

We are well into November. The weather is turning colder and crisper¹. The mornings are dark and I think it can't be long before it starts to snow. I have to buy some spike tires for my bicycle. Last year, I slipped over on the ice once last year. I wasn't cycling! I cycled to school every single day and I didn't fall off my bicycle once. I fell over when I stopped my bicycle and my foot slipped! Very embarrassing. Maybe I should get spikes for my shoes as well. I have running spikes, but I don't wear regular spikes. Or, maybe I should just never get off my bicycle.

Something You Don't Know (Nintendo)

1. It was started by Fusajiro Yamauchi in 1889 and originally sold playing cards².
2. Nintendo used to sell instant rice, vacuum cleaners, love testing machines and taxi rides.
3. In the 1960s they became a toy company and moved into games in the 1970s.
4. Donkey Kong was released in 1981 and Nintendo suddenly became popular.
5. Mario has a moustache and hat because at the time screens had so few pixels that it was impossible to make hair or his mouth move. The hat and the moustache solved³ these problems.
6. Gunpei Yokoi, the man who invented Donkey Kong and the Gameboy, started work as a janitor⁴. He invented things in his free time and was soon noticed by his superiors⁵.
7. In Super Mario, the clouds are the same as the bushes because it took less memory.



10 differences

Last Week's Answers

This was last week's magic eye picture



Announcements

The English Play auditions are on Monday.
JHS 3rd grade have their Midori on Friday. There is an open day on Saturday.

Super Mario Dies

I expect you all think I am going to write this week's English news about the elections⁶ in America. But I don't want to. I refuse⁷ to. Instead, I am going to write about the death of Super Mario. Last week, Mario Segale died at the age of 84. He was a successful Italian-American real estate developer⁸ and he died in Washington, US. He wasn't a plumber⁹. He had absolutely nothing to do with plumbing.



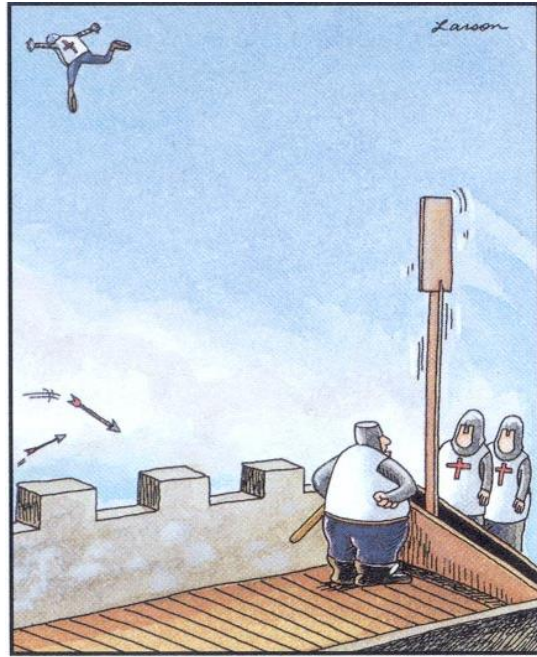
However, he is the person that the character of Mario in the Super Mario games was named after. In the 1980s he rented a warehouse to a Japanese company who were developing video games. They had a new game they had just finished called Jumpman. For some reason, they decided that the game would be more popular if they gave the main character a name and, for some reason, they thought of Mario Segale.

The company was, of course, Nintendo, and the new game they were developing was, of course, Super Mario, which went on to sell hundreds of millions of copies. To this day, nobody knows why they chose Mario for the name. But, one thing is for certain, Jumpman probably wouldn't have become a multi-billion-dollar franchise. Nintendo probably don't read this English news, but, if they do, I think Steven would be wonderfully popular. Just saying.



- 1.Crisp すがすがしい 2.Playing cards トランプ 3.Solve 解決する 4.Janitor 管理人
5.Superior 上司 6.Election 選挙 7.Refuse 拘る 8.Real estate developer 不動産開発業者
9.Plumber 配管工

★ English News Page 2 ★



"I told you guys to slow down and take it easy or something like this would happen."

World Records

One of the students in 6F is doing something called Crossfit and she has become very fit. She talked about pull-ups¹. I can do two. So, this week, let's look at Mike McCastle. In 2015 he managed to do 5,804 pull-ups in 24 hours. He also has the record for the highest rope climb. He climbed a 6m rope 1,500 times, which equals a height higher than Mt. Everest. He has attempted² these records because he injured his legs and couldn't run. Most people who injure their legs and can't run just sit on the sofa and eat potato chips.



★ Places you should visit ★

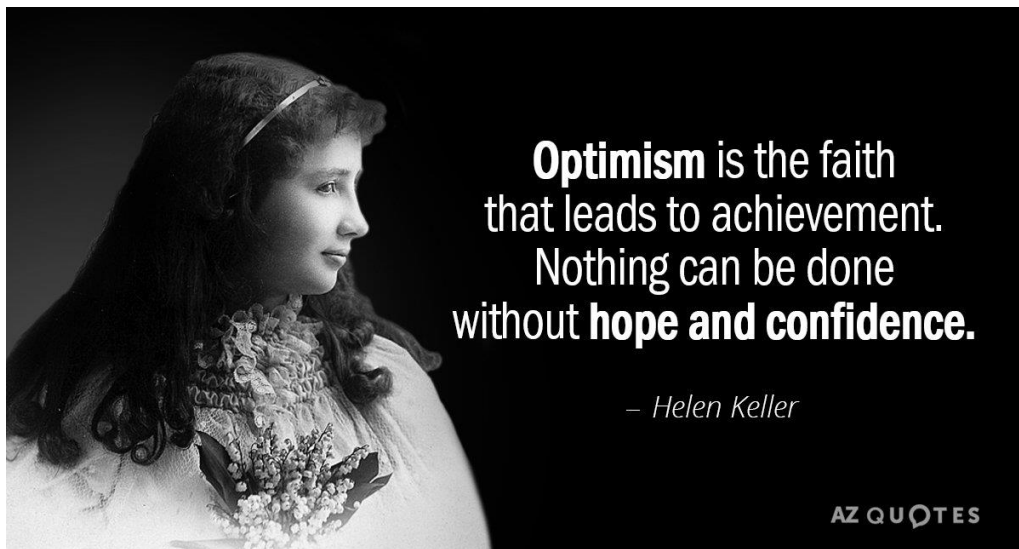
If you have the time and the money, you should definitely visit the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel that has just been finished in India. Last week, I wrote about Christ the Redeemer in Brazil. This statue in India is 4.7 times higher than that one. It is a marvel² of the modern world. Mr. Patel was a strong figure in India's fight for independence³ and he is revered⁴ by many. From the top, you will be able to see most of Gujarat, the area that Mr. Patel was born in. It is expected to attract about 2.5 million visitors per year. This statue has been constructed amidst⁵ a lot of criticism⁶ because it cost \$300 million while the area it was built in suffers from heavy poverty⁷. It will draw in many tourists, but it is doubtful any of that money will reach the local people.



★ An Interesting Sport ★

Cheese Rolling

Do you like cheese? Do you like running? Do you like running down a ridiculously⁸ steep⁹ hill after cheese? If yes, then this is the sport for you. Actually, this is a festival more than a sport because it is only held once a year. It is held at Cooper's Hill in Gloucester, England. The rules are pretty simple. A 4kg wheel of cheese is pushed down a hill and people try to catch it. The cheese reaches speeds of 70km/h, so no one has ever caught it. The first person over the line behind the cheese, wins the cheese.



Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without **hope and confidence**.

– Helen Keller

AZ QUOTES

- 1.Pull-up 懸垂 2.Marvel 驚くべきこと 3.Independence 独立 4.Revere 尊敬する 5.Amidst の中
6.Criticism 批判 7.Heavy poverty 多い貧乏 8.Ridiculously ばかばかしい 9.Steep 急な坂