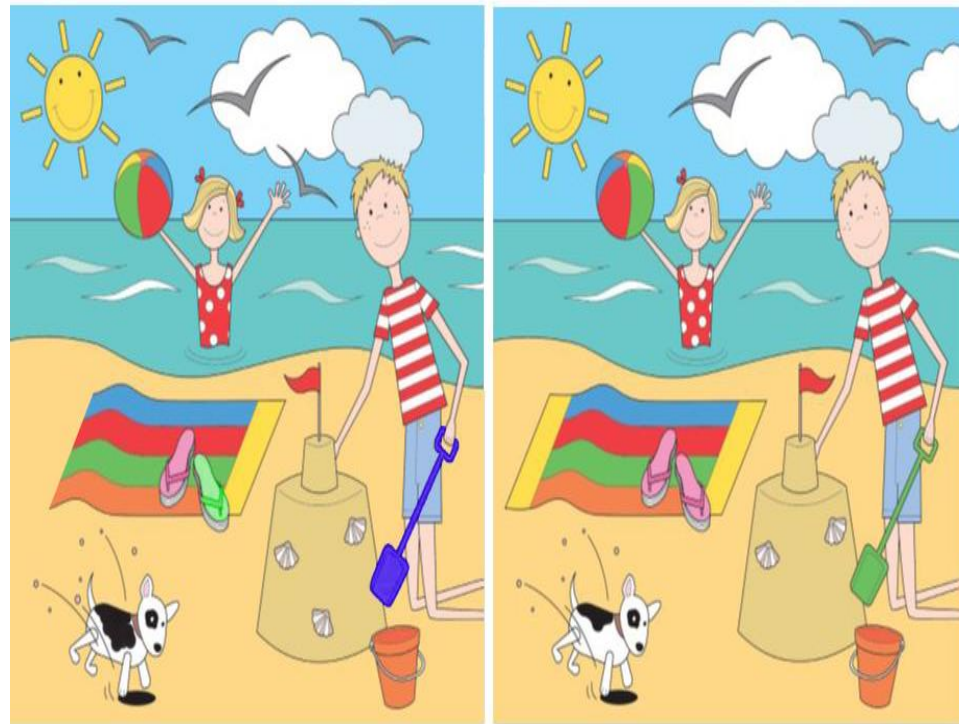


Have you been following the American elections<sup>1</sup>? I am writing this on Friday and Biden is close to a win, but he still hasn't won yet. I can't believe some of the things Trump is saying about the electoral process. He has no evidence<sup>2</sup>, but he says that there is wide scale fraud<sup>3</sup>. He says that votes for him have gone missing and votes for Biden have "magically" appeared. He has no proof<sup>4</sup>. But a lot of people believe him. I have never seen an America as divided as it is right now. I hope everyone can come together because America can do a great deal of good for the world.

### Something Interesting (Parrots)

1. Most parrots are omnivores, which means they eat almost anything.
2. The smallest parrot is the pygmy parrot and it weighs 28g. The largest parrot is the kakapo parrot, which weighs 4kg, about the same as a cat. The longest parrot is the hyacinth macaw, which is 1m from its head to the tip of its tail.
3. Most parrots live from between 35 to 50 years. A lot of people don't think about this when they buy a parrot as a pet. The oldest parrot in the world is 82 years old at the moment.
4. Parrots can learn basic words, but one parrot, Puck, got into the Guinness Book of Records because he knew 1,728 words.
5. Researchers don't know a lot about parrot habitats<sup>5</sup> because the birds live in thick canopy<sup>6</sup> and are hard to see. Also, it is hard to GPS tag<sup>7</sup> them because their strong beaks can cut the trackers off.



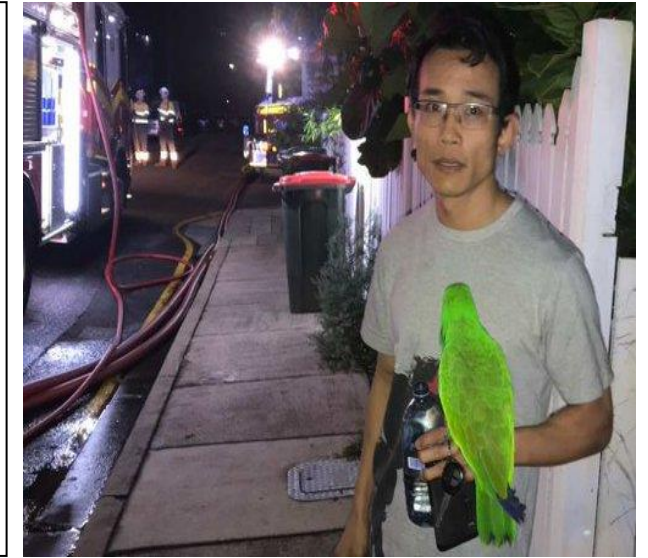
Can you find the differences? There are 17 this week. Some are hard.

### Last week's answer



### Pet Parrot Saves Owner from Fire

A man in Brisbane, Australia was saved by his parrot last week. Anton Nguyen was fast asleep when a fire started somewhere in his house. He had a fire alarm, but for some reason it didn't turn on. Luckily, he had a pet parrot. Eric, his parrot, started shouting "Anton! Anton!" as loudly as it could. Anton woke up when he heard his name and realized that the house was burning. He grabbed his parrot and ran out of the house as fast as he could.



Once he was outside, he called the emergency services and Queensland Fire Service were there in minutes. They managed to put out the fire in Anton's house and stop it jumping to the houses next door, but not before Anton's house was completely burned. The fire service are investigating<sup>8</sup> why the fire started, but it was probably because of a wire that was broken. It was not arson<sup>9</sup>. Anton has insurance<sup>10</sup>, so he will be able to buy a new house.

Anton says he is not worried about everything he lost in the fire because he still has Eric. He said that Eric is the only thing that is really important to him. Eric is a very smart bird and is now a hero. When he builds a new house, he will have to make a large room just for Eric, as a reward<sup>11</sup>. He will also have to make sure that all of his smoke detectors work because Eric might not be able to wake him up next time.



1.Election 戦況 2.Evidence 証拠 3.Fraud 詐欺 4.Proof 証拠 5.Habitat 生息地 6.Canopy 樹冠  
7.GPS tagGPS タグ 8.Investigate 調査する 9.Arson 放火 10.Insurance 火災保険 11.Reward 報奨金





### World Records

There is a sport called freediving. Basically, you hold your breath and swim as deep as you can go. Then you come back up again. The current world record is 253m, by Herbert Nitsch! That's incredibly deep! Not only that, it took him over 5 minutes to do it! He was obviously swimming all the time. He can hold his breath for over 9 minutes if he isn't moving! The pressure<sup>1</sup> at that depth is incredible and it would feel like he has a huge weight pressing down on him. I thought that his lungs would expand<sup>2</sup> when he comes back to the surface, but that only happens when you are breathing compressed air<sup>3</sup> from a tank. If you have the same lungful<sup>4</sup> of air you took at the surface, you will be fine.

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.**

## The ~est in the world

We use many types of precious metals<sup>5</sup> in our daily lives. Many of these are mined<sup>6</sup> from deep underground. The deepest mine in the world is the Mponeng gold mine in Gauteng, South Africa. At its deepest point, it is 3.84km deep. There are plans to dig another tunnel and push it down to 4.22km! It takes miners over an hour to get from the surface to the bottom of the mine. They have to travel along different tunnels using a train and use several different elevators. At the bottom, the temperature can reach 66°C, so they pump slurry ice<sup>7</sup> to cool the tunnels down. It is estimated that there is about 345 tons of gold separated into two different seams<sup>8</sup>. It will take them until about 2030 to get it all.



## Something You Probably Didn't Know

Humans have mined for precious metals for thousands of years. In the very early days of mining, people would dig up the metal on the surface, or a little below it. They would also find it in caves<sup>9</sup>. They could dig tunnels, but they had no way of supporting them. By the time of the Egyptian and Roman Empires, slaves<sup>10</sup> were used to dig long mines underground. These mines sometimes collapsed, but the slaves were expendable. In 1465, mines were as deep as they could go because there was no technology to pump<sup>11</sup> out the water. It took about 100 years before animal powered pumps were invented. After the industrial revolution<sup>12</sup>, steam driven engines<sup>13</sup> allowed for mining on a much larger scale. There are two types of mining: underground mining and surface mining. Both types of mining are very bad for the environment. In the near future, it will be harder and harder to find sources of these metals. What will we do then?



- 1.Pressure 圧力 2.Expand 膨らむ 3.Compressed air 圧縮空気 4.Lungful 肺気 5.Precious metal 貴金属 6.Mine 採掘する 7.Slurry ice 液体氷 8.Seam 層 9.Cave 洞窟 10.Slave 奴隷 11.Pump 汲む 12.Industrial revolution 産業革命 13.Steam driven engine 蒸気エンジン