

Wow! The sports festival last week was very exciting. I enjoyed it a lot. The school council did a great job organizing it. Did you have fun? Everybody tried their hardest and the supporters<sup>1</sup> were wonderful. How long did your muscles hurt for? You are all young, so you were probably ok the next day. It takes me a lot longer to recover<sup>2</sup> from strenuous exercise<sup>3</sup> these days. It was nice having a day off yesterday as well. I was a day to refresh and recuperate<sup>4</sup>. I don't think we have any activities this week. The junior high school third grade are getting ready for their trip to Canada because they head off<sup>5</sup> on Monday of next week. I expect they are very excited.



10 differences!

Last week's answer



### Something you didn't know about diamonds

1. Diamonds are formed deep in the Earth because they need a lot of pressure and a very high temperature. Most diamonds are two or three billion years old.
2. Diamonds are the hardest natural substance<sup>6</sup> on Earth.
3. The first diamonds were found in India 2,500 years ago.
4. The largest ever diamond was found in South Africa. It was 3,106 carats. Most diamonds that you see on a ring are 1 carat or smaller.
5. Diamonds are not the rarest gemstones. Rubies, sapphires, and emeralds are much rare than diamonds.
6. The tradition of diamonds for wedding rings started in 1947.

### Diamond Ring Comes Back!

Have you ever lost anything? I lose things all the time. I am constantly<sup>7</sup> putting things down and then forgetting where I have put them. Well, have you ever lost anything important or expensive? I lost a 10,000 yen not once. My wife was pretty angry. But that is the most expensive thing I have ever lost. Thirteen years ago, a woman called Mary Strand in the USA lost her diamond ring. The ring was a 33<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary<sup>8</sup> present for Mary from her husband Dave. She was in the bathroom one day and the ring slipped off<sup>9</sup> her finger and went down the toilet. They looked in the pipe under the toilet, but the ring had gone. Mary was very upset, but there was nothing she could do about it. Fast forward 13 years and workers at a water treatment plant<sup>10</sup> in the town Mary lives in were shoveling<sup>11</sup> through waste. One of the workers saw something sparkling. The ring had an unusual design, so they posted about it on SNS. Mary saw the ring and she sent in a photo of her wearing the ring. The water treatment people got a jeweler to check and he said that the two rings were the same, so they gave the ring back to Mary! She can now wear it to celebrate her 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary! It is good to know that the workers in the plant were very honest and they tried to find the owner of the ring. It is also lucky that the ring had such an unusual design. A very happy story.



- 1.supporters 支持者 2.recover 回復する 3.strenuous exercise 激しい運動 4.recuperate 療養する 5.head off 出発する 6.substance 物質 7.constantly 常に 8. wedding anniversary 結婚記念日 9. slip off 滑り落ちる 10.water treatment plant 浄水場 11.shovel シャベルで掘る





### World record

Have you ever jumped off the diving board in the swimming pool? When I was at school, my friends and I went to the swimming pool most weekends and we loved to jump off the diving board. There was a 2 m board and a 5 m board. I once jumped off a 10 m board in a swimming pool as well, but that was really scary. Do you know what the world record is for the highest jump into water? It is 58.8 m! A man called Laso Schaller jumped off a cliff into a lake in 2015 to break the world record. That is a crazy height. I don't know exactly, but out school is approximately<sup>1</sup> 20 m high. That means he jumped off a cliff that is taller than almost three of our schools. Or a 15-story building! It took him 3.49 seconds to fall and when he hit the water he was travelling at 122.4 km/h. He said that he had

to train for months before he could do it. I don't understand what training he must have done to be able to survive<sup>2</sup> such a fall and hitting the water at such a speed. Incredible.



“To love and to be loved is to feel the sun from both sides.” David Viscott

### An Unusual Job

#### Bike Advertising

Do you like cycling? If you do, then this could be an easy way for you to make some money. This job is bicycle advertising<sup>3</sup>, but it might not be what you think. It is not a job in an office where you are working for the marketing department<sup>4</sup> and trying to come up with<sup>5</sup> a new advert for a bicycle. You are actually pulling an advert on your bicycle. Have you seen the buses and the vans that drive around Sapporo with flashy<sup>6</sup> adverts on their sides? Some of them are covered in LED lights and are very bright. Well, this job is the bicycle version of that. It is a very easy job, if the weather is nice. You can use your bicycle and the company give you a trailer with a sign on it. All you have to do is cycle around town pulling the sign. That is it. As long as it is not windy and not rainy, you will have a great time.



1. approximately おおよそ 2. Survive 生き残る 3. Advertising 広告 4. marketing department マーケティング部 5. come up with 考え出す 6. Flashy 派手な