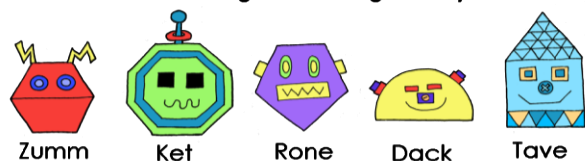


Did you enjoy your tests? I hope so. And, what an interesting week we had. We had a typhoon that came on Tuesday night, closing school on Wednesday. Then we had the earthquake and power cut¹ on Thursday morning, closing school for Thursday and Friday. Then tests were pushed back² a day to Tuesday. Wow. I am writing this last week on Wednesday. Hopefully nothing else has happened, because I'll look pretty silly if there's been another earthquake, or an even stronger typhoon or aliens have landed. I hope you're all ok.

Something You Don't Know (Earthquakes)

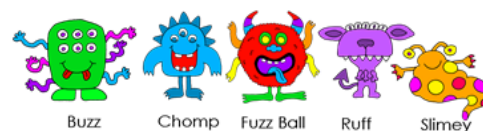
1. The biggest earthquake was in Chile on May 22nd 1960. It was a magnitude³ of 9.5.
2. The deadliest⁴ earthquake was in central China in 1556. 830,000 people died.
3. The most earthquake prone region in the world is Alaska, America. There is a magnitude 7 earthquake there every year.
4. There are 500,000 detectable (by computer) earthquakes in the world every year. Humans can only feel 100,000 of them.
5. Earthquakes are caused when the earth's tectonic plates⁵ move. They move at a speed of about 1cm per year. That means, in 100 million years Japan will be part of China. Maybe we should start studying Chinese instead of English.

Each robot did one thing and had a great day.



	Zumm	Ket	Rone	Dack	Tave

Last Week's Answers



5					
6					
8					
9					
10					

Announcements

I left my diary at school, so I can't remember what is going to happen. I'm pretty sure you have some classes. I think there is a sports day as well. At Kitaeru. That should be fun.

Earthquake strikes Hokkaido

Almost two weeks ago now, at 3:07 on September 6th, an earthquake that registered 6.6 on the Richter Scale⁶ struck Hokkaido. This earthquake was particularly surprising because Hokkaido is one of the last places in Japan that people expect earthquakes. A couple of minutes after the earthquake, while people were checking there was no damage in their houses, all of the power failed, and the lights went out.



The power is back on now, but the largest powerplant⁷ in Hokkaido, the Tomato-Atsuma power station is not on. Fixing damage, cleaning and restarting it was supposed to take a week, but it will take much longer. The Hokkaido Electric Power Co say they might have to start rolling blackouts⁸ across Hokkaido because their supply cannot meet demand. They are asking people to reduce their power by 20%.

The blackouts and lack of water were bad, but nothing compared to the disaster in Atsuma where the earthquake caused landslides⁹ that crushed houses. So far 44 bodies have been recovered. Last week, Prime Minister Abe paid a visit to the area and promised the governments support. The lack of power is posing a problem and is hampering rescue efforts. Hopefully the area will recover. Our prayers go out to all the people affected.

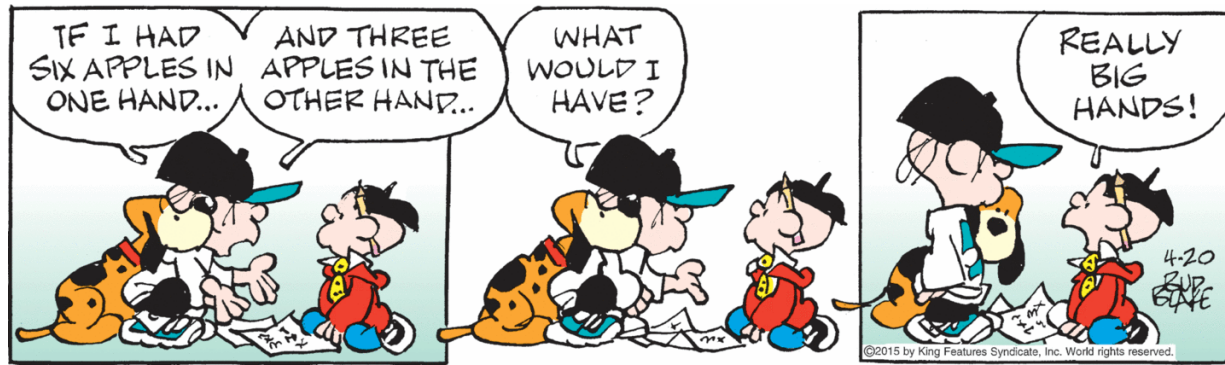


Clues

1. The robot with the oval eyes was too tired to read or go visit a friend.
2. The robot who went exploring in space has a hexagon-shaped face.
3. The robot who baked metal chip cookies has quadrilateral-shaped eyes.
4. The robot who read about how to build a vacuum does not have any triangles on her face.
5. The robot with an octagon face didn't need to recharge, so he had fun baking cookies.

1.Power cut 停電 **2.Push back** 延期 **3.Magnitude** 放出されたエネルギーの規模を表したものの **4.Deadliest** 最も危険 **5.Tectonic plate** 構造プレート **6.Richter Scale** 地震で放出されたエネルギーを、10を底とする対数値で表すもの。通例1~9の範囲に入り、数値が1上がるとエネルギー量は32倍になる。 **7.Power plant** 動力装置 **8.Rolling blackout** 計画停電 **9.Landslide** 土砂崩れ

★ English News Page 2 ★



World Records

I'm enjoying researching these world records. I get to read about some very odd people. This week is Harry Sperl from Germany. He has the world record for the largest collection of hamburger items in the world. He has ... drumroll ... 3,724 hamburger things. He has a hamburger bed and he has a fully working hamburger motorcycle. Now, I like hamburgers, probably more than most people, but I prefer to have them inside my tummy than decorating my room. What about you?



Chocolate is great, it gives you energy which can be used to go and buy more chocolate.



★ Places you should visit ★

If you have the time and the money, you should definitely visit Mount Roraima, located on the borders of Brazil, Venezuela and Guyana. The mountain is 32km² and is 2,800m high. It is surrounded by 400m cliffs on every side. Because the mountain has been cut off for so long, there are many species¹ of flora and fauna² that are unique to the area. It can be difficult to get a permit³ to climb to the top of the mountain. The main route (one that doesn't require highly technical climbing⁴) goes up on the Brazilian side. You need to hire a guide and it will take you six days to get up and back down. This will allow you about 2 days on top of the mountain. You have to bring everything back with you to keep the mountain uncontaminated⁵.



★ An Unhealthy Food ★

The Quadruple Bypass⁶ Burger

There is a hamburger in Las Vegas that is so unhealthy it is served by a nurse with a doctor on standby. Ok, it's not a real nurse. It's a waitress in a nurse's uniform. The burger has four patties, cheese, bacon and when served with fries and a milkshake comes in at 12,500 calories. The restaurant is called the Heart Attack⁷ Grill and anyone over 160kg eats for free. The burger has onions, but even they are fried in fat. Sounds delicious.



- 1.Species 類 2.Flora and fauna 動植物 3.Permit 許可 4.Technical climbing 最新技術を使った岩登り 5.Uncontaminated 汚染されていない 6.Quadruple bypass 心臓のバイパス手術 7.Heart attack 心臓麻痺