

The junior high school festival was last week. Each class did a play, and they were wonderful. The amount of time and effort the students put into making the props¹ and the costumes was incredible. They hung curtains up in the windows of the walkway as well. They were beautiful, but I didn't realize how beautiful until I was going home and saw them with the light behind them. Wonderful.



10 differences



Something you didn't know about ketchup:

1. "Ketchup" was a sauce in England that was made to copy a salty fish sauce made in China.
2. Ketchups were made with fish, oysters, mushrooms and nuts. They were salty and spicy.
3. The first tomato ketchup was made by James Mease in 1812. The tomatoes rotted² in the bottle and it wasn't very popular.
4. Heinz worked out that more vinegar³ and sugar would keep the tomatoes fresh. Their Heinz Tomato Ketchup went on sale in 1876.
5. Heinz sells 650 million bottles of ketchup every year.

New Type of Ketchup Engineered to Stay Smooth

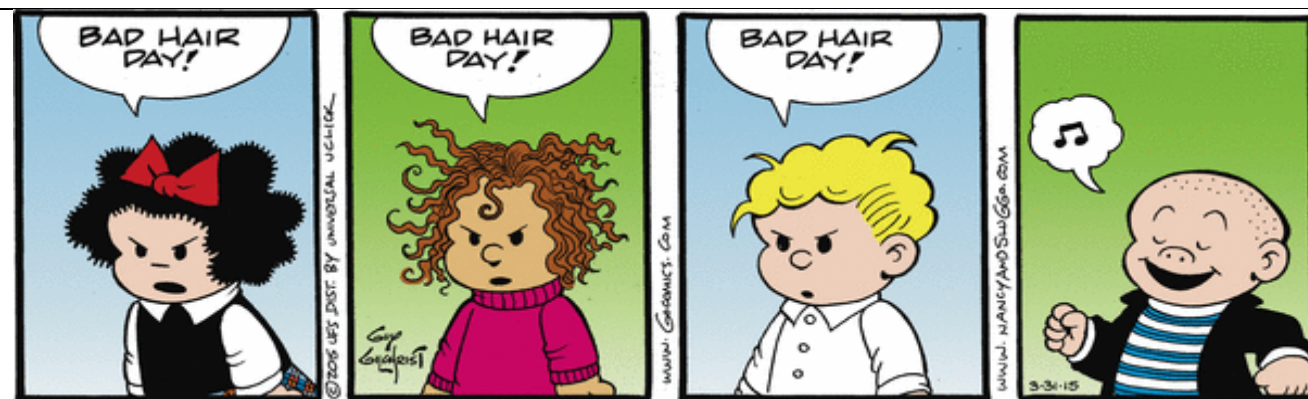
Last week, Ikari Sauce Co, announced that it had managed to solve a problem with ketchup. The problem, they announced, is that when you leave the bottle of ketchup in the fridge, the solids separate from the liquids⁴. When you open the bottle and squirt⁵ the ketchup onto your food you get, they say, only liquid coming out. To solve this problem, they have spent a lot of time and money engineering⁶ a ketchup that doesn't have this problem. They have managed to find a way to keep the solids and the liquids from separating in the bottle. I don't know how they have done that. Maybe they have used some kind of starch⁷ to thicken the ketchup. They have released the new type of ketchup to a lot of fanfare⁸, saying that it is the future of ketchup. However, when I saw the news, I couldn't help thinking that this is a very good



example of a first world problem⁹. The company have spent a lot of time and money trying to solve this problem, but is it really a problem? Before I

open the top of my ketchup bottle, I shake it. That solves the problem. Was it really worth it¹⁰ for the company to "fix" this problem? What do you think?

- 1.prop 小道具 2.rot 腐る 3.vinegar 酢 4.the solids separate from the liquid 液体から固形物質を分離になる 5.squirt 飛び出す 6.engineer 設計する 7.starch てんぷん 8.fanfare 鳴り物入りで 9.a first world problem 先進国ならではのかなりぜいたくな悩み 10.worth it それだけの価値がある



World record

This week's record is not one that we will ever be able to beat, but I thought it was interesting. Queen Elizabeth II of the UK holds many world records. She has the record for the oldest British monarch¹. She is 95 years old. King George III was the second oldest and he died at the age of 82. She is also the oldest monarch in the world. Queen Elizabeth holds the record for the longest reigning living monarch² at almost 70 years. She has the record for the most currencies³ featuring the same person. Her face has appeared on the money of 45 different countries. She is also the wealthiest⁴ queen because she is worth about \$500 million. However, most of this money is the crown's⁵ and not hers personally. She has a lot of art, land, and buildings, but she cannot sell them. So, these are interesting records, but there is no way we can break them. Unless one of you manages to become Queen of England...



Last week's answer.



Success is getting what you want. Happiness is wanting what you get.

A monument

Let's have a look at the Arc de Triomphe this week. It is a famous building in Paris and is at the end of the Champs-Elysees. It is the tallest arch in the world. It is 50m high. It was built to honor⁶ all of the people who died fighting for France in the revolution and in the Napoleonic Wars⁷. There is a tomb for the Unknown Soldier⁸ from World War I under it. The arch was commissioned⁹ by Napoleon in 1806. He was winning battles in Europe, and he wanted a monument to celebrate them. He thought that he would continue to win, and the arch would be for him and for all of the soldiers that died helping him win. However, there were problems with the construction and the monument wasn't finished until 1836. Napoleon was completely defeated¹⁰ at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 and sent to exile¹¹ on the island of Elba. He died in 1821 and never got to see the Arc completed. After World War 1, a body from one of the battlefields was brought back to Paris and buried under the Arc de Triomphe. Nobody knows who the soldier was, but he now represents all of the soldiers that died in the war. There is an eternal flame¹² that burns for all of the dead who were never identified. There are lots of military parades here, but none of the parades march through the arch out of respect for the tomb of the unknown soldier. By 1960, the arch had become black with coal soot and automobile exhaust. It took one year, but the whole arch was cleaned.



1.monarch 国王 2.longest reigning living monarch 史上最長在位の生きている君主
3.currency 硬貨 4.wealthy お金持ち 5.crown 国王（法人） 6.honor 荣誉を授ける
7.Napoleonic Wars ナポレオン戦争 8. the tomb of the unknown soldier 第1次世界大戦で死亡した無名戦士の墓 9.commission 委任する 10.defeat 負ける 11.exile 国外追放
12.eternal flame 永遠の炎◆墓地や戦没兵士の記念碑の前で燃やされる炎のこと