

You get all of your tests back today. Are you excited? You usually get the tests back over a week or so, but you get them all at once¹ this year. You are very lucky. Don't worry. I'm sure you did really well and that you have got 100 points on every test. Were your tests easy? Or difficult? Or somewhere in between? Did you go out to celebrate² the end of the tests over the weekend? I was talking to some students that were planning to go to Alice Buffet. That seems like a very good idea. I love Alice Buffet. They have a lot of food and you can eat so much cake and ice cream! The only problem is the time limit is about 80 minutes and that makes my wife panic. Haha.



8 differences!

Last week's answer



Something you didn't know about postcards

1. The world's first picture postcard was sent in 1840, in London. Theodore Hook sent the postcard to himself. He hand painted the picture himself. This postcard was recently sold for \$47,000.
2. Early postcards had a picture on one side and space for the name and address on the back. The sender had to write a message over the picture. The split back postcards with space for a message that we use today were invented in 1907.
3. 1898 to 1918 is known as the Golden Age of Postcards because so many were sent.
4. Many people collect postcards. Collecting postcards is called deltiology.
5. The first real photo postcard was in 1900.

Postcard arrives 121 years late

Last week, a postcard arrived at a bank in Swansea, UK. It was addressed to Miss Lydia Davis and it is a Christmas-themed³ postcard. There is nothing strange about receiving a postcard. The strange thing is that this postcard was posted in 1903! Many people complain⁴ that the post office service⁵ in the UK (the Royal Mail) is too slow, but this is probably the slowest postcard ever. The postcard was sent by a boy called Ewart to his sister Lydia. Ewart had gone to his grandfather's house and he sent the postcard back to his sister who was at home. They lived above their parent's tailors⁶ shop, which is now the bank that the postcard arrived at. So, what happened? The Royal Mail say that they always deliver every letter, but they don't know what happened. Wherever the postcard was, when the Royal Mail found it, they delivered it, even though the stamp was too old. When the postcard arrived, the people in the bank looked for Lydia and Ewart, but they had both passed away⁷. Ewart was 13 at the time, so he would be 134 years old now. However, they did manage to find the relatives⁸ of Ewart and Lydia. Ewart's grandson, who is 65, and Lydia's great-great granddaughter⁹, who is 47, came to the bank to collect the postcard.



- 1.all at once 一度に 2.celebrate 祝う 3.theme テーマ 4.complain 文句を言う 5.service 局 6.tailor 仕立てる 7.pass away 亡くなる 8.relative 親戚 9.great-great granddaughter そうそう孫



World record

I wrote this week's news about postcards, so let's look at a postcard world record. Guinness World Records says that the record for the most postcards is held by Michael Shefers in Germany and he has 16,000 postcards. However, a 92 year old man recently donated¹ his postcard collection to a museum and he had over 300,000 postcards. He started collecting his cards during World War 2 and he



never stopped. They filled many of the rooms in his house. He had a lot but he always kept them in order and organized² them by theme, country, date, and design. His name is Donald Brown and the museum he gave them to are very happy because he has many old postcards as well.

“Don't let yesterday take up too much of today.” — Will Rogers

An Unusual Job

Haunted House Actor

Have you ever been in a haunted house³? When I was a child, I thought they were terrifying⁴, but they all used dolls and robots. They weren't very realistic⁵ and I wouldn't find them scary now. However, these days, a lot of haunted houses use real people. That is much scarier because they can change and adapt⁶ depending on your reaction. Also, knowing they are real is really scary. Well, if you are looking for a job and you love the sound of people screaming⁷, you could be a haunted house actor. Most haunted house actors are part time and are probably university students, but you can do it for a long time, if you want to. These people are sometimes actors who are trying to earn money between acting gigs⁸, but anyone can do it. You do need to be able to stay in character. Haunted house actors have to be very careful of their voices because they scream a lot while they are in character. They also need to drink water because they will be in a costume and inside the haunted house will be hot as well. What do you think? Is it a job you would



- 1.donate 寄付する 2.organize 整理する 3.haunted house お化け屋敷
4.terrifying 恐ろしい 5.realistic 現実的 6.adapt 適応する 7.scream 叫ぶ
8.acting gig 演技の仕事