

Well, how are you? My legs are a little bit sore¹ because I ran a half marathon yesterday. I wasn't very fast but I finished it. A half marathon isn't very difficult because I can run a long way if my pace is very very very slow. I'm not very fast. Did you see the teachers run at the sports day last week? Mr. Yamaguchi and Mr. Yamakawa are both very fast. Although, I think Mr. Yamaguchi would win in a race because he is fifteen years younger than Mr. Yamakawa. What do you think? I would like to see them race from the math department² to 4G! I will buy the winner an ice cream.

Something You Didn't Know (Baseball)

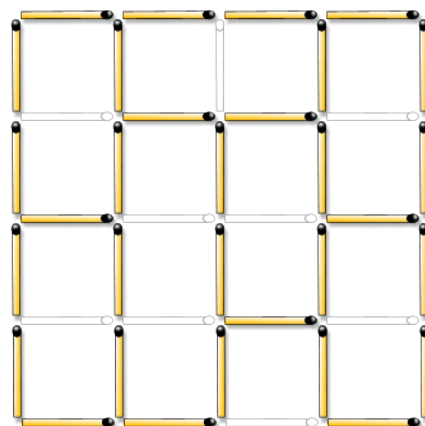
1. Baseball evolved³ from a sport invented⁴ in France in about 1300.
2. Alex Rodriguez is the highest paid⁵ baseball player at \$275,000,000 for ten years.
3. Barry Bonds has hit the most homeruns⁶ with 762 so far⁷.
4. At 27 years Nolan Ryan had the longest baseball career⁸.
5. The longest⁹ ever homerun was 196m by Mickey Mantle in 1960.
6. The shortest baseball career was Harry Hartman in 1918. He was signed¹⁰ by the Brooklyn Dodgers as a pitcher. The game was so bad that he quit¹³ after one game and joined¹¹ the navy¹².
7. The average lifespan¹³ of a baseball is 6 pitches.
8. The shortest game was 51 mins and the longest game was 8 hrs 6 mins and lasted 25 innings¹⁴.
9. Catchers often develop¹⁵ circulatory¹⁶ problems in their hands from the fast pitches.



10 differences



Last Week's Answers



Announcements

This is a normal week. Many forms¹⁷ are due¹⁸ on Friday. Don't forget. My class always wait until the last minute¹⁹. Try to hand them in²⁰ a little earlier.

Nippon Ham Fighters Win Third Pacific League Pennant

Last week, the Nippon Ham Fighters clinched²¹ the Pacific League Pennant. They managed to²² take first place for the seventh time since moving to Sapporo. Now the Fighters have to take on the Softbank Hawks in the Climax Series. If they can win that then they will have to play the winners of the Central League. They last won that in 2006 so good luck to them.



The Fighters began in 1947 as the Tokyu Flyers, based²³ in Tokyo. They shared²⁴ the same dome as the Yomiuri Giants. In 1973 they were bought by the meatpacking²⁵ company, Nippon Ham and their name was changed. In 2002, the idea was raised²⁶ to move the team to Sapporo. The Sapporo Dome was built and in 2004 the team became our local²⁷ baseball team.



The Fighters didn't do so well last year. Their coach said it was because the team's pitching wasn't up to scratch²⁸. He has completely changed the way the team plays.

Two outstanding players²⁹ this season must be Otani Shohei and Sho Nakata. Otani doubles as³⁰ a pitcher and a hitter. He has thrown the fastest ever pitch in Japan, at 163kmh. Nakata is a hitter. Can they win the championship? I hope so.



- 1.Sore 痛むところ 2.Math department 数学科教室 3.Evolve 発達する 4.Invent 発明する
5.Highest paid 最高年収 6.Homerun ホームラン 7.So far 今まで 8.Career 職歴 9.Longest 最も長い
10.Sign 採用される 11.Join 入隊する 12.Navy 海軍 13.Lifespan 使用可能期間
14.Inning 回 15.Develop になる 16.Circulatory 循環 17.Form 書類 18.Due 締め切 19.Last minute ぎりぎり
20.Hand in 提出する 21.Clinch ~を優勝する 22.Manage to ~ができるようになる
23.Based in ~を本拠(地)としている 24.Share 共同使用する 25.Meatpacking 食肉加工業
26.Raise an idea アイデアを熱意 27.Local 地元 28.Up to scratch 準備ができて
29.Outstanding player 優れた選手 30.Double as A と B の役割を果たす