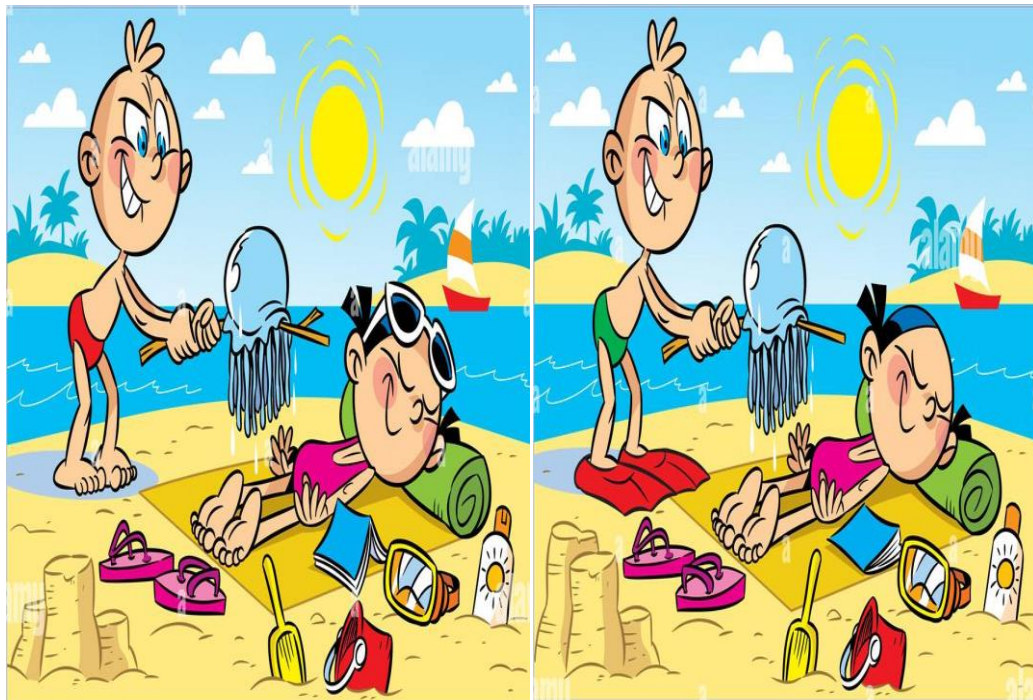


This is my last English News before the summer vacation. It is going to be a wonderful three weeks. Do you have any plans? Are you going to go anywhere? I expect a lot of you will be doing summer classes through the first week. I hope they are fun. I know they will be difficult because it is going to be so hot. Then you will have two weeks of vacation. My plan is to find somewhere with air conditioning and then try to live there for the whole vacation. There is a 7-11 near my house. Maybe I can camp there. Do you like the hot weather or do you prefer cold? I think I prefer cold. It's easy to warm up when it's cold, but it's very hard to cool down when it's hot.



10 differences

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



### Something you didn't know about Bill Gates:

1. He wrote his first computer program at high school. It was a simple game.
2. His high school realized he was good with computers and they asked him to write a program to work out student's timetables.
3. He dropped out<sup>1</sup> of Harvard University.
4. He reads 50 books every year.
5. He is a workaholic<sup>2</sup>.
6. He owns the *Codex Leicester*<sup>3</sup>, which is a collection of writings by da Vinci.
7. He has donated<sup>4</sup> more money than any person in history.

### Bill Gates Donates \$20 Billion

Bill Gates has donated \$20 Billion to his charity, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Bill Gates is the founder<sup>5</sup> of Microsoft and he is the head of his foundation. The goal of the foundation is to help all people in the world lead healthy and productive lives. The foundation spends billions of dollars every year trying to eradicate<sup>6</sup> infectious diseases<sup>7</sup> and reduce poverty<sup>8</sup>. The foundation has given vaccines<sup>9</sup> and medicines to developing countries and they helped to eradicate polio<sup>10</sup>.



Bill Gates started the foundation with his wife in 2000. He was the richest person in the world and he thought that he needed to use his money to help people. He put billions of dollars in to the foundation every year and it began to make a difference to people's lives. He slowly increased the amount of money he gave and this year he gave \$20 billion. His goal is to give nearly all of his money to the foundation before he dies. He has started something called "The Giving Pledge". Extremely wealthy people can sign the pledge<sup>11</sup> and give all of their money to help poor people. It is a great idea.

These days, half of the world's wealth belongs to the top 1% of people. Sharing the wealth is a great idea. Bill Gates has given a lot of money, but he is still the



fourth richest person in the world and has \$102 billion. Today, the richest person in the world is Elon Musk. He has \$230 billion. He has signed the giving pledge, but has not given much money yet. Hopefully, a lot more people will follow Bill Gates's example.

- 1.drop out 退学する 2.workaholic 仕事中毒 3.Codex Leicester レオナルドダヴィンチ手稿 4.donate 寄付する 5.founder 創業者 6.eradicate 全滅させる 7.infectious disease 感染症 8.poverty 貧困 9.vaccine 予防接種 10.polio ポリオ 11.pledge 約束





### World record

Here is an unusual world record. I always find it fascinating<sup>1</sup> what world records there are. This one is for the fastest speed to lay a highway<sup>2</sup>. An Indian company built a 75km highway in less than 5 days. I have never tried to lay a highway, but I can imagine that it is pretty difficult to do. They managed to lay all of the asphalt<sup>3</sup> in 105 hours and 33 minutes. The highway will link Kolkata and Surat and it passes through an area that is rich in minerals<sup>4</sup>. 700 workers worked around the clock<sup>5</sup> to build the road and it was June so the temperature was very hot. The workers had trouble because the asphalt wouldn't set very quickly in the heat. Japan always builds roads very quickly. I wonder if they could make a record like this. Although, I think sacrificing safety for speed<sup>6</sup> might not be the best idea.



We can complain because rose bushes have thorns<sup>7</sup>, or complain because thorn bushes have roses. **Abraham Lincoln.**

### A building

This week let's look at the Forbidden City. It is not just one building, but a collection of 980 buildings and it is 1.5 times bigger than the Vatican City. It was built in 1420 for Emperor Zhu Di, who was the third emperor in the Ming Dynasty. He moved the capital of China from Nanjing and wanted a palace for himself. 1 million workers worked for 14 years to finish the city. It was the palace of the emperor of China until 1924, when the last emperor of China, Pu Yi, was exiled<sup>8</sup>. It was the imperial palace for over 500 years! In English, it is called the Forbidden City, but



the Chinese name is 紫禁城 (Zijin Cheng). Purple is used for the North Star, which is said to be where the heavenly emperor lives. *Jin* means "the place where the emperor lives" and *cheng* means "city". The emperor lived in a



room called the Palace of Heavenly Purity and he met visitors on the throne<sup>9</sup> in that palace. It is a very impressive room. If you ever get the chance, you should definitely visit the Forbidden City. It is amazing.

1.fascinating 興味をそそめる 2.lay a highway 高速道路を作る 3.asphalt アスファルト 4.minerals 鉱物 5.around the clock 24 時間体制 6.sacrifice A for B A のために B を犠牲にする 7.thorn とげ 8.exile 国外追放する 9.throne 王座