

The leaves on Mt. Moiwa have started to change color. Only just the tips¹ of the trees so far, but it is the start of autumn. And this is the last week of our first semester. How was it? Whether you think it was good or whether you think it was bad, it has certainly been memorable². I wonder if the second half will be as interesting as the first half. I hope that we can put the corona virus behind us and get back to some type of normal. I miss being able to see other people's faces and interact with them in the way that we used to.

Something You Didn't Know (Hamburgers)

1. The word "hamburger" comes from Hamburg, a city in Germany. The type of meat used in a hamburger is said to have come from Hamburg and in 1884, there was a "Hamburg Steak", which was ground meat³ eaten in bread, like a sandwich.
2. No one knows who invented the hamburger we know today. About 7 different immigrants⁴ to America laid claim to it in about 1900. The hamburger was popularized⁵ at the St. Louis World Fair in 1904, but many people sold it from different small stalls⁶.
3. During World War 1, the name was changed to "Salisbury Steak" because people didn't like names that sounded German.
4. The Big Mac is the world's most famous hamburger and over 1 billion are sold per⁷ year.
5. An average beefburger has meat from over 1,000 different cows.

The Crab Burger

If you like crab, then you might like the new Dom Dom Whole Crab Burger. Some of you might be wondering what it is, but it is exactly what it says in the name. It is a whole crab, fried, and put on a burger! It is a soft-shelled crab⁸ so, apparently⁹, you can eat the shell, the guts, and the meat, all with a nice coating of deep-fried batter¹⁰. I'm not sure if I want to eat the shell.

The burger has been released by the Dom Dom hamburger chain. They have made



it to celebrate the opening of their new store in Asakusa Hanayashiki, the oldest theme park in Japan. Have you ever heard of Dom Dom Hamburger? I must admit that I hadn't. However, it is very famous because it is Japan's oldest hamburger chain. The chain started in 1970, just over one year before McDonald's came to Japan. It was started by the supermarket company Daiei. Daiei originally wanted to go into partnership¹¹ with McDonald's to open a Japanese restaurant.



But McDonald's wanted to split everything 50-50, while Daiei wanted a 51% stake¹². McDonald's pulled out of the deal, so Daiei started their own hamburger chain. The Dom Dom burger became popular, but I think it was eclipsed by¹² the Big Mac when McDonald's came to Japan. Have you ever tried one? Do you think you will try the whole fried crab burger?



Can you find all 15 differences in these pictures? Good luck. Some of them are pretty small.

Last week's answer

The International Space Station orbits Earth every _____ minutes.

● + ● = 40
 🚀 + ● = 30
 🚀 + 🚀 = 80
 🚀 + 🌍 = 90

People from _____ countries have visited the space station.

🇺🇸 + 🇺🇸 = 6
 🇺🇸 x 🇷🇺 = 12
 🇷🇺 x 🇷🇺 = 24
 🇷🇺 + 🇺🇸 = 34

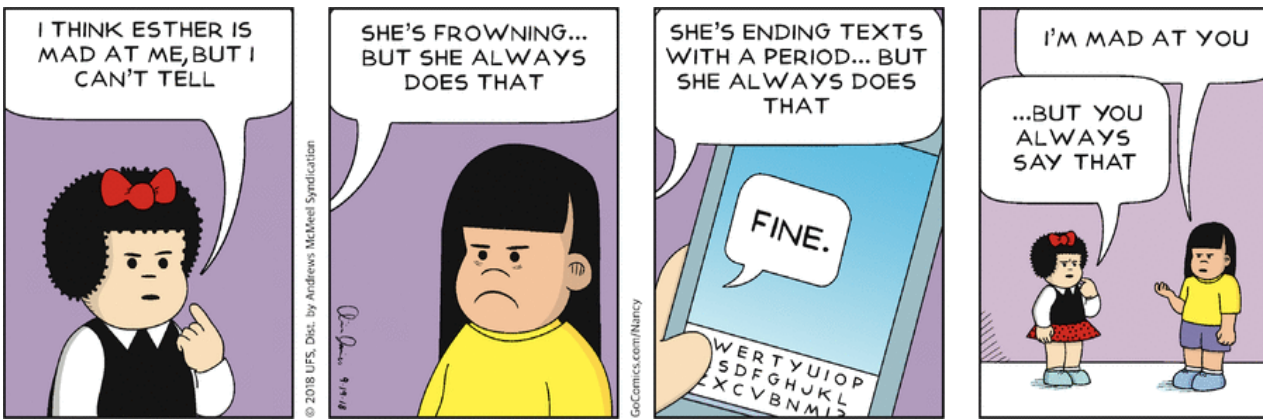
How many people have visited the International Space Station?

👤 + 👤 = 264
 👤 - 👤 = 68
 👤 + 👤 = 300
 👤 + 👤 = 232

The first pieces of the space station launched in 19 _____.

✂ x ✂ = 81
 ✂ + ✂ = 59
 ✂ + ✂ = 20
 ✂ + ✂ = 98

1. Tip ~の先 2. Memorable 記憶に残る 3. Ground meat ひき肉 4. Immigrant 移住者 5. Popularize 人気にさせる 6. Stall 屋台 7. Per 各 8. Soft-shelled crab 殻の軟らかいカニ 9. Apparently ~らし 10. Deep-fried batter 衣をつけて揚げた 11. Partnership 事業提携 12. Eclipsed by によって影を潜める



World Records

I'm going to stick with¹ animal records again this week. I did the fastest 5k run by a human a while ago, so this week ... the world's fastest tortoise. The world's fastest tortoise is called Bertie and he comes from the UK. In 2016, he sprinted over a 5.48 m course in 19:59 seconds! That means he was running at a staggering² speed of 1 km/hour! That doesn't sound very fast, but the average speed for a tortoise of Bertie's size is about 100 m/hour. So, Bertie is the Usain Bolt of the tortoise kingdom. Some of the largest Giant Tortoises only move at about 60 m per hour and it can take them a month to travel a distance of 10 km. Maybe we should buy our own tortoise and start training it. Maybe this is going to be the record we break!



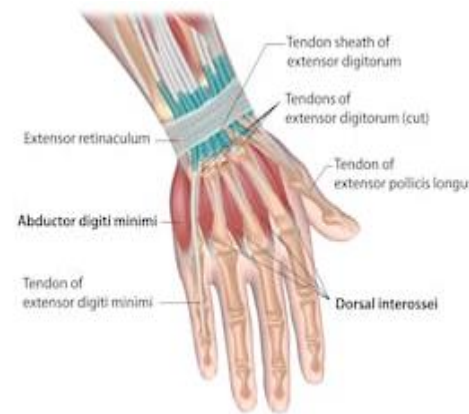
Take care of your body.
It's the only place you
have to live.

The ~est in the world

Some trees and plants grow extremely³ slowly, but the fastest growing plant on Earth is bamboo. One species of bamboo can grow at about 91 cm per day. It grows so fast that, if you were a little patient⁴, you could actually see it growing. There are about 1000 different types of bamboo in the world and they are not all as fast. Some can also grow very tall and some bamboo in tropical regions⁵ can grow up to 40 m tall. That is higher than Hokusei. Perhaps we should plant some in the garden. The school would be completely hidden within about a week.



Something You Probably Didn't Know



There are no muscles in your fingers. Some people have strong hands and some people have weak baby hands, but that is not because of your fingers. Your fingers only have bones and tendons⁶. The strength in your hand comes from the muscles in the palm⁷ of your hand and your forearm⁸. If you roll your sleeve up and move your fingers, you can see the long tendons that connect each finger to a muscle moving. So, if you are trying to strengthen your hands, you cannot get stronger fingers. All you can do is to exercise the muscles in your palm and your forearm. Good luck. The person with the strongest grip strength⁹ on the planet is American David Horne. He has a grip strength of 122.91 kg. That's impressive, but he would have to go a long way to beat the grip strength of the coconut crab. If it were the same size as a human, it would have a grip strength of 6 tons!



1. Stick with そのままにする 2. Staggering 驚くほど 3. Extremely とても 4. Patient 忍耐強い 5. Tropical region 熱帯地方 6. Tendon 腱 7. Palm 手のひら 8. Forearm 前腕 9. Grip strength 握力