

So, the new school year has started. Are you ready for new adventures? This is going to be a very good year. And, welcome to all of the new students who have joined us. If you are having trouble¹, or if you get lost, just ask the closest student. Hokusei students are some of the kindest students you will ever meet. I can't wait for the corona virus to be over so that we can stop wearing masks and I can see all of your faces. It is very difficult to remember your names when I cannot see what you look like.

12 differences



Something you didn't know about space junk²

1. There are 4,700 satellites³ in space, but only 1,800 of them are working.
2. Some of the debris⁴ is the size of a car, but many of the pieces are as small as a screw.
3. Most of the pieces are travelling at about 8km/second. They can punch a hole through any spaceship or satellite.
4. Satellite companies have to track⁵ all of this space debris and move their satellites.
5. Over time, some of these pieces will burn up in Earth's atmosphere.
6. A piece of space debris as small as 3mm across can be detected⁶ by radar from Earth. That is how NASA tracks them.

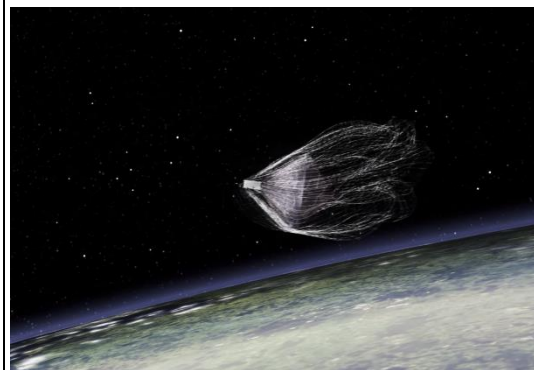
A satellite prison

We are slowly locking ourselves in a satellite prison⁷. We have been launching satellites into space since 1957 and now there are over 4,700 orbiting⁸ the Earth. There is also about 6,000 tons of space debris flying around as well. Scientists predict that this will increase rapidly over the next few years as more and more satellites for Internet streaming are



launched. These satellites will be smaller, but there will be more of them. This is starting to cause a problem for spaceships that have to fly through all of these manmade objects. NASA has

to use an AI system to track every piece of debris in space because they can damage spaceships. Some companies are



developing⁹ a spaceship that can catch all of this debris. It hasn't been tested yet, but it would use magnets¹⁰ on long ropes. The magnets would catch pieces of metal and then they would be pulled into the spaceship. For non-

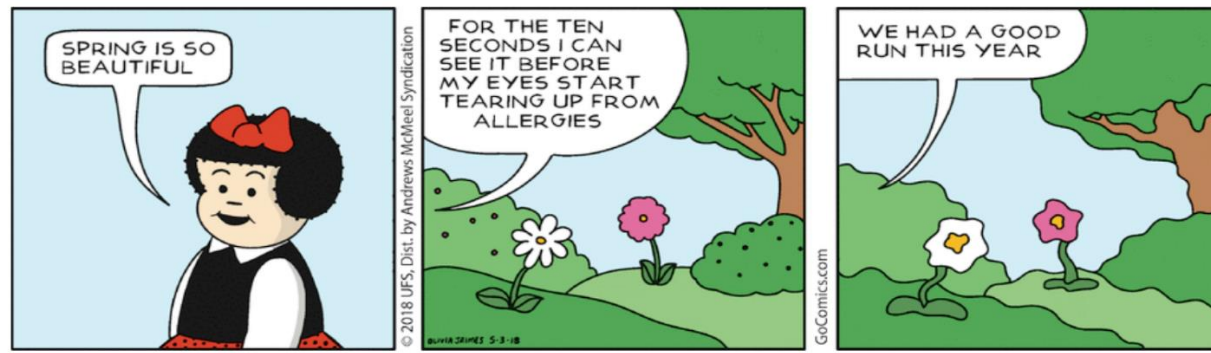
metallic pieces, they would use a claw, like one of the claws in a UFO catcher game. That would be fun. I wonder if I can get that job.

- 1.trouble 困る 2.space junk 宇宙のごみ 3.satellite サテライト 4. debris 破片 5.track 確認する 6.detect 見つける 7.prison 刑務所 8. orbit 軌道を回る 9.develop 開発する 10.magnet 磁石

English News は毎週月曜日、英語科生に配布します。
英語科以外な生徒が欲しかったら、下の切り取り部分に記入して、僕 (Steven) の机にあげてください。

I would like the weekly English News, please.

Name _____ Grade _____ Class _____ No. _____



World record

I have been writing about world records for almost two years now, and I'm often surprised by some of the things that are "world records". For example, this week, the world record for the fastest time to peel¹ and eat an orange while blindfolded². How does someone think up something like that? I think that is a record that I could possibly beat. The record is 17.9 seconds and it was achieved by a team of two people. Dinesh Upadhyaya and Manish Upadhyaya from India. Manish peeled the orange and Dinesh ate it. I wonder how big the orange is. I wouldn't mind trying this one.



It always seems impossible until it is done.

A mystery

Have you ever heard of the Mary Celeste? It was an American merchant ship that was found, drifting, in the Atlantic Ocean on December 4th, 1872. It was found by another ship, the Dei Gratia, and when sailors from that ship climbed aboard, the Mary Celeste was completely empty. All of the crew had vanished³. The sailors found the ship's log⁴ and the



last entry was from 8 am, November 25th, nine days earlier. The ship still had lots of food and there was no damage⁵. The ship's single lifeboat was missing and all of the captain's papers were missing. Everything else was still there and neatly packed away. It looked as though the captain and crew had left the

ship, but nobody knew why and nobody knew where they went. The captain and the crew might have abandoned ship⁶, But the ship was not broken and there was no danger. Why would they have abandoned a perfectly good ship? This is a mystery that we will probably never be able to answer



because every person involved has long since died. Still, I'm sure that if we knew the real answer, it would be a lot less mysterious than we think. There is probably a simple explanation⁷. And, we would not even know about this mystery if Arthur Conan Doyle, the author of Sherlock Holmes, hadn't decided to write a story about it.

1.peel 皮をむく 2.blindfolded 目隠しする 3.vanish 消える 4.log 日誌 (ブログはウェブとログから来た。ネット日誌 5.damage 損害 6.abandon ship 船を放棄する 7.explanation 説明