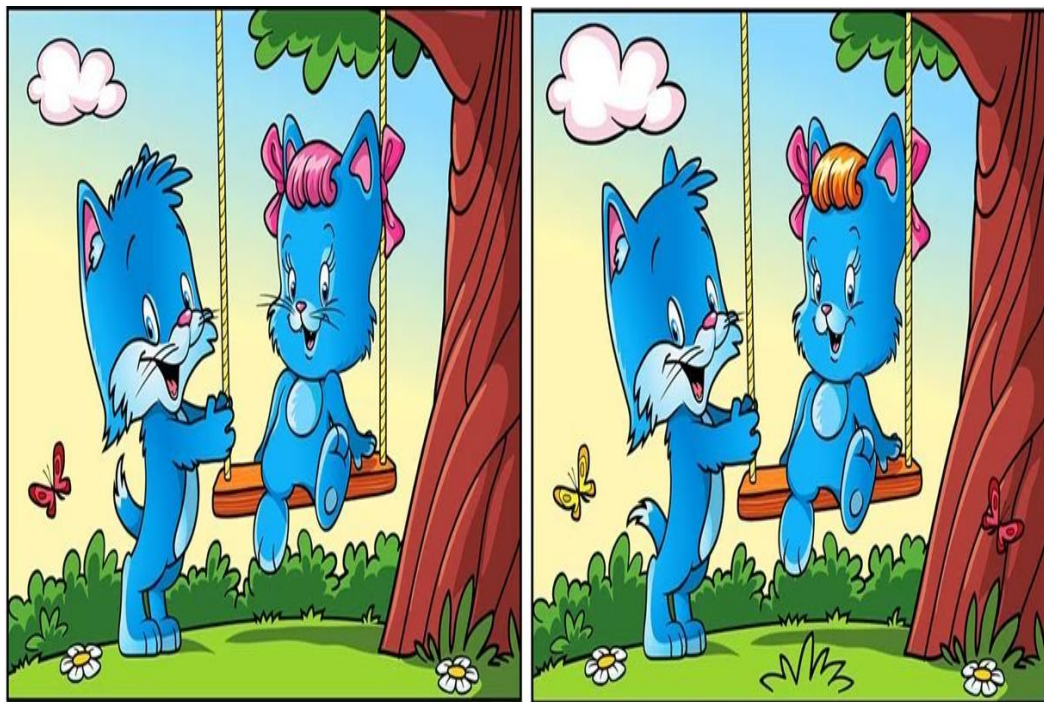


I went on the junior high school first grade farm stay last week. It was a lot of fun. The students split up¹ into groups and each group spent a day and a night living with a family on a farm. I was impressed² with how quickly our students threw themselves into³ farm work. I thought some people would complain, but nobody did. They were all covered in mud and smiling by the end of the day. However, I was more impressed by the kindness and the generosity⁴ of the farmers that took our students into their families. They made our students feel like one of their family and it was an incredible experience for all of them. I wonder how many want to be farmers now.



10 differences

Last week:

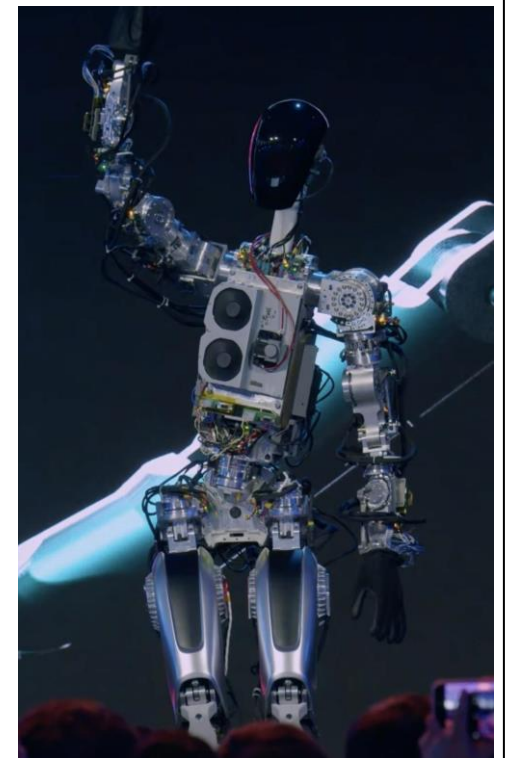


Something interesting about robots:

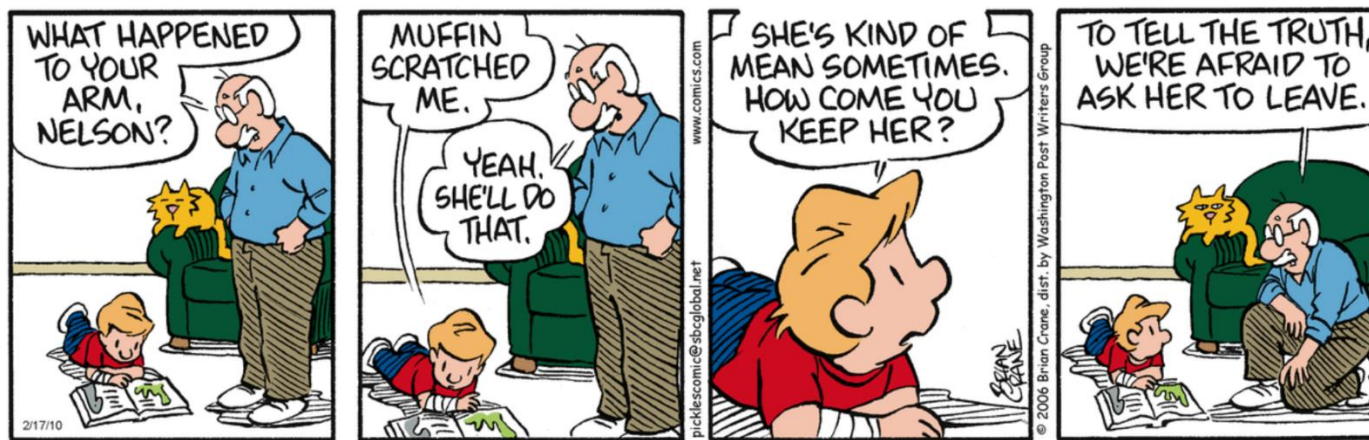
1. The first robot was a steam driven⁵ bird created in the 5th century BC.
2. There are currently thousands of robots serving in the American army. Some are remote controlled, but some are completely autonomous⁶. Scary.
3. The word robot means “work” in Czech and the word came from a Czech play.
4. The smallest robot is 10-9m which is one nanometer. 314,000,000 could fit on a one-yen coin.
5. One robot can make power from dead flies, so it is independent of human power sources. It can't do much yet, though.

Tesla Has Built A Robot

Tesla, the company behind the famous electric cars, has demonstrated a robot at their latest technology show. Tesla is led by Elon Musk, the CEO. He is always very eager⁷ to invest in new technology. His company are developing driverless cars. He owns the space company Space X, that are revolutionizing⁸ space travel. And now his company have unveiled⁹ a robot. The event was called AI day and he demonstrated two robots. One was called Bumble C and the other was called Optimus. I don't know if he got the name from the Transformers movie. Bumble C walked on stage and waved at the audience. Optimus wasn't able to walk and had to be carried on to the stage. Both of these robots are prototypes¹⁰. They are supposed to be humanoids¹¹. Many people have laughed because the robots weren't able to do much more than wave, but these are just the first generation. One thing we know about Tesla is that their technology improves very quickly. He also demonstrated the software that the robots use to look at and analyze¹² their environment. It was very interesting. It is similar to the software that Tesla cars use to analyze their environment. I wouldn't be surprised if Tesla showcases much better robots at next year's show.



- 1.split up 分ける 2.impressed 感動された 3.throw oneself into 〔仕事など〕に専念する
4.generosity 惜しみなさ 5.steam driven 蒸気動力 6.autonomous 自律性の 7.eager 熱心な
8.revolutionizing 大きく変更する 9.unveil 明かす 10.prototype 原型 11.humanoid 人間の形をしたロボット 12.Analyze 分析する



World record

Here's a classic world record that I may have done before. Robert Wadlow was the tallest human that ever lived. He reached a height of 272 cm tall and he weighed 200kg. He was taller than his father by the time he was 8 and he was 254 cm tall when he graduated from high school. He had a problem with his pituitary gland¹ and it didn't stop making growth hormone. Usually, our bodies switch off the growth hormone² when we reach the height we are supposed to be, but his didn't switch off. Because he was so tall, he had to use leg braces³ to support his weight. Unfortunately, one of the braces cut his ankle and the cut became infected⁴. The infection killed him. He was only 22 years old. He was still growing at the time of his death. If he had been born today, modern medicine can cure the problem that he has and he wouldn't have been so tall. The tallest person alive today is Sultan Kosen and he is 251 cm tall.



We don't make mistakes, just happy little accidents.
-Bob Ross

A capital city – Abu Dhabi, capital city of the United Arab Emirates

Let's look at Abu Dhabi. It is the capital of the United Arab Emirates, which is in the Middle East, next to Oman and Saudi Arabia. People have been living where Abu Dhabi is for over 5000 years. In Arabic, Abu means "father" and Dhabi means "gazelle"⁵. There are a lot of gazelles there, so the city is known as "Father of Gazelle". Many different tribes⁶ lived in the area that is Abu Dhabi but the population wasn't very high. Pearl⁷ diving was one of the biggest businesses. Britain started to control the area in the 19th century to try and stop pirates that were using it as a base. Britain withdrew⁸ from the Middle East after World War 2, but in 1958, oil was discovered and British Petroleum (BP) used their influence to buy a license to drill for the oil. Today, 9% of the world's oil is under the United Arab Emirates and the money from oil and natural gas has made the UAE the 9th richest country in the world. They are slowly trying to change their economy so that it is not only based on fossil fuels⁹. The city was designed by a Japanese architect, called Katsuhiko Takahashi, in 1967. The government didn't think the city would be very large and planned it for 600,000 people. The current population is 2.6 million, so a lot of new buildings have been built. Because of its hot desert climate, the temperature can rise to over 40 degrees in the summer. The winter is cooler at about 20 degrees.



- 1.pituitary gland 原型 2.growth hormone 成長ホルモン 3.leg brace 脚のギブス
- 4.infected 感染した 5.gazelle ガゼル 6.tribe 民族 7.pearl 球状 8.withdraw 撤退する
- 9.fossil fuel 化石燃料