

So, this week is Halloween. Are you going to wear a costume? My class want to have a Halloween party on Wednesday. I hope they bring lots of yummy food. What about trick or treating? Are you going to go? It is not a common custom in Japan, but my daughter wants to do it, so I will take her up and down my apartment block trying to get candy from each house. She enjoyed it last year and everyone was so happy to see her they gave her piles of¹ candy. We had to stop once after half of the houses to empty her bucket before we could carry on.

Something You Don't Know (Bridges)

1. When soldiers cross a bridge they have to “route step²”, which means march out of step, because the frequency³ of the beats of their feet could match the natural frequency of the bridge and cause it to break apart. This has happened before.
2. The world’s longest bridge is also in China. It is 164.8km long. It goes over land as well as over water, but it is the world’s longest bridge.
3. The Duge Bridge in China is the highest bridge in the world, at 565m. This bridge is high because it crosses a valley⁴. The tallest bridge in the world is in France and is 343m from the bottom to the top.
4. The first bridge made of iron⁵ was in 1781 in England.



Last Week's Answers

This was last week's magic eye picture



Announcements

JHS 3rd grade are off on Mon and Tues.

It's Halloween on Wed.

That's it. Have a great week.

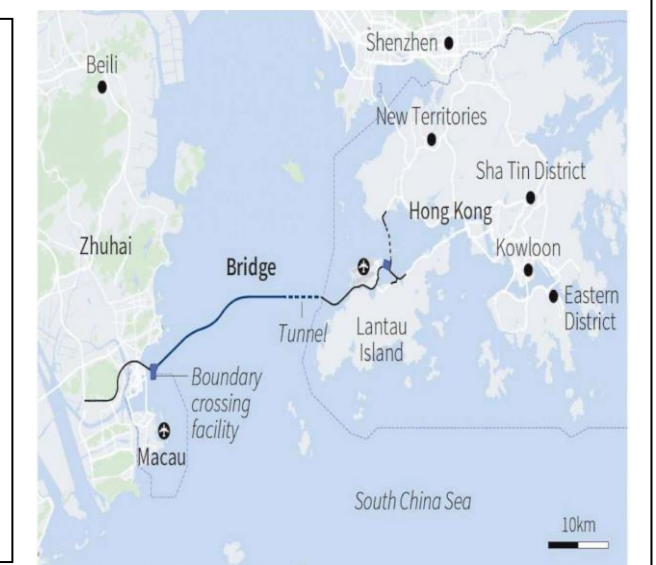
China Opens Longest Sea Bridge

Last week, the longest sea bridge in the world opened. It is 55km long and it connects mainland⁶ China to Hong Kong and Macau. The bridge was opened by Chinese President Xi Jinping. It used to take four hours to make the journey but now it takes 45 minutes. It was supposed to open in 2016 but it was delayed and it also went over budget⁷ by about \$10 billion. That's a lot of money, but they should make it back with tolls⁷.



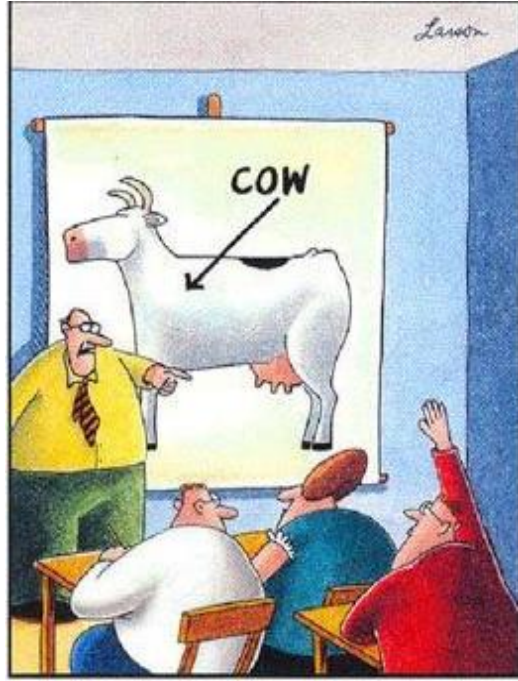
This is part of China's plan to integrate⁸ Macau and Hong Kong into the mainland. Both islands have a lot of autonomy⁹, but China is cutting that year by year. It won't be long before Macau and Hong Kong are no different to China. I wonder how long before China tries to build a bridge to Taiwan. During the construction of the bridge, 10 workers died and about 600 were injured.

There is no public transport across the bridge, but a private bus company has shuttle busses that cost \$28 return. China has also built a high-speed rail link between Hong Kong and the mainland. They say that they are doing it for the benefit of¹⁰ people in Hong Kong, but anyone can see that they are just trying to exert more influence¹¹ over the small island. The bridge has been likened to an umbilical cord, connecting the child to the mother. Make of that what you will.



1.Pile of 山のような **2.Route step** バラバラ行進する **3.Frequency** 周波数 **4.Valley** 谷 **5.Iron** 鉄 **6.Mainland** 中国本土 **7.Budget** 予算 **8.Integrate** 相和する **9.Autonomy** 自治 **10.For the benefit of** ~の (利益の) ために **11.Exert influence** 影響を与える

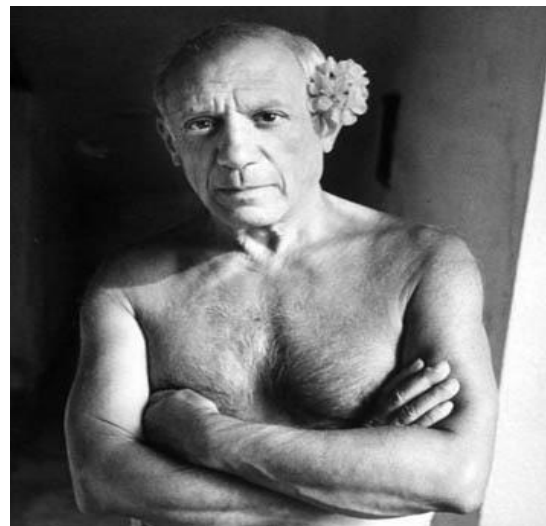
★ English News Page 2 ★



"Yes ... I believe there's a question in the back."

World Records

I think my eyelashes are quite long. My daughter's are pretty long too. They fall out quite regularly. I think you lose about 14 eyelashes a day. So, this week's record confuses me. How do you grow your eyelashes¹? Don't they just fall out? You Jianxia of China has the world's longest eyelashes. They are 12.4cm long. How does that happen? And, that must be so annoying. Spending the whole day with an eyelash tickling² your face. And, what if it got into your eye? I don't think I'm going to try for this record. You can, if you want.



"Every child is an artist, the problem is staying an artist when you grow up"

- Pablo Picasso

★ Places you should visit ★

If you have the time and the money, you should definitely visit Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro. It is a 38m high statue of Jesus Christ sitting atop a mountain on the edge of the city. He has his arms stretched out and he overlooks³ the whole city. From the top of the mountain the views are astounding⁴. It is a very popular statue, so it can be a little crowded sometimes. The mountain is 710m high and you can get to the top by taking a train. The trains run every twenty minutes, but it can take up to two hours to even board⁵ a train. If you are feeling fit and aren't in a hurry, it is better to walk up the path. While you are in Rio, there are many other things that you can enjoy. If you are there for the carnival, it will be something you will never forget.



★ An Interesting Sport ★

Egg Tossing

Do you like eggs? Do you like throwing things? If your answers to both of those questions were yes, then this is the sport for you. It was invented in Germany. Two people form a pair. One throws a raw egg to the other. If it doesn't break they take one pace⁶ backward and throw it again. They keep going until the egg breaks. We should definitely do this. Incidentally⁷, the world record for throwing and safely catching a raw egg is 98.51m!!!!



- 1.Eyelash まつ毛 2.Tickler ムズムズする 3.Overlook 見渡せる 4.Astounding 驚くべき
5.Board 乗る 6.Pace 一歩 7.Incidentally ところで