

10/2/2018 (#17 this year)

Did you have a good day off? I went to Costco. I love Costco. There are so many things there that I want, but all the packs are so big. We always take my wife's family as well because the size is perfect for sharing. Have you ever been? And there is a Krispy Kreme Donut shop opening in November. I can't wait for that! Then IKEA is supposed to be coming in 2020. Sapporo is certainly becoming an international city. It is a lot different to when I first came here. I remember the old Sapporo station. You would all be surprised if you could see that now.

Something You Don't Know (Sumo)

1. Sumo has been around for as long as Japan's recorded history. A ring was used in the 16th century and current professional sumo began in the Edo period.
2. When the Meiji government ordered samurai and all people to cut off their top-knots¹, sumo wrestlers were the only exception².
3. Sumo wrestlers are not allowed to drive cars.
4. Sumo wrestlers have a life expectancy of 60-65 years. Ten years lower than the average.
5. Konishiki was the heaviest sumo wrestler at 287kg and Akebono was the tallest at 203cm.
6. The top ranked sumo referees wear purple. They also carry a ceremonial dagger³ in their belt. This is show that they are willing to kill themselves if they make a wrong decision.

Last Week's Answers



Announcements

Monday, yesterday was a holiday.
Lesson 1 today is an opening ceremony. On Friday the music majors have their concert which is incredible every year!
I can't wait!

Takanohana Suddenly Resigns

Former Yokozuna and stablemaster⁴ Takanohana suddenly resigned⁵ last week. Takanohana has been battling with the Japan Sumo Association (JSA) since last November when one of his sumo wrestlers was attacked by a Yokozuna. In November, Takanoniwa, a wrestler in Takanohana's stable, was hit on the head with a glass bottle by Yokozuna Haramafuji. After a lengthy battle, Haramafuji resigned.



Takanohana was criticized⁶ by the JSA for making Takanoiwa wait before he announced the attack and for not allowing him to take part in the investigation⁷. Because of this, Takanohana was demoted⁸ and removed as an association director. Takanohana filed a complaint⁹ with the JSA. The JSA asked him to remove the complaint because it was a lie. Takanohana said it was not a lie, and quit.

Takanohana was a very successful Yokozuna. He won 22 Emperor's Cups. He was also running a very successful sumo stable. With all of the problems that had arisen, he decided to retire so that his wrestlers could focus on their training. All of the wrestlers who were in his stable will move to another stable and continue fighting. Nobody knows what Takanohana, who is only 46, will do from now on. He may continue to work in the sumo world.

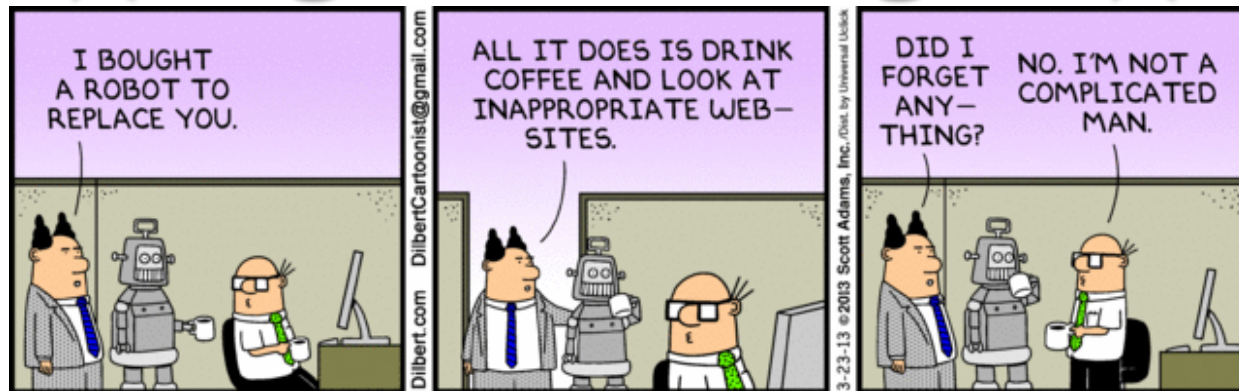


Find The Word "KAYAK" in 40 Seconds

KYKAAAAAAAAAKKAAAYKKYAAAAAAAAAKKAAAY
KKKKKKAKKYYKAAAYAKKKKYAAAAAAAAAKKAAK
YKAKKAAKYAYAKAAYYAKAKYAYAAYAKAAYAKKAA
YKAKAKAKAAAYAYKAKAYYAYAKAYKYAKKAYAKYAK
AYAAYKKKYKKYAAAKYYAKAYAAAYAKAYK YKAKAAY
AAKAYKAAAKKYAAKKAAYKAKAYKAKKYAYAACA AKA
AAKKAYKAKAAYKAKAKAYAYKKYAKAYYAKAKAKAKA
AYAYKAKAYKAAAYAKAAYYAKAKYAYAAYAKAAYAKAAK

1.Top-knot ちょんまげ 2.Exception 例外 3.Dagger 短刀 4.Stablemaster 親方 5.Resign 退職
6.Criticize 批判する 7.Investigation 捜査 8.Demote 降格させる 9.File a complaint 苦情を申し立てる

★ English News Page 2 ★

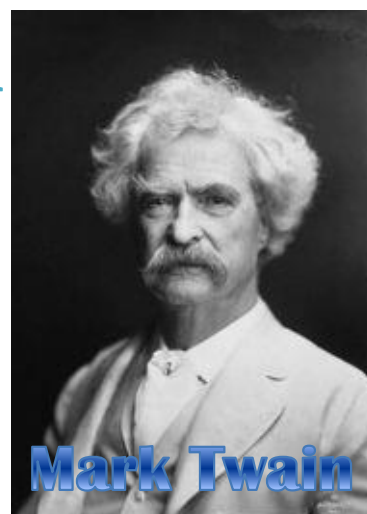


World Records

Every week, when I write this section, I think, "Hmm. I wouldn't mind trying that record." This one, I'm not so sure. This week's record comes from China. Wei Shengchu has the record for the most needles¹ stuck² in the head. 2,009. He sat there and stuck 2,009 needles in his head. Or, maybe, he sat there and someone else stuck 2,009 needles in his head. Either way, wow. What do you think? Does anyone have 2,010 needles? Let's try.



Anger is an acid³ that can do more harm to the vessel⁴ in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured⁵.



Mark Twain

★ Places you should visit ★

If you have the time and the money, you should definitely visit Lake Taal on the island of Luzon in the Philippines. There are many reasons to visit this lake, but the main one is for its island. Lake Taal is home to the largest island-in-a-lake-on-an-island-in-a-lake-on-an-island. Do you get that? Luzon is an island. Taal lake is on that island. In that lake is an island called Taal Volcano island. There is a lake on that island called crater lake. In that lake is an island called Vulcan point island. Vulcan Point Island = Crater Lake = Taal Volcano Island = Taal Lake = Luzon Island. Ha ha. Of course, the island is beautiful, the climate is amazing, the people are friendly, the food is awesome, and the sunset is to die for⁶. But, that island in a lake on an island in a lake on an island... ...!



★ An Interesting Sport ★

Unicycle Hockey

I thought I would continue with the hockey theme I started last week. Last week we did underwater hockey, this week unicycle hockey. What is it? Well... it's hockey ... played by people ... on unicycles. The sport was started in 1925 and has grown in popularity. It is controlled by the International Unicycling Federation, which controls all unicycle sports. I'm sorry, but the fact that there is a governing body⁷ just for unicycle sports is awesome.



1.Needle 針 2.Stick 刺す 3.Acids 酸 4.Vessel 杯 5.Pour 注ぐ 6.to die for それが手に入るなら死んでもよいと思うくらい 7.governing body 管理機関