

It's a Tuesday today because yesterday was another public holiday. We have a lot of those this time of year. Not that I am complaining¹. The more the merrier² in my opinion. Haha. And the leaves on the trees have started to change color! I know that some people hate this time of year (I'm talking to you Joe! Haha), but I love it. I suffer³ through the heat of the summer and when the heat breaks⁴, I breathe a sigh of relief⁵. Finally, I can sleep properly⁶. We had an air conditioner fitted in my house this year, but I am usually either at work, or in a room that the air conditioner doesn't reach, so I haven't really felt the benefits⁷ of it. My wife and daughter say it is lovely though.



12 differences!

Last week's answer



Something you didn't know about the bridges

1. The longest bridge in the world is the Danyang-Kunshan Grand Bridge in China. It is 164.8 km long. It is a railway bridge.
2. The highest bridge is also in China. It is the Beipanjiang bridge and is 565 m high.
3. The first iron bridge was built in Shropshire, England in 1779. It is still standing. It was made at the start of the Industrial Revolution⁸.
4. The Brooklyn Bridge in New York is the most photographed bridge.
5. The busiest bridge in the world is the George Washington Bridge in New York. It carries 105 million vehicles a year, which is 287,000 every day!

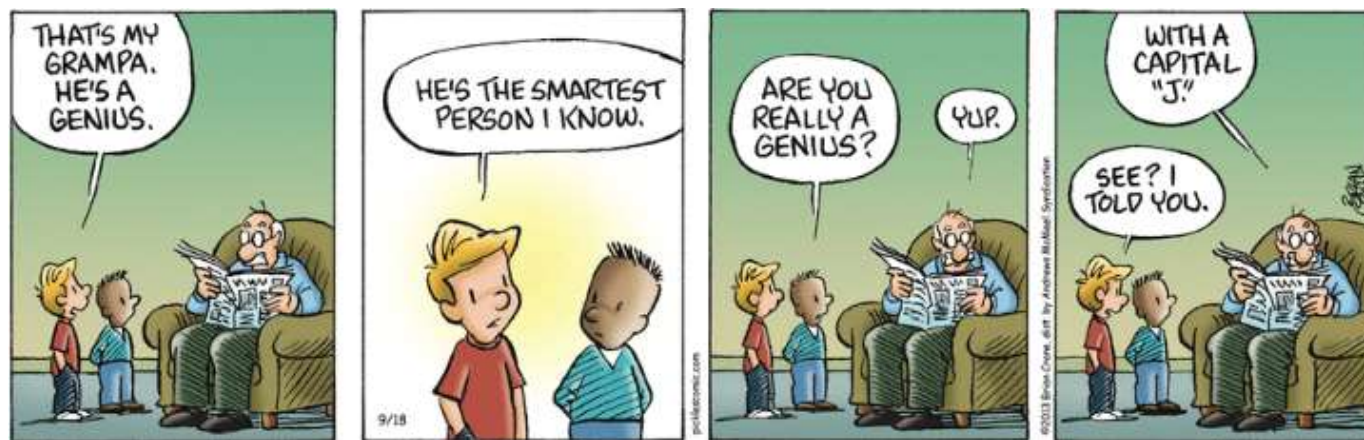


Jon Bon Jovi Saves Woman

Here is a rather unusual story for you. Do you know the American singer, Jon Bon Jovi? You are all probably too young to know his name and what he looks like, but you definitely know some of his songs. If I played them for you right now, you would go, "oh, I know that one! And that one!!" Well, last week in Nashville, Tennessee, USA, Jon Bon Jovi was shooting a music video for a new song he has written. They were filming a scene on a bridge when Bon Jovi saw a woman on the other side of the bridge railing⁹. She had climbed over and she was looking down at the water below. Jon Bon Jovi hasn't spoken out about what happened, but video from the bridge's cameras show him and a crew member go up to the woman. They talk to her for a while, and then help her back over the railing. Bon Jovi gives her a hug. I don't know what happened after that, but hopefully the woman is ok. Interestingly the bridge was called Seigenthaler Bridge and it was named after a reporter called John Seigenthaler. It was named after him because in 1954 he also saved a man from jumping off the bridge. Seigenthaler got a phone call that a man with a broken heart was going to jump off the bridge. He went, but instead of trying to get a story, he talked to the man for about 40 minutes. When the man stood up to jump, Seigenthaler grabbed him and pulled him back onto the bridge.



- 1.complain 不平を言う 2.the more the merrier 多ければ多いほど楽しい 3.suffer through 苦しみを耐え抜く 4.when the heat breaks 暑さが和らぐとき 5.breathe a sigh of relief 安堵のため息をつく 6.properly ちゃんと 7.benefit 恩恵 8.Industrial Revolution 産業革命 9.railing 手すり



World record

Let's have a look at a few cartoon records. I was talking to some students last week about Anpanman. Do you know it has the world record for the highest number of characters in an animated series? In 2009, Anpanman had 1,768 characters. However, that was 15 years ago, and they have increased year on year¹. In 2022, there were over 3,000 characters! Who is your favorite? Sazae san has two world records. It has one for the longest running animated series, and one for the voice actor with the longest career² in the same cartoon. Sazae san has been on air since 1969 and there have been over 2,745 episodes. The voice actor with the record is Midori Kato. She has voiced Sazae Fuguta since the first episode in 1969. She is 84 years old now, but the character of Sazae san has not aged³. She was 24 years-old in 1969, she is 24 years-old today, and she will be 24 years-old in the future.



“A friend is someone who knows all about you and still loves you.” — Elbert Hubbard

An Unusual Job

Iceberg mover

This is a job I had never thought about before. I didn't even know that this job existed⁴. Do you know the story of the Titanic? It sank in 1912 and many people died. Do you know why it sank? It hit an iceberg. Every year, many large pieces of ice break off the ice sheets and float into the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. If they float into shipping lanes⁵, they can be very dangerous. They can also hit oil rigs⁶ and knock them over. An iceberg mover has two jobs. The first job is to monitor⁷ all of the icebergs. They can track them using GPS and they have computer maps that show where all of the large icebergs are. These days, they can use AI to plot the predicted path⁸ of these icebergs as well. The second part of their job is to move any icebergs that are a danger to ships. This is a very difficult job because some icebergs can weigh more than 10 million tons! A ship cannot pull 10 million tons, so what do they do? An iceberg mover ship sails up to the iceberg and they drop a robot in the sea. The robot drills a hole in the iceberg under the sea, inserts a cable, and then freezes the hole shut. Then the ship starts to pull the iceberg. The ship cannot easily pull the iceberg, but it can pull it enough to slightly change its course at a rate of 200 m an hour. That is enough to pull the iceberg out of the way of ships or oil rigs. What do you think? Do you want to try? I think it would be a **nice** job



- 1.year on year 前年比で 2.career 職業 3.age 年を取る 4.exist 存在する
5.shipping lane 航路 6.oil rig 石油掘削装置 7.monitor 監視する 8.the predicted path 予測された進路