

2/15/2016 (#35 this year)

Well, how has your week been? It was nice having a holiday in the middle of the week. It gives us a chance to relax. Although<sup>1</sup>, for most of the day I thought Friday was Monday. I had my first English lecture<sup>2</sup> on Wednesday. There were a few technical<sup>3</sup> glitches<sup>4</sup> but 8 people came and I was so happy! Next week, I'm going to talk about the Fibonacci Sequence<sup>5</sup> so, if you are interested, please come along. The place is going to change to meeting room one so hopefully<sup>6</sup> people can bring their lunch along as well. Learn something while you eat!

### Something You Didn't Know (Snow)

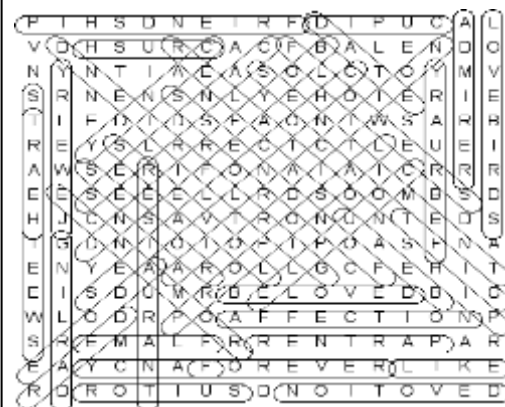
1. The most snow that fell<sup>7</sup> in 24 hours was 198cm and it landed on Mile 47 Camp, Alaska in 1963.
2. The most snow in a year was 29m at Mount Baker Ski Area, Washington in 1998.
3. It is said that no two snowflakes are the same. A snowflake is made up of 10<sup>19</sup> water molecules<sup>8</sup>, so it is very unlikely<sup>9</sup> that two will form<sup>10</sup> in the same way. However, in 1988, a scientist studying snowflakes under a microscope<sup>11</sup> found two that were identical<sup>12</sup>!
4. Igloos<sup>13</sup>, which are made of snow, can be 90% warmer inside than it is outside. Snow is used because it contains<sup>14</sup> lots of air<sup>15</sup> and is an insulator<sup>16</sup>. The shape also means that as the snow ages and compresses<sup>17</sup> it will not fall in. Many animals dig a snow cave<sup>18</sup> in the wild<sup>19</sup> to hibernate<sup>20</sup> because of its insulating properties<sup>21</sup>. If you are stuck in the wild, you should do it.



20 differences



### Last Week's Answers



### Announcements

There are entrance tests this week. You have classes 1 and 2 on Thursday, then cleaning. You have no school after lesson four on Thursday and Friday. Monday is also a holiday.

### News

### Sapporo Snow Festival

Last week the 67<sup>th</sup> snow festival finished in Sapporo. Did you go and see it? Over 2 million people came from all over the world to look at the sculptures<sup>22</sup> and some of them participated<sup>23</sup> in an international<sup>24</sup> snow sculpture competition<sup>24</sup>. The sculptures were amazing, as they always are, and the festival was a lot of fun. My daughter didn't enjoy it as much as I did, though.



The sculptures are mostly<sup>25</sup> made by the Japanese self-defense forces<sup>26</sup>. This year not enough snow had fallen so many tons of snow had to be brought into the city by truck. The weather was also fairly<sup>27</sup> warm so some of the sculptures had started to melt<sup>28</sup>. Maybe they should build a giant refrigerator<sup>29</sup> to go over the whole of Odori to keep everything cold.



Some famous people performed<sup>30</sup> on the snow stage. The festival started a tradition<sup>31</sup> a few years ago of inviting comedians who wear only speedos<sup>32</sup>. This year they invited "always cheerful Yasumura" who performed in freezing temperatures<sup>33</sup>. I was there. In a thick coat and hat! Ha ha.



- 1.Although 1.しかし 2.Lecture 2.公園 3.Technical 3.技術 4.Glitch 4.故障 5.Fibonacci Sequence 5.フィボナッチの数例 6.Hopefully 6.うまくいけば 7.Fall 7.降る 8.Molecule 8.分子 9.Unlikely 9.起こりそうもない 10.Form 10.形成する 11.Microscope 11.顕微鏡 12.Identical 12.一致している 13.Igloo 13.イグルー 14.Contain 14.を含む 15.Air 15.空気 16.Insulator 16.絶縁物 17.Compress 17.~を圧縮する 18.Snow cave 18.雪洞 19.Wild 19.野生 20.Hibernate 20.冬眠する 21.Insulating properties 21.断熱性 22.Sculpture 22.彫像 23.International 23.国際 24.Competition 24.大会 25.Mostly 25.ほとんど 26.Self-defense force 26.自衛隊 27.Fairly 27.まあまあ 28.Melt 28.溶ける 29.Refrigerator 29.冷蔵庫 30.Perform 30.発表する 31.Tradition 31.習慣 32.Speedos 32.水着 33.Freezing temperatures 33.氷点下の気温