

The high school festival is coming up this week! Are you excited? I am. I love this time of year. Everyone is rushing around getting ready, practicing, painting, making things. People are stressed and nervous, but everyone is working together and working hard. Then the final performance and the things you make in your classroom are wonderful. The three days of the festival are hot and long and everyone goes home exhausted¹ but happy. It is a great time and a wonderful experience. I wish my school had done something like a school festival, but that is a tradition² we don't have in England. I wonder if America or Canada have school festivals.



10 differences

Here are last week's answers. There were 10 differences.



Something you didn't know about smartphones:

1. There are 4 billion smartphones in the world.
2. More than 85% of Americans own a smartphone, but only 48% of people in the world own a smartphone.
3. On average³, people touch their phone 2,617 times a day.
4. People use their phone for an average of 3 hours a day but 6% of people use their phone for longer than 10 hours a day. What about you?
5. Apple is not the most popular smartphone company. Samsung sells more smartphones every year than Apple.

The iPhone is 15!

Last Wednesday, on June 29th, the iPhone was 15 years old! How old are you? That means the iPhone is older than most of our junior high school students. Most of you don't remember a time when there were no iPhones. Wow! The iPhone has changed our society in many ways. Steve Jobs showed people the iPhone for the first time in January of 2007, but it didn't go on sale until June 29th. When the iPhone launched⁴, a lot of people didn't think Apple would be successful. There were already a lot of cell phones on the market⁵ and people didn't know what the iPhone would do that the other phones didn't already do. It turned out⁶ that the iPhone would do an incredible amount of things that the other phones couldn't do because the iPhone isn't a phone. It can make phone calls, but it isn't a phone. The iPhone is a computer that fits⁷ in your pocket. And that is why it was revolutionary⁸. Other companies quickly realized what the iPhone could do and started to make their own smartphones.

So, here are some things that smartphones let us do. Some are good, some not so good.

- GPS map directions. We don't get lost.
- We take many more photos now.
- We are constantly⁹ connected to other people and we can share anything instantly.
- We can make video phone calls.
- We can work anywhere, at anytime of the day or night.
- We can find the answer to any question immediately.
- We have access to¹⁰ almost every book ever written, every movie ever made, and every movie ever filmed.
- We can do our shopping, banking, and most of the things we used to go to town for from our phone.
- We can pay for things in shops without using cash¹¹.

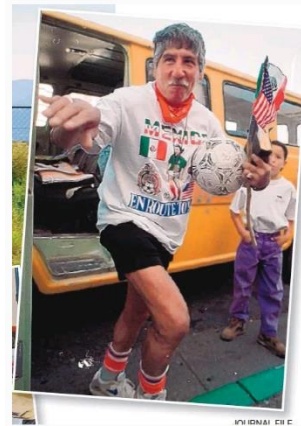
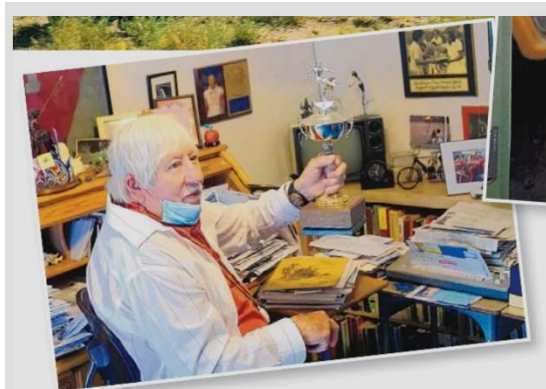


1.exhausted 疲れ切った 2.tradition 伝説 3.on average 平均で 4.launch 売り出す 5.on the market 売り出された 6.it turned out その結果として 7.fit 合う 8.revolutionary 革命的な 9.constantly いつも 10.access to~のアクセス 11.cash 現金



World record

Do you know what the world record is for walking in 24 hours? It is 228.930 km! Do you know how far that is? It's a little bit farther than walking from here to Oshamambe. It's farther than walking from here to Obihiro! It's the same distance as walking from school to Sapporo station 73 times! Jesse Castenda from America walked around a running track for 24 hours to make this record. He must have walked around the track (wait! Where's my calculator?) 572.675 times! He did this in 1976 and no one has managed to beat his record yet. He also has the world record for the longest distance walked in 100 hours. He walked for 531 km! When he was a boy, he was hit by a delivery truck¹ and the doctors told him he would never be able to walk again. He worked hard and started to walk 15 km a day. Now, he is nearly 70 and he has slowed down a lot, but he still walks as much as he can. "If you stop walking, you may never start again," he says.



In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

Abraham Lincoln.

A building

This week let's look at the Parthenon in Athens. It is an Ancient Greek temple that was built in 438 BC. It was built as a temple² to worship³ the goddess Athena⁴, the goddess of wisdom⁵, handicraft, and war. She was the protector⁶ of Athens. However, she was probably named after the city, rather than the other way around. The building was used as a temple to Athena for about 1000 years. In about 250 AD there was a fire that destroyed the temple's roof, but it was rebuilt. In 481 AD, the Roman emperor Theodosius II ordered the temple to be closed. The Roman empire collapsed⁷ shortly after and in the 6th century, the temple became a Christian church. It was a church for about 800 years. Then, in 1456, Ottoman Turks invaded⁸ the city and they turned the church into a mosque⁹. It was a mosque for about 200 years. So, why are only ruins¹⁰ of the building left? That is because the Ottoman Turks didn't know how dangerous it was to store gunpowder¹¹ in the building. In 1687, an army from Venice tried to capture Athens. The Ottomans kept all of their gunpowder in the Parthenon. I don't know why they thought that was a good idea. On 26th September, a Venetian mortar¹² hit the temple and blew it up. The temple had lasted for over 2000



1.delivery truck 配達トラック 2.temple お寺 3.worship 崇拜する 4.goddess Athena ギリシャ神話の知恵の女神アテナ 5.wisdom 知恵 6.protector 保護者 7.collpase of the Roman empire ローマ帝国滅亡 8.invade 侵攻する 9.mosque モスク 10.ruin 廃虚 11.gunpowder 火薬 12.mortar 迫撃砲