

Did you have a good week? I can't believe how warm it is at the moment. I know none of us like snow and we want it to melt as quickly as possible, but I am very worried about the climate. I have to start thinking about what I can do again. What do you do? I have to help make a better world for my daughter. It was her 12<sup>th</sup> birthday yesterday. I can't believe how quickly she is growing up. She is almost taller than my wife. I think she will probably pass my wife this year. I don't think she will pass me, but you never know. Are you taller than your parents? When my daughter was a baby, my dad said she would be twice the height she was at the age of 3. She was about 1 m tall then, so she might be taller than 2 m! haha.



10 differences!

Last week's answer



## Something you didn't know about Ichiro's statistics<sup>1</sup>

1. Ichiro had 4,367 hits in his professional career, which is more than any other player in baseball history.
2. He has the record for the most hits in a single season, 242.
3. Ichiro stole 500 bases in his career, and he has a stolen base success rate<sup>2</sup> of 81.3%.
4. He kept his batting average<sup>3</sup> over .300 for his entire<sup>4</sup> career, which is rare<sup>5</sup>. In 2004, he batted .372 for the season, which is one of the highest.
5. He had ten consecutive<sup>6</sup> seasons of 200+ hits.
6. Ichiro didn't start in the MLB until he was 27, having had a long career in Japan first. This made him the oldest player to get a first hit in MLB history.

## Ichiro Suzuki Enters Hall of Fame

These days, all people who watch baseball talk about is Otani Shohei. However, before him, there were other Japanese baseball players that kicked up a storm<sup>7</sup> in the MLB. The most successful of those was, obviously, Ichiro Suzuki. In fact, he is so famous, that he simply goes by Ichiro. Well, last week, he was recognized by the MLB and voted into the Hall of Fame<sup>8</sup>. Every year, many players are nominated<sup>9</sup> for the Hall of Fame, and they have to be voted for by all of the members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. These are all of the journalists that write about baseball and they are all very knowledgeable<sup>10</sup> on the subject. The players that get more than 75% of the vote are admitted to the Hall of Fame. Some people are nominated for many years before they get enough votes. This was the first year that Ichiro was nominated and he got 393 out of 394 votes! Everybody wants to know who didn't vote for him. Only one player in the history of the Hall of Fame, Mariano Rivera, has been elected with a unanimous vote<sup>11</sup>. Some people are angry that Ichiro didn't get 100% of the votes because he was such an incredible and game changing player. However, Ichiro doesn't seem to mind. He laughed about it at a press conference. He said that he would like to know who didn't vote for him and invite them for tea.



- 1.statistics 統計 2.success rate 成功率 3.batting average 打率 4.entire 全体 5.rare 珍しい  
6.consecutive 連続の 7.kick up a storm 大きな波紋を呼ぶ 8.the Hall of Fame 殿堂  
9.nominate ノミネートする 10.knowledgeable 物知りな 11.unanimous vote 満場一致の投票





### World record

I like this new system of trying to keep the same theme through my whole English News. Let's try to find some baseball world records this week. The fastest baseball pitch was 170.3 km/h by Aroldis Chapman. He has 9 of the top 10 fastest pitches and they are all over 169 km/h. The longest baseball throw was 136 m by Glen Gorbous in 1957. It has never been beaten. The longest home run in baseball history was 175 m by Babe Ruth in 1921. That has also never been beaten because baseball bats and balls were changed in the 1930s making it much harder to hit them very far. The most home runs in a season and the most home runs in a career are both held by Barry Bonds. He scored 73 home runs in 2001 and 762 home runs in his career. The most expensive baseball was Shohei Otani's 50<sup>th</sup> home run ball. It was sold for 690,000,000 yen!



“A life is not important except<sup>1</sup> in the impact<sup>2</sup> it has on other lives.” Jackie Robinson (baseball player)

### An Unusual Job

#### Baseball Usher<sup>3</sup>

This job is not actually that unusual and a lot of people do it, but it is a job you will probably have never thought about. Every baseball stadium on Earth has ushers. Their job is to take tickets and show people to their seats. They are a good source of<sup>4</sup> information if anybody has any questions. They know where everything is in the stadium. They have to liaise<sup>5</sup> with security if they notice a problem. They make sure that the guests are where they are supposed to be and doing what they are supposed to be doing. A baseball stadium wouldn't work properly without its ushers. A lot of ushers are retired<sup>6</sup> and do it as a part time job. The pay is good, but it is probably not enough for someone to live on<sup>7</sup>. A retired person can use it to supplement<sup>8</sup> their pension<sup>9</sup>. It is a good job for retired people, but they have to walk a lot and climb a lot of stairs. They spend most of the game on their feet. However, if you like baseball, you like people, and you like walking, then it is probably a pretty good job.



1.except～を除いて 2.impact 影響 3.usher 案内する人 4.a good source of～の良い供給源 5.liaise 連携する 6.retired 退職した 7.not enough to live on 生活するのにジュ分ではない 8.supplement 補う 9.pension 年金