

It's flower assembly today. I hope you all remembered to bring flowers. I am writing this last week and I can be pretty sure¹ that I forgot. I hope not but I seem to forget a lot of things these days. My wife thinks that I have Alzheimer's disease². I hope not. And, I'm pretty sure I say this every year but I really like the way the auditorium³ looks with all of the flowers laid out⁴. I hope Mr. Yamaguchi is ok because he suffers from⁵ extremely⁶ bad hay fever⁷ and all of those flowers may be the death of him⁸. Anyway, have a great week.

Something You Didn't Know (Boxing gloves⁹)

People think boxing gloves make boxing safer but that is not true. Boxing gloves have been used for practicing for thousands of years but they were only introduced into¹⁰ competition fights¹¹ in 1867. Before boxing gloves, all fights were bare-knuckle¹² fights and people punched each other in the body, not the head. Your skull¹³ is extremely hard and if you punch someone in the head without a glove, you will most likely break¹⁴ your hand. If you don't believe me stand up right now and punch the nearest wall. Did it hurt? That's the same as punching someone's skull. Bare-knuckle fights went on for a long time but people didn't die because there were no head punches. Boxing gloves were introduced to make boxing more interesting for the spectators¹⁵. Fight organizers¹⁶ wanted faster fights and more knockouts¹⁷ so they introduced gloves to protect the boxers' hands, not their heads. Being punched in the head by a champion boxer is like being hit with a 5.5kg hammer at 30km/h. That is why 10 people a year die from boxing, and many more have severe¹⁸ brain damage¹⁹ now.

Riddle time

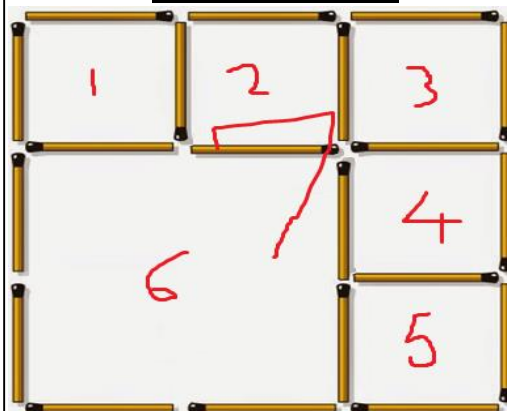
What comes next in this sequence of numbers?



1
11
21
1211
111221
312211
13112221
1113213211
31131211131221
?



Last Week's Answers



Announcements

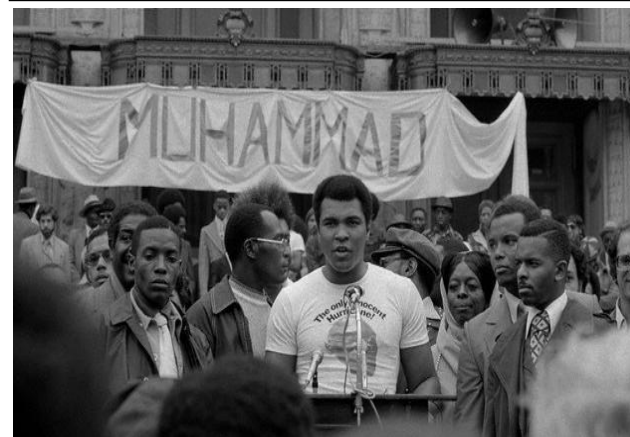
Flower assembly is on Monday. The student teachers start on Monday as well. The GTEC tests are on Saturday for the English department and all other students that want to do them.

Muhammed Ali Dies

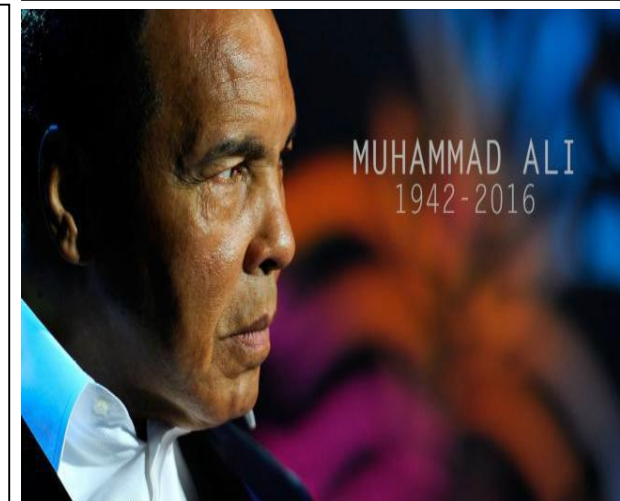
Last week, world famous boxer Muhammed Ali died. He was 74 years old. Ali's real name was Cassius Clay and he started to box when he was 12 years old. He had his first professional²⁰ fight in 1960 and he went on to become the world heavyweight champion²¹ in 1964, 1974 and 1978. No other boxer has ever equaled²² that. He retired²³ from boxing in 1981.



In 1966, Ali refused to²⁴ be conscripted²⁵ into the army to fight in Vietnam. He was arrested²⁶ and charged²⁷. His boxing license was revoked²⁸ and he couldn't fight for four years. This is the prime²⁹ of a boxer's career, so who knows how Ali would have done if he had been allowed to fight. He became very popular as a pacifist³⁰ speaker in colleges.



After retiring Ali slowly developed³¹ Parkinson's Disease³². Many people say this was caused by his boxing career but there is no absolute proof³³ of that. However, we can be reasonably certain³⁴ that being punched in the head a lot probably didn't help. Ali spent the rest of his life as a peace ambassador³⁵ but his disease worsened to the point where he could barely³⁶ stand. He is survived by³⁷ one wife, three ex-wives and seven children.



- 1.Pretty sure にまず間違いないと思う 2.Alzheimer's disease アルツハイマー病 3.Auditorium 講堂 4.Lay out 並べる 5.Suffer from ~に苦しむ 6.Extremely とても 7.Hay fever 花粉症 8.Be the death of 死因になる 9.Boxing glove ボクシンググローブ 10.Introduce into ~を導入 11.Competition fight 大会 12.Bare-knuckle (グローブなし) 素手 13.Skull 頭蓋骨 14.Break 骨折する 15.Spectator 観客 16.Organizer 主催者 17.Knockout ノックアウト 18.Severe 非常に 19.Brain damage 脳傷害 20.Professional プロ選手 21.World heavyweight champion ヘビー級の世界チャンピオン 22.Equal 等しくなる 23.Retire 引退 24.Refuse to ~することを拒む 25.Conscript 徴兵制度 26.Arrested 捕まる 27.Charged 裁判にされる 28.Revoke 無効にする 29.Prime 最盛期 30.Pacifist 平和主義者 31.Develop なる 32.Parkinson's Disease パーキンソン病 33.Absolute proof 確実な証拠 34.Reasonably certain かなり確かに 35.Peace ambassador 平和大使 36.Barely ほとんど~ない 37.Survived by ~を残して先に逝く