

Next week is going to be fun. The JHS have their school festival on Thursday and Friday. Not many of the high school students get the chance to see it, but each class puts on a play in the auditorium. I am always amazed at the quality they are able to produce. I wonder what would happen if we combined the JHS and SHS festivals. Do you think it would be a good idea, or do you think the JHS festival would get swallowed up by¹ the HS one? It always seems a shame² that the JHS can see the HS, but never the other way around. What do you think?

Something You Didn't Know (Money)

1. Ancient people used barter³ systems of trade.
2. This system was replaced by a commodity⁴ money system thousands of years ago. A commodity money system is where the item used as money has value itself. Gold is a good example. You can buy things with gold, but gold also has value.
3. This system was replaced by representative⁵ money. This is where the money represents something of value but has no value by itself. A 10,000 yen note for example. It represents 10,000 yen's worth of gold, but the paper itself isn't worth 10,000 yen. This system started because it was easier to carry the receipt for a commodity than the commodity itself.
4. The word "money" comes from Latin. It was used because the temple of Juno Moneta was associated with "money".



Try to be a rainbow
in someone's
cloud.

Last Week's Answer:



First Reiwa Coins

The Japanese mint⁶ has started to print the first coins of the Reiwa era. A ceremony was held at the central office of the mint to mark the change from the old era to the new. Finance Minister Taro Aso pressed the button to start the machine. The first coins to be minted are 100 and 500 yen coins and they will begin to circulate across the country by the beginning of next month. Within a few weeks they will also begin to mint 10 and 50 yen coins. The machine they are minted on can make 750 coins a minute.



They are also releasing some special commemorative⁷ coins that will be made of gold and worth ¥10,000. The mint is selling their coins on their homepage. They are marked as ¥10,000, but they are made of solid gold and are retailing for ¥140,000. If you are thinking of buying some, you don't have to wait until my birthday. I'll accept presents at any time. Ha ha. These coins will probably be popular and will sell out quickly.



They will produce 5 million 500 yen coins for now. They will start producing 1 yen coins soon too. The 1 yen coin actually costs 1.4 yen to make. Some countries have done away with⁸ low denomination coins because of their cost to make, but Japan has a sales tax of 8% so it would be very difficult not to have a 1 yen coin. Maybe, when the tax goes up to 10%, they will be able to get rid of it.

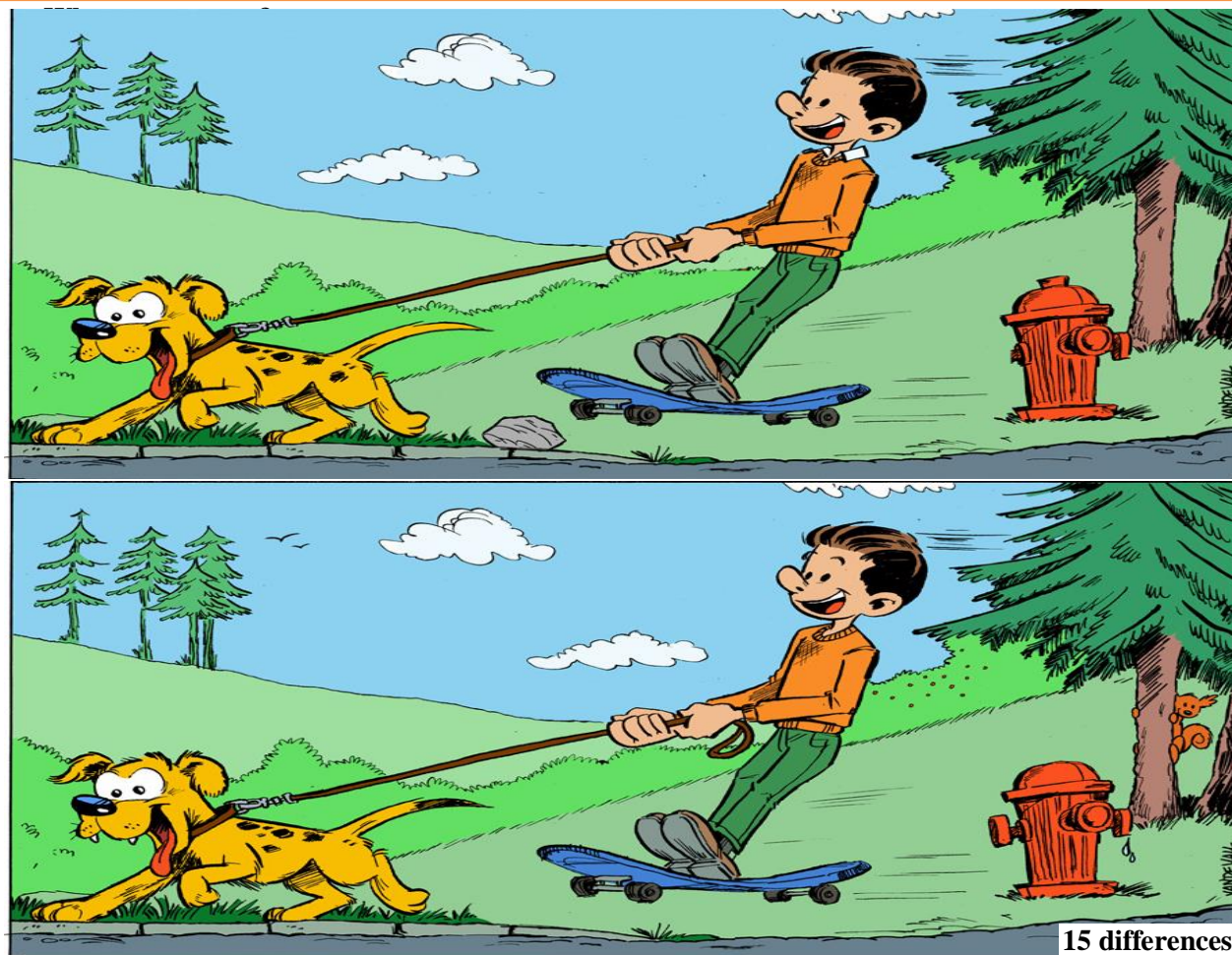


1. Swallowed up by 飲み込まれる 2. A shame 残念 3. Barter 物交換 4. Commodity 利用な物
5. Representative 代理の者 6. Mint 貨幣製造所・貨幣を製造する 7. Commemorative 記念の
8. Do away with なくする

★ English News Page 2 ★

World Records

Do you like pizza? Did you have a couple of slices at the school festival? I had two. I love pizza. I could eat a whole one. But, I couldn't eat this one. The owners of two pizza restaurants in America decided to make the longest pizza in the world. They had to design a special oven with a conveyor belt and they needed 9,000kg of dough¹, and 2,500kg of cheese, but they managed to make a pizza that was 2,092m long! The cooked pizza was cut up into over 30,000 slices and distributed² to homeless people.



15 differences

★ Something Big ★

My father and his wife have gone on a two-week cruise to celebrate her retirement³. The boat they are sailing on can hold about 3,000 passengers. It pales in comparison to⁴ The Symphony of the Seas, which is currently the world's largest cruise ship. It is 361m long and can carry 6,680 passengers and 2,200 crew members! That means, if you were able to drive her out of the sea and through Sapporo, until you came to rest⁵ next to our school, she would dwarf⁶ Hokusei! The ship has 16 decks for guest use, 22 restaurants, 24 pools and 2,759 cabins. It is like a sailing town and it can have a huge impact on local economies if it sails into port. The ship cost \$1.5 billion to build. It is the biggest cruise ship at the moment, but there are plans to build even bigger ones in the near future.



Rabbits Like Carrots

Thanks to over 80 years of Bugs Bunny cartoons, we think that rabbits love carrots and that we should give them lots of carrots. Well, they do like carrots, but they shouldn't eat too many of them. Wild rabbits⁷ don't eat fruit or vegetables. They mostly only eat grass, hay⁸, and some green leaves. Carrots are very high in sugar and should only be fed to rabbits in very small amounts. If you have a pet rabbit, it's ok to give them a bit of carrot as an occasional treat, but you should mostly feed them on hay. You can eat lots of carrots, and they are good for you. We have to be careful that we don't believe everything we see in cartoons. Falling from great heights can be harmful too! Remember that next time you see a cartoon character fall a long way and just get up.



1.Dough 生地 2.Distribute 配布する 3.Retirement 退職 4.Pale in comparison to～の前ではかすんで見える 5.Come to rest 停止する 6.Dwarf～小さくする 7.Wild rabbit 野生ウサギ 8.Hay わら