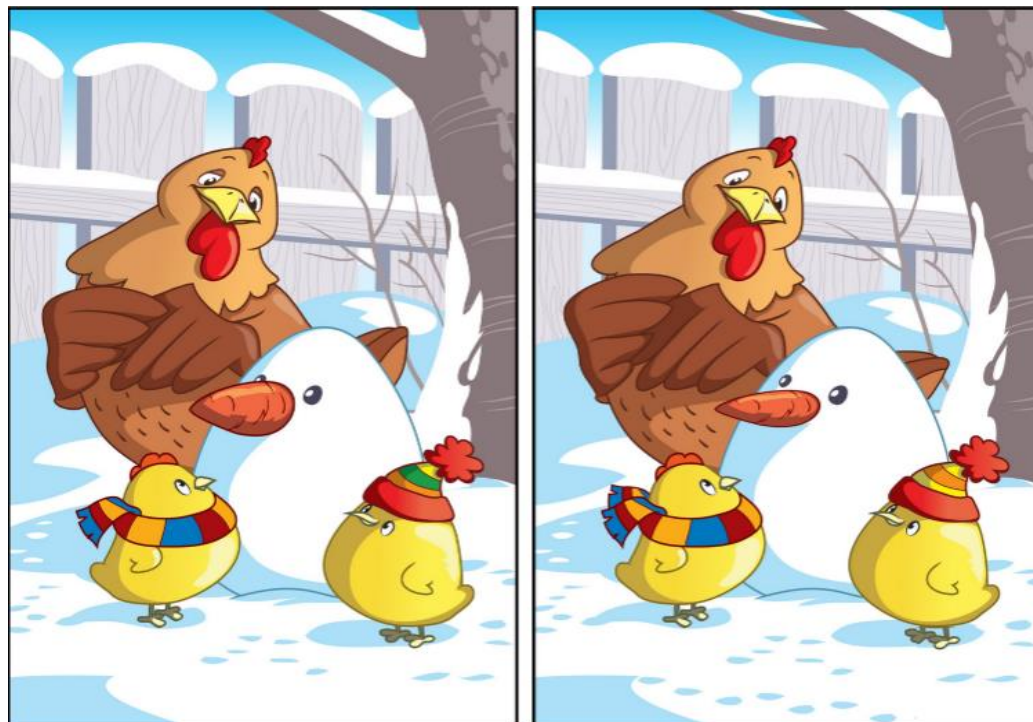


The junior high school festival was last week. Each class put on a play¹ that lasted about 40 minutes. They were all wonderful. I don't know how everybody managed to remember their lines! I can't even remember 5 things when I go shopping. I always forget at least two of them. The acting was wonderful, the props² were wonderful, the sets³ were wonderful, the costumes were wonderful, the music was wonderful, the lighting was wonderful, everything was wonderful! Good job. I hope that you are all happy and proud⁴ of the job that you did. You worked very hard and put in a lot of effort.



10 differences

SORRY! Last week I used a picture with no differences!! I'm sorry. I hope you didn't try to find the differences for too long.

Something interesting about the crown jewels:

The crown jewels⁵ are all of the things used to coronate⁶ the king or queen of Britain. They were first used in the 12th century, but they were all destroyed in the civil war⁷ of 1642 and melted down to pay the army. They were remade after the Charles II became king again. The only thing that has survived from the 12th century is a gold anointing⁸ spoon.



Queen Elizabeth II's Funeral

Yesterday, Monday 19th, was Queen Elizabeth II's funeral⁹. She died two weeks ago and she has lain in state since then. The funeral was attended by over 500 dignitaries¹⁰ from around the world. The prime minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, and the president of America, Joe Biden, attended. The Emperor and Empress of Japan also attended. There will be 2,000 guests altogether. There were so many important people there that terrorism was a big worry, but nothing happened. The police and the army managed to keep the area secure. It is sad that we have to worry about terrorist attacks on a day like this.

The funeral was a state funeral and was held in Westminster Abbey, which is also where the queen was coronated 70 years ago. After the service had finished, the crown jewels were taken off the coffin and returned to the Tower of London where they are kept. Then there was a procession and the coffin¹¹ was carried on the state gun carriage (in the picture). King Charles and Prince William led the procession. Afterwards, the coffin was driven to Windsor Castle, where the Queen was buried next to her husband, Prince Phillip. They were married for 73 years. The day is going to be a public holiday in England and thousands of people are expected to line the route. Coincidentally¹², it is also a public holiday here in Japan.



- 1.play 劇 2.prop 小道具 3.set 大道具 4.be proud of~に誇りに思う 5.crown jewels 連合王国の戴冠宝器 6.coronate 冠をかぶった 7.civil war 内戦 8.anoint 聖油を塗る 9.funeral お葬式 10.dignitary 高位の人 11.coffin ひつぎ



World record

I don't remember how long I have been writing a world record section for my English news, but I have found some odd¹ records over the years. This week's, however, might be the oddest one yet. Do you know that there is a world record for the fastest time to change a tire² on a moving car? Well, there is. The time was 1 minute and 8 seconds. Manuel Zoldan drove a car up a ramp onto two wheels. When it was balanced, Gianluca Folco climbed out of the window and changed the tire. He took off the old tire and fitted a new tire that was strapped³ to the side of the car. Then he jumped off and Zoldan dropped the car back onto four wheels. Changing the tire is pretty cool, but I think being able to drive a car one two wheels for over a minute is even cooler!



I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast⁴ a stone across the water to create many ripples⁵. **-Mother Teresa**

A capital city – Algiers, capital of Algeria

I have decided to write about a capital city every week. I'm going to start with Algiers. Algiers has a population of about 4.5 million people. It is on a bay⁶ in the Mediterranean Sea. The city has a modern part and an old part. The modern part is by the sea, but the old part is on the steep⁷ hills behind the modern part. The name of the city comes from French because Algeria was a French colony⁸. The original Arabic name was al-Jazā'ir, which means "the islands" because there are four islands in the bay.

The city started as a trading town⁹ in about 900 BC. It was part of the Punic Empire. The whole of North Africa was taken over by the Romans and they called the city Icosium. You can still see the ruins¹⁰ of the Roman part of the city. The Romans disappeared from Africa in about 400 AD and the city was taken over by Muslims before becoming part of the Ottoman Empire. In 1830, the country was taken from the Ottomans by the French and it became a French colony until the 1960s. Finally, in 1962, Algeria got independence¹¹ and Algiers became its capital.

Algiers has a long history and many buildings can still be seen. The old town is called The Casbah and it is built on the ruins of the old Roman town. It has many small roads and buildings and is like a maze. However, if you get lost, all you have to do is head downhill and you'll find the sea.



- 1.odd 変 2.change a tire タイヤ交換 3.strap 取り付ける 4.cast 投げる 5.ripple さざ波 6.bay 港 7.steep 急な 8.colony 植民地 9.trading town 貿易の町 10.ruin 廃墟 11.independence 独立