

Tokyo Disneyland Reopens

Last Wednesday, July 1st, Tokyo Disneyland and DisneySea reopened. The parks were closed at the end of February because of the corona virus pandemic. After the state of emergency⁵ was lifted in Japan, the Oriental Land Company, which owns the park, announced that both parks would reopen in July. And, they have kept true to their word⁶. However, they have had to make some changes to make sure that their guests stay safe. They are taking everybody's temperature⁷ at the entrance and people have to wear masks. People are also not



OK. Last Monday I wrote, "this is the first day of my trash pickup and I am so excited!" Well, as you know, we got rained off¹. I was very down. Still, we have another chance today so ... this is the first day of my trash pickup and I am so excited. We are going to have a great time. I am praying that there will be no rain. However, as I sit here on Wednesday, the weather forecast² for next Monday says a 50% chance of rain at lunch time and 20% in the evening. Things can change though, and I am going to spend all weekend hoping. We'll go one day!

Something You Don't Know (Tokyo Disneyland)

1. The park opened on the 15th April, 1983.
2. It was the first Disney theme park to be built outside of America.
3. Disneyland is owned by the Oriental Land Company which is, in turn, owned largely by Keisei Electric Railway.
4. 32,558,000 people visited Tokyo Disneyland and Sea in 2018.
5. Tokyo Disneyland is not actually in Tokyo, but in Chiba.
6. There is a myth³ that you should never go on a first date with someone to Tokyo Disneyland. The myth says that any two people that become a couple at TDL are doomed to⁴ breakup.
7. There are 11 Disneylands in the world, but there is only one DisneySea.



allowed to hug Mickey Mouse or any of the other characters. Also, there are no parades at the moment and people are being encouraged not to congregate⁸ in big groups. On the rides, every second row is being left open. So, on Big Thunder Mountain, you can sit on rows 1, 3, 5, etc. I understand what they are doing, but I don't think they understand physics. If the rollercoaster is travelling at 100kmph and a person with the Corona virus in row one coughs, everybody else will pass through the virus.

15 differences! How many can you find?



The park have limited attendance to 50% of the usual number of people. Tickets went on sale last week and some people took the day off work just to try to buy them. One man had three phones and two computers. He kept refreshing the homepage until he got through. He managed to buy tickets, but it took him 11 hours. I think he is crazy. It's only Disneyland. My wife said that I don't understand the way that the fans think. She is right. Anyway, if you are going to go to Tokyo in the next few months, take care, wear a mask and wash your hands as often as you can. Have a great week.



Last week's answer



1. Rain off 雨で中止になる
2. Forecast 予想
3. Myth 伝説的な神話
4. Doomed to ~ する悪い運命にある
5. State of emergency 緊急非常事態
6. True to one's word 自分が言ったとおりに行動する
7. Temperature 温度 (この場合は体温)
8. Congregate 集まる



World Records

Here is a record we could try to beat. I think it would take a long time and we would need to involve¹ the home ec. department, but we could do it. A group of 1,000 knitters² in India have made the world's largest hand knitted blanket. It is 90m long and 40m wide. That means it would barely fit inside our school's auditorium. It took them several months to make. Do you think we could do that? First, we will need to learn how to knit. Then, we will need an absolutely enormous quantity of yarn³. I wonder how much. ... Wow! Google is amazing! I just found a knitting calculator! ... Ok. So, to make a 1.3mx1.8m blanket, we would need 1,471m of yarn. So, for our 90mx40m blanket, we will need 2,483,048m or yarn! 2,483km!! You can buy it! I'll knit.



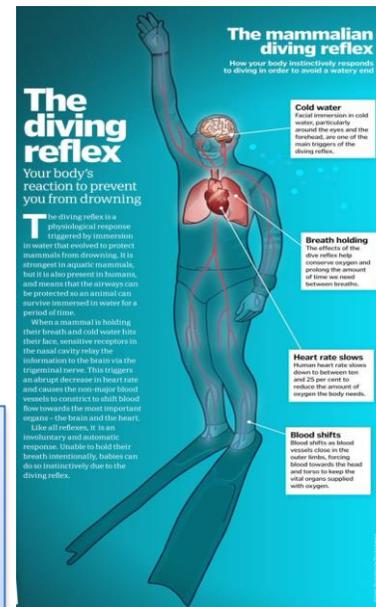
Every day is a new beginning.
Take a deep breath, smile,
and start again.

The ~est in the world

We've had a lot of rain recently. My trash pickup was cancelled because of rain. But do you know where the wettest and driest places on Earth are? The wettest place on Earth is Lopez de Micay, Cauca, Colombia. Over ten years, it has had an average annual rainfall⁴ of 13,466mm. It is a very warm place and has a tropical rainforest climate⁵. On the other hand, the driest place on Earth is supposed to be the Atacama Desert in South America. The average rainfall across the desert is about 5mm, but some areas have had no rainfall for hundreds, possibly even thousands of years. Studies have shown that some of the riverbeds⁶ in the desert have been dry for 120,000 years. Some space companies have been using this desert as a testing place for Mars missions.



Something You Probably Didn't Know



Humans (especially children) have something called a mammalian diving reflex⁷. This has saved many people. It helps to prevent drowning⁸. When we fall into water, especially cold water, and especially face first, the diving reflex instantly slows down the heart to conserve oxygen and redirects blood to vital⁹ organs. This can be the difference between being brain dead¹⁰ after five minutes and being brought back to life without any brain damage after a much longer time. Many other mammals use this reflex to be able to swim for long periods under water. The longest anybody has been underwater and made a complete recovery is 40 minutes.

New words: 1. Involve 含む 2. Knit 編む 3. Yarn 羊毛 4. Annual rainfall 年間降水量
5. Tropical rainforest climate 熱帯雨林気候 6. Riverbed 川床 7. Mammalian diving reflex 潜水反応 8. Drown 溺れ死ぬ 9. Vital 大事 10. Brain dead 脳死状態