

3/23/2016 (#40 this year)

This is the last English news of this year and, boy¹, hasn't the year flown by²? It seems like³ only yesterday that you were all here for your first day, picking up⁴ your textbooks and getting ready for class. So much has happened. I'm handing out this news on Wednesday because that is my only choice. Monday is a holiday and Tuesday is the junior high's graduation so there are no high school students here. I know you are going to have a lot of different handouts⁵ today but I also know how much you all look forward to my news and I would hate to deprive⁶ you of it!

Something You Didn't Know (Barbie⁷)

1. The first Barbie dolls were made in Japan and their clothes were stitched⁸ by Japanese housewives⁹. After a decade¹⁰ production¹¹ was moved to Hong Kong. Then they were made in the Philippines. Now they are made in China. Following cheap labor¹² around the world.
2. The first Barbie in Japan was, apparently¹³, owned by Naomi Sensei, according to¹⁴ her.
3. About three Barbies are sold every second around the world.
4. If Barbie were a real person she would be 175cm tall, have a 91cm chest, a 45cm waist, 83cm hips and she would be 49kg. She probably wouldn't be able to walk.
5. Barbie has had 150 careers¹⁵ so far and she has been an astronaut¹⁶ three times.
6. Barbie is banned¹⁷ in Saudi Arabia¹⁸.



15 differences



Last Week's Answers



Announcements

None. Because you are only here for today. Ok, then. You have an assembly, then cleaning, then long home room, then a holiday. See you on April 8th.

News

New range of Barbie Dolls released.

Chances are that most of the people reading this newspaper have owned, or at least¹⁹ played with, a Barbie doll at some time. Did you know that recently²⁰ the company Mattel have released²¹ a new range²² of dolls? The company has faced criticism²³ for years that the dolls give girls an unrealistic body image²⁴. So, they have tried to make more "natural" dolls.



They have brought out²⁵ dolls from different races²⁶, short dolls, tall dolls and larger sized²⁷ dolls. The Barbie doll was invented by Ruth Handler in 1959. She used a German doll called Bild Lilli as her inspiration²⁸. She saw the doll on a trip to Germany and when she came back to America she made one with her husband, who was an engineer²⁸.



When Barbie became popular the German company sued²⁹ Mattel, the company Ruth started, for copying the doll. The case³⁰ was settled out of court³¹ and Mattel bought the rights³² to the doll for \$21,600. Mattel is now worth³² \$6.7 billion. I am going to buy my daughter a GI Joe³³ instead of³⁴ a Barbie.



1. Boy わあ 2. Fly by 飛ぶように過ぎ去る 3. Seems like ~のように 4. Pick up 受け取る 5. Handout 配りもの 6. Deprive 奪う 7. Barbie パービー人形 8. Stitch 縫い付ける 9. Housewife 主婦(Homemakerを言う法が政治的公正) 10. Decade 10年間 11. Production 製造 12. Cheap labor 安い労働力 13. Apparently らしい 14. According to ~の言うことによると 15. Career 職業 16. Astronaut 宇宙飛行士 17. Banned 禁止されている 18. Saudi Arabia サウジアラビア 19. At least 少なくとも 20. Recently 販売する 21. Release 販売する 22. Range のラインアップ 23. Face criticism 批判に直面する 24. Unrealistic body image 現実離れしたボディイメージ 25. Bring out 販売する 26. Race 人種 27. Large size 大きいサイズ 28. Inspiration 刺激 29. Sue 訴訟を起こす 30. Case 訴訟 31. Settle out of court 事件を示談処理する 32. Worth の価値がある 33. GI Joe GI ジョー 34. Instead of の代わりに