

We (the teachers) have a teacher training<sup>1</sup> afternoon tomorrow. I expect you are all happy because you get to go home early. Ha ha. Then there is a national holiday on Thursday, so you have a lot of time at home. It will give you a chance to do lots of studying for your tests!! Our teacher training day should be interesting. It is always fun to learn new things that we can use in the classroom. A recent trend<sup>2</sup> has been to try and use more technology in the classrooms. AI software like Chat GPT, DeepL, and all of the others are here to stay, so we need to work out how to use them to teach. We cannot just ignore them. We are living in interesting times.



10 differences

Last week's answer



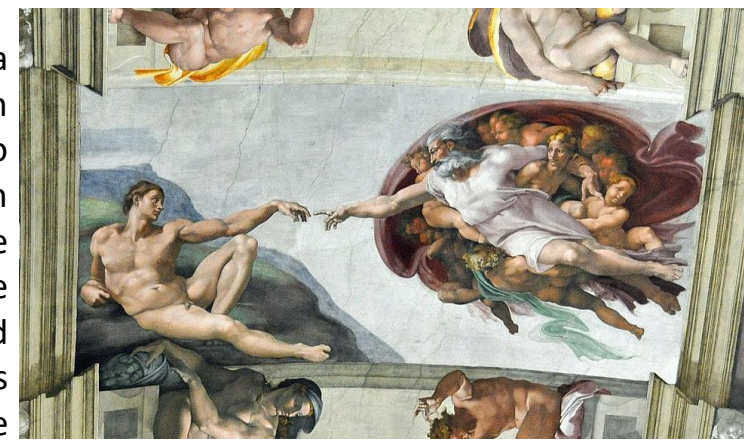
### Something you didn't know about Michelangelo:

1. Michelangelo was first noticed when he made a counterfeit<sup>3</sup> Greek statue and tried to sell it. The con<sup>4</sup> was discovered, but his skill was noticed.
2. He very rarely signed his work, but he did hide his face in many of his paintings.
3. He designed the fortifications<sup>5</sup> for the city of Florence during its rebellion<sup>6</sup>. That is one of the reasons why he was sentenced to death<sup>7</sup> by Pope Clement.
4. He was also a poet and he wrote over 300 sonnets and poems.
5. He kept working until the week before he died at the age of 88.
6. His full name was Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni.
7. He very rarely bathed or changed his clothes. He only cared about work.

### Secret Michelangelo Room

Do you know who Michelangelo is? He was a famous artist who lived from 1475 to 1564. Maybe you don't know his name, but you have definitely seen his most famous painting. It is the roof of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

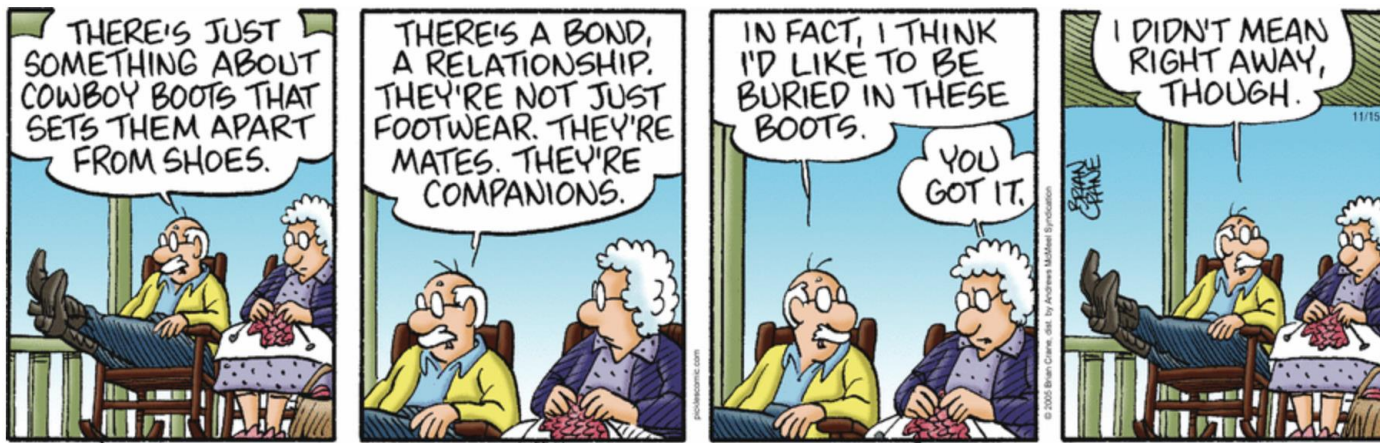
While he was painting the Sistine Chapel, there was a rebellion in his home town of Florence. Michelangelo went to help the rebellion and stopped work on the chapel for two years. The rebellion was crushed<sup>8</sup> and Michelangelo was sentenced to death by Pope Clement.



The pope was controlled by the Medici family who controlled most of Italy. Michelangelo was afraid for his life so he escaped and hid in a room under a chapel<sup>9</sup>. His supporters brought him food and he stayed there for two months before Pope Clement lifted the death sentence. While he was there, he passed his time by drawing on the walls with charcoal<sup>10</sup>. In 1975, over 400 years after he left the room, staff in the chapel found the hidden entrance to the room and opened it. They were amazed to find all of the drawings on the wall. Now, fifty years after the room was found, it has been opened to the public. If you go to Italy, you should try to go and see it.



- 1.teacher training 教員研修会 2.trend 流行 3.counterfeit 偽造品 4.con うそ  
5.fortification 防御設備 6.rebellion 反乱 7.sentence to death に死刑を宣告する 8.crush a rebellion 反乱を鎮圧する 9.chapel チャペル 10.charcoal 木炭



### World record

My daughter likes doing magic tricks. We sometimes buy one when we go to the hundred yen shop and sometimes she learns how to do them by watching YouTube videos. However, I don't think she will be able to beat this week's world record. Avery Emerson Fisher is 13 years old and she has the world record for the most magic tricks performed underwater. She went into an aquarium<sup>1</sup> in San Francisco and performed 38 magic tricks in 3 minutes. I think it would be difficult to do 38 magic tricks in three minutes on land, let alone under the water. She practiced for three months before she attempted the record, and she even earned a Scuba<sup>2</sup> Magician certificate. I did not know such a thing existed. She is only 13 years old, so who knows what other records she is going to be able to break.



Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken. – Oscar Wilde

### One thing we can do to help the environment

#### #9 Buy secondhand things

Many people, myself included<sup>3</sup>, don't like to buy secondhand<sup>4</sup> things. There is a stigma<sup>5</sup> associated with them. Buying secondhand makes us feel ashamed<sup>6</sup> because it seems like we can't afford to buy new things. Perhaps it is just me that feels like that. Perhaps it is my generation. There are many more secondhand shops around now than when I was growing up and it is a lot more acceptable<sup>7</sup> to buy old clothes and furniture. It is a great way of helping the environment. It takes 2,700 liters of water to make one cotton shirt. If two people buy a shirt, this is over 5,000 liters. If one person buys a shirt that another person has finished with, that is only 2,700 liters. By reusing things, we can save on resources, we can reduce the number of things that end up in the trash, and we can save money. This is true with other things, not just clothes. Pieces of furniture are often just thrown away when they are still good. Appliances<sup>8</sup> as well. Some people take old pieces of furniture and appliances and fix them, or restyle them, making them look amazing. There is a whole new style of vintage<sup>9</sup> fashion where people buy old clothes and remake them. I am going to start buying more secondhand clothes.



1.aquarium 水族館 2.SCUBA(Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus) 潜水用呼吸装置 3.myself included 私自身も含めて 4.secondhand 中古品 5.stigma 烙印 6.ashamed 恥ずかしい 7.acceptable 受諾できる 8.appliance 電化製品 9.vintage 古い