She almost drowned<sup>14</sup> and got hypothermia<sup>15</sup> from spending so much time in the freezing<sup>16</sup> water. However, her hard work paid off, because she was nominated for best actress in the Academy Awards. After her success in *Titanic*, she has preferred acting in less popular movies. She has been nominated for seven Academy Awards in total, and won one for her role in *The Reader* in 2008. She has remained close friends with her *Titanic* co-star Leonardo DiCaprio and they reunited on screen for the film, *Revolutionary Road*. She is also set to reunite with *Titanic*'s director, James Cameron, for *Avatar 2*, which will be released in 2020. Kate Winslet is anti-bullying and an outspoken<sup>17</sup> critic of the pressure on young women to lose weight. She has sued<sup>18</sup> magazines for digitally altering<sup>19</sup> her body to appear thinner.

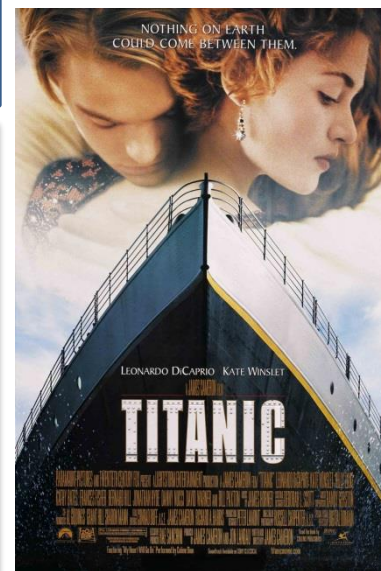


## ★ From the English Lounge ★

Wednesday Movie @ 16:45

*Titanic* (1997, 195 minutes)

This week is the finale of *Titanic*. *Titanic* is an epic romance-disaster film starring Leonardo DiCaprio as Jack Dawson and Kate Winslet as Rose DeWitt Bukater. Rose is 17 years old and is unhappily engaged to a wealthy man named Cal. Along with Rose's mother, the three are traveling to America as first-class<sup>20</sup> passengers on the *Titanic*. Jack and his friend Fabrizio are also passengers, but in the poor third-class<sup>21</sup>. After Jack saves Rose from a suicide attempt<sup>22</sup>, they fall in love. However, the *Titanic* hits a large iceberg<sup>23</sup> and starts to sink<sup>24</sup>. Will Jack and Rose's love go down with the ship? Watch *Titanic* and find out!



**New words:** 1. allowance 小遣い 2. deserve 価値がある 3. chores 家事 4. responsible 責任感がある 5. argue 喧嘩する 6. in advance 前もって 7. grateful 感謝して 8. Philippians フィリピの信徒への手紙 9. anxiety 不安 10. humbly 謙遜して 11. overweight 太っている 12. bully いじめる 13. period drama 時代劇 14. drown 溺れて死ぬ 15. hypothermia 低体温症 16. freezing 冷たい 17. outspoken 率直な 18. sue 訴える 19. digitally alter (a photograph) デジタル写真編集 20. first-class 一等 21. third-class 三等 22. suicide attempt 自殺未遂 23. iceberg 氷山 24. sink 沈む