

I watched the junior high school's product development¹ presentations last week. They were all wonderful. I don't know how the people at Ishiya seika are going to be able to choose the one they want to make. It would be so hard because everything looked delicious. Good luck to everybody. I thought it was really interesting how much people concentrated on the way the product looks. I would only be interested in how something tastes, but these days we live in the world of Instagram so sometimes the appearance is more important than the taste. I can't wait to go to Shiroikobito park next summer and try everything.



20 differences
This one is hard

Last week:



Something interesting about fast fashion:

1. 110 billion items² of clothing and 14.5 billion pairs of shoes are bought every year.
2. Most people only wear 20% of their clothes 80% of the time. What about you?
3. Fast fashion³ companies create more pollution than international air travel and international shipping combined⁴ and 60% of clothes are made using plastics.
4. It takes about 7570 liters of water to make one pair of jeans.
5. 80% of these clothes are made by children and women under the age of 24.
6. Most of us throw away 36 kg of clothes every year.
7. 1.5 kg of oil is needed to make 1 kg of polyester⁵.

Sustainable Fashion

Last week, a company called Allbirds released a running shoe that was made using castor beans⁶ instead of petroleum⁷. We wouldn't look at the sneakers we are wearing and think they are contributing⁸ to the climate crisis⁹, but they are. They are largely made of rubber, plastics, and synthetic fibers¹⁰. These are all made using petroleum, which is a nonrenewable fossil fuel¹¹. Making a sneaker uses the same



amount of energy as leaving a light on in a room for a whole week. That is a lot of energy for one pair of shoes. Another company has made a fiber they are calling C-Fiber. It is made from a mixture of seaweed and eucalyptus and it is 100% biodegradable¹². The cotton used to make a regular shirt is very bad for the environment. Making one shirt needs 3,000 liters of water and a lot of this is contaminated¹³ after it has been used. These natural fibers made of seaweed and eucalyptus don't need any water. Another company, Bolt Threads, have made a material from mycelium¹⁴, which are the root systems of fungi. This material mycelium, which are the root systems of fungi¹⁵. This material looks and feels very much like leather and can be made in a dark room. Making real leather is bad for the environment in so many ways. The cows require huge amounts of water and release enormous amounts of methane.



The leather production process creates large amounts of chemicals that have to be made with and a lot of carbon dioxide is created as well. There is a lot of hope that we are starting to create new materials that don't harm the environment.

- 1.product development 商品開発 2.item 品物 3.fast fashion ファーストファッション 4.combine 合わせる 5.polyester ポリエステル 6.castor bean トウゴマの実 7.petroleum 石油 8.contribute 貢献する 9.climate crisis 気候危機 10.synthetic fiber 合成繊維 11.nonrenewable fossil fuel 再生不(可)能な化石燃料 12.biodegradable 生分解性の 13.contaminated 汚染された 14.mycelium 菌糸体 15.fungi 菌門



World record

Have you ever met anyone called Hirokazu Tanaka? No? Well, apparently it is a very common name. In Tokyo, 178 Hirokazu Tanakas got together in one room to get the world record for the most people with the same name in one room. They beat the previous world record when 164 people called Martha Stewart got together in America. Hirokazu Tanaka was the person who came up with the idea to try and break this world record. He was lucky because he very quickly got the support of Hirokazu Tanaka. Then, they managed to find 80 year old Hirokazu Tanaka. Without him, they probably wouldn't have been able to get in touch with Hirokazu Tanaka and Hirokazu Tanaka. They also

managed to get toddler¹ Hirokazu Tanaka to join as well. When they met up, they had to sit for five minutes in the same theater to achieve the record. I wonder if they had a party afterwards. What name do you think they booked² it under? Ha ha ha.



If you have the power to make someone happy, do it. The world needs more of that. -unknown

A capital city – Phnom Penh

Let's look at Phnom Penh, the capital city of Cambodia. The city has a population of 2.4 million, which is about 14% of the population of Cambodia. "Phnom Penh" means "Penh's Hill". Penh was a wealthy³ widow⁴ who found four bronze⁵ statues of Buddha floating down the river in 1372. She ordered the people in her village to make a hill so that she could build a temple on top of it. This is probably just a legend⁶. Phnom Penh has been the capital since 1866. The original capital of Cambodia was Angkor Thom. King Norodom I moved the capital to Phnom Penh and set his government there, but the French invaded 4 years later and took over the country. They built up Phnom Penh into a modern city. After the Vietnam War, the Khmer Rouge took over Cambodia and many atrocities⁷ were carried out across the city. In 1979, Vietnam invaded and replaced the Khmer Rouge. Cambodia finally became independent in 1993. The city grew rapidly after independence and the infrastructure⁸ struggled to keep up. Phnom Penh has many beautiful buildings. The oldest is Wat Phnom, the temple on the hill that Penh is supposed to have built. The city has a lot of French buildings as well due to the period of colonization⁹.



- 1.toddler 2~4歳の幼児
- 2.book 予約する
- 3.wealthy お金もち
- 4.widow 音を亡くした女性
- 5.bronze 銅
- 6.legend 伝説
- 7.atrocity 残虐行為
- 8.infrastructure インフラ
- 9.colonization 植民地されること