

5/29/2023 (#7 this year)

The tests start this Friday for the fifth and sixth grade, and next Monday for the rest of the school. How is your revision¹ going? I remember when I had to take tests at school. I tried really hard to study, but I always just ended up staring out of the window. My mum got very angry with me, but I just couldn't stop staring out of the window. I hope you do a better job of studying than I did. Do you have any plans for when the tests are over? What do you usually do? Go out for a special dinner? Go and sing karaoke with your friends? I hope that whatever you do helps you relax and feel better. And good luck with the results when they come back.



12 differences

Last week's answer



Something you didn't know about the food producing:

1. China produces the most food of any country in the world. 315 million people work in the agricultural industry².
2. America has far fewer people involved in³ agriculture, but they produce almost as much as China.
3. A billion tons of food is wasted every year. China wastes almost 100 million tons of food a year, but that is because they have the largest population. When you look at it per person, Australia is number 1. Australians waste 102 kg of food per person per year. France is number 2 (85 kg). The UK is number 3 (77 kg). Japan and China are number 6 (64 kg), and America is number 8 (59 kg).

Vertical Farm

A company called Plenty that manages a number of vertical⁴ farms in the US has opened another one in the city of Compton, California. A single farm has been able to produce 2 million kilograms of leafy green vegetables⁵ in one year and all of their farms can produce over 10 million kilograms. The farms are built inside tower blocks. Each farm has many giant vertical towers, but they don't use soil⁶. The crops grow on frames and they are fed with nutrients⁷ and fertilizer⁸. They are sprayed with water. The farm uses ultraviolet⁹ lights to give the crops the same light that they would get from the sun. All of the systems are controlled by computer to grow perfect crops all year round. There are many advantages of growing crops in an indoor farm like this. It doesn't matter if the weather gets bad. They can grow crops in any weather and any season. They can grow a lot of crops in a small space. The building is sealed, so there are no pests¹⁰ or insects. The computer systems control everything, so there is less water waste. All of these things mean they can produce a lot of crops, in any place, for a lower price. Hopefully, in the future, there will be more places like this in places where it is difficult to grow food. Climate change is going to make it impossible to grow food in many parts of the world and this is one solution.



- 1.revision テスト勉強 2.agricultural industry 農産業 3.involved in に従事している
 4.vertical 縦 5.leafy green vegetables 緑葉野菜 6.soil 土 7.nutrient 栄養物
 8.fertilizer 肥料 9.ultraviolet 紫外線 10.pest 害虫



World record

Do you like spicy food? Whenever I go out for curry with Joe, he always asks for the spiciest curry that they have. I cannot do that. I always have a 2 or a 3. So, maybe Joe could attempt¹ this world record. A man called Greg Foster has eaten 10 Carolina Reaper peppers in 30 seconds. He has also eaten 19 Caroline Reapers in 1 minute. The spiciness of peppers is measured with something called Scoville Heat Units (SHU). A bottle of tabasco sauce has about 4,000 SHU. A Carolina Reaper is 1,641,183 SHU. Very very very very spicy! With further research, I have learned that there are two

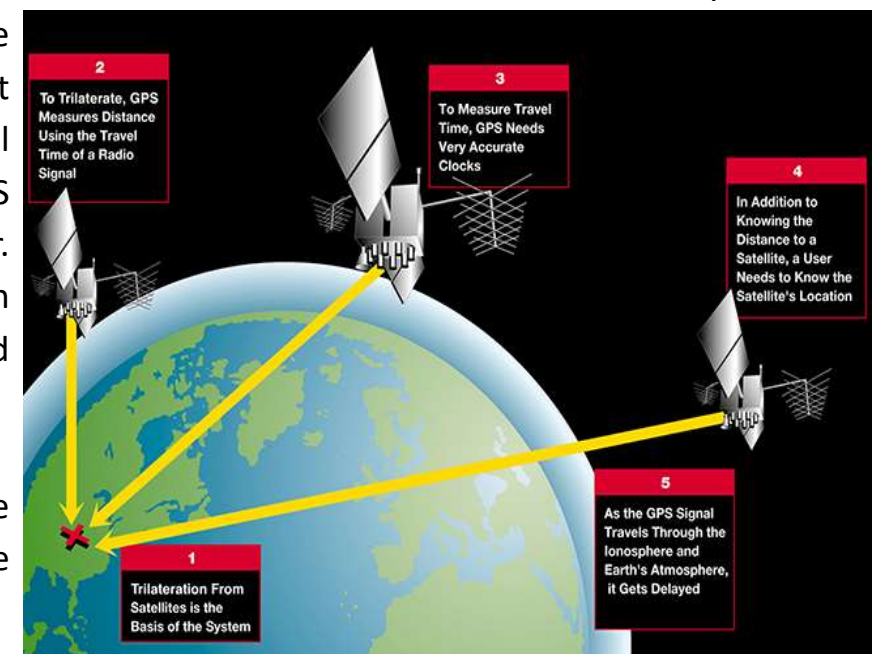
different versions of this record. In the first version, you can regurgitate² the chili. In the second version, you cannot regurgitate it. I'm not sure which is worse. They both sound pretty horrible. Anyway, this is not a record I will try.



The only time you fail is when you fall down and stay down. – Stephen Richards

An invention - GPS

Do you ever use Google maps? How does Google know where you are? Your phone knows where you are because of GPS (Global Positioning System). How does it work? There are 32 satellites in space, orbiting³ around Earth. Your phone can “see” at least three of them at any one time. These satellites constantly⁴ send out signals that your phone listens for. The signal from the satellite says where the satellite is and the exact⁵ time, calculated with an atomic clock⁶. Your phone receives the data. Your phone knows the time, so it can calculate how long it took the signal to reach the phone, so it knows how far the phone is away from the satellite. However, if you are 100 km away from the satellite, you could be north, east, south, or west. You need the information from at least three satellites (called triangulation⁷) to be able to work out where you are. The more satellites you can communicate with, the more accurately⁸ you can know your position. The GPS was started in 1973 by the American Department of Defense⁹. It was only for the army until the early 1980s, when civilians¹⁰ were allowed to use it. All countries are allowed to use it, but the system is still operated by the department of defense. Russia and China have made their own systems because they are worried that America will switch off the GPS if they have a war. Roger Easton, Ivan Getting, and Bradford Parkinson invented the system in the 1960s.



- 1.attempt 努力 2.regurgitate はき返す 3.orbit 軌道を回る 4.constantly いつも
- 5.exact 正確な 6.atomic clock 原子時計 7.triangulation 三角測量 8.accurately 正確に
- 9.Department of Defense 国防総省 10.civilian 一般市民