ENGLISH NEWS

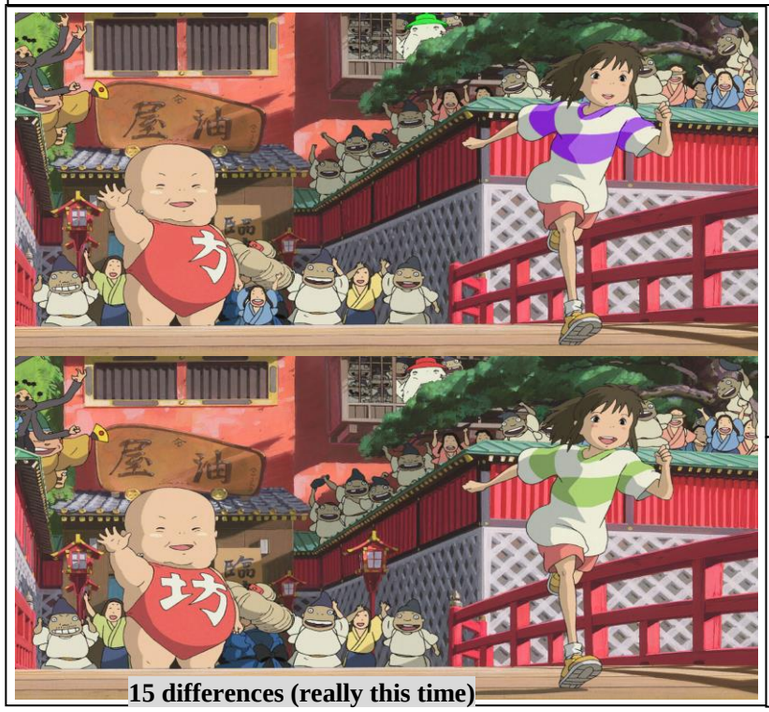
EDITION NO.258

11/30/2015 (#27 this year)

Tests again. We never seem to be that far from tests. We have either just[1] finished them or we're just about to take them. Once the tests are over, though, it is not long to the winter vacation. And this is a great time of year. I know it is cold and I know it gets dark early and I know it is a little bit depressing[2], but it is nearly[3] Christmas! We can decorate[4] the classrooms, sing Christmas carols[5], write letters to Santa and generally[6] look forward to[7] Christmas day. No matter how[8] old I get, I will always enjoy Christmas. Probably[9] more than my daughter!

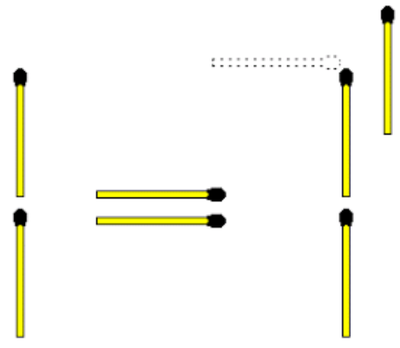
Something You Didn't Know (Rockets[10])

1. The first use of a rocket (a kind of firework) was in 1232. Chinese soldiers[11] fired them at an invading[12] Mongolian army[13].
2. The first rocket with liquid fuel[14] was launched[15]in 1926.
3. In the Second World War[16] the German army[17] built the first rocket that could reach space. It was called the V2 rocket and could reach a height of 206km.
4. Rockets are very expensive. It costs about $10,000 per kg[18] for a rocket to fly.
5. Rockets are very noisy but for the passengers they are completely silent because the rocket travels faster than the sound waves[19] it makes.
6. To leave Earth's gravity[20] a rocket has to travel at 40,000 km/h.



15 differences (really this time)

Last Week's Answers



One equals one to the 1st power!

Announcements

Tests for everyone on Tues and Wed.
Tests for 5th and 6th grade on Thurs.
Deadline[34] for elective courses[35] on Fri.
GTEC for many people on Sat. Busy.

News

Blue Origin Successfully Takes Off And Lands

Last week the rocket, Blue Origin, took off from its base[21] in Texas. There is nothing unusual[22] about that. Rockets fly from that area very often. The interesting news comes because the rocket then landed safely[23] a short while later[24]. The rocket is funded by[25] Jeff Bezos. You may not have heard his name, but you will definitely[26] know the company he started. It's called

All rockets have to carry the fuel they need to escape from the Earth's gravity[27]. That varies[28] depending on[28] the size and weight of the rocket but it is usually[29] a lot. This fuel is not needed once the rocket is in space and the empty canisters[30] are jettisoned[31]. They usually land in the sea (75% of Earth's surface is sea) and cannot be used again.

Blue Origin is different. When it comes back it can hover[32] and then land safely and gently. That means it can reuse all of its parts again. Why is that good? Because it is expensive to keep having to make rocket parts. This will make space travel cheaper, easier and hopefully more accessible[33].

1.Just わずかに **2.Depressing** 元気を失わせる **3.Nearly** もう少しで **4.Decorate**～ヲ飾る **5.Christmas carol** クリスマス讃美歌 **6.Generally** 大まかに **7.Look forward to**～に楽しむ **8.No matter how** どんなに～であおうとも **9.Probably** かもしれない **10.Rocket** ロケット **11.Chinese soldiers** 中国軍人 **12.Invade** 侵攻する **13. Mongolian army** モンゴルの陸軍 **14.Liquid fuel** 液体燃料 **15.Launch** 打ち上げ **16.Second World War** 第２次世界大戦 **17.German army** ドイツ陸軍 **18.It costs about $～ per kg to** 1 キロ当たり～ドルかかる **19.Sound wave** 音波 **20.Gravity** 重力 **21.Base** 基地 **22.Unusual** 普通でない **23.Land safely** 無事着陸 **24.A short while later** ほんのしばらく後に **25.Funded by** 資金援助をしてもらう **26.Definitely** 絶対に **27.Escape from the Earth's gravity** 地球重力からの脱出 **28.Depend on** による **29.Usually** 普通に **30.Canister** 容器 **31.Jettison** 投げ捨てる **32.Hover** 浮かぶ **33.Accessible** 使用しやすい **34.Deadline** 締切 **35.Elective course** 科目選択