

The English play was awesome! I hope you all got a chance to watch it. The English majors watched it on Saturday but I'm sure the rest of¹ you went to see it on Friday. It was absolutely incredible. The sets², props³, costumes⁴, make-up, lighting and music were very well done. And the acting was wonderful. Some of the scenes with Beauty and the Beast gave me goose bumps⁵. The students have worked on the play for almost half a year and I think all of their hard work has paid off⁶. I hope they can relax now. Well done.

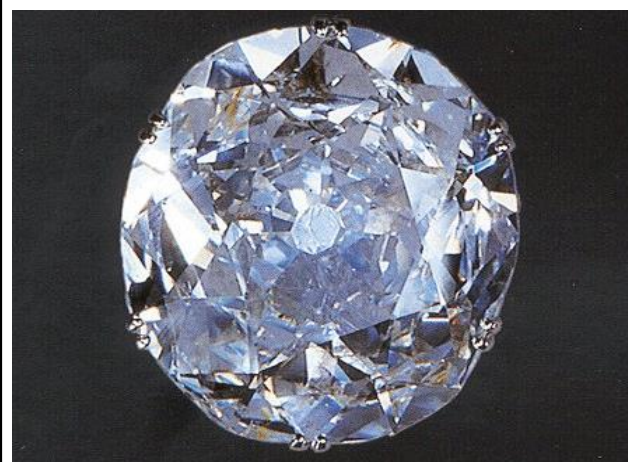
Something You Didn't Know (The Crown Jewels⁷)

1. The crown jewels have been "gifted"⁸ to the crown⁹ over the last 400 years. There were jewels before that but they were all melted down¹⁰ in 1649.
2. The crown jewels are worth¹¹ about \$5 billion¹², but if you had them you would never be able to sell them.
3. The jewels were stolen¹³ in 1671 but they were very quickly recovered¹⁴. If you want to see them now they are in the Tower of London¹⁵. They are behind bulletproof glass¹⁶, protected¹⁷ by all manner of¹⁸ security¹⁹, and you can only see them for a few seconds because you go past on a moving walkway.



India Wants Diamond Returned

The monarch²⁰ in the UK, Queen Elizabeth at the moment, wears a crown on special occasions²¹. On top of that crown is a diamond called koh-i-noor. That diamond was "given" to the British East India Company by the rulers of the Punjab²² at the time and they, in turn, gave it to Queen Victoria in 1850. Since then, every British royal²³ has worn the same crown.



The diamond was too big to fit in the crown originally²⁴ so it was drastically²⁵ cut to make this diamond. If you go to London you can see it.

The Indian government²⁶ now wants the diamond returned²⁷. They say that the diamond was stolen by the East India Company and that it is Indian property²⁸. They are probably right.

The British government is saying "no". Britain stole many things during its colonizing era²⁹, from many different countries. Many of these things are in the British Museum³⁰. The government says that if they give this back they will have to give many other things back and the museum will be empty. They say that the items will be better preserved³¹ in Britain. That seems like an odd argument³² to me. What do you think?



15 differences



Last Week's Answers

Announcements

Easter assembly is on Monday. The JHS have tests on Wednesday. On Thursday the HS have a talk about the festival. Then we have talks in the afternoon and a parent teacher meeting. Friday is a holiday.

1. The rest of ~の残り
2. Set 大道具
3. Prop 小道具
4. Costume 衣装
5. Goose bumps 鳥肌
6. Payoff 実を結ぶ
7. Crown jewels 連合王国の戴冠宝器
8. Gifted もらった
9. Crown 帝王
10. Melt down 溶かす
11. Worth ~の価値
12. Billion 10億
13. Stolen 盗まれた
14. Recover 回収する
15. Tower of London ロンドン塔
16. Bulletproof glass 防弾ガラス
17. Protect 守る
18. All manner of あらゆる種類の~
19. Security 防護物
20. Monarch 帝王
21. Special occasion 特別の日
22. Punjab パンジャブ
23. Royal 王家の人
24. Originally 最初に
25. Drastically 大々的に
26. Government 政府
27. Return 返す
28. Property 財産
29. Colonizing era 植民地を作る時期
30. British Museum 大英博物館
31. Preserve 保存
32. Odd argument 変な理論