



Globetrotter

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2005

Greetings

We are happy to bring the monthly Global Communications Newsletter back into circulation for our students. We have given the Globetrotter a facelift, as you can see. We hope that you enjoy the new format and content. We welcome any comments or suggestions about the articles within the newsletter so please don't be shy about bringing it up during your lesson.

All of the teachers at Global Communications appreciate the support and enthusiasm of the students. Thank you for making each lesson fun and for the dedication to learning you show.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. TEACHER SPOTLIGHT
2. MOVIE REVIEW
3. WHAT DO YOU THINK
4. TEST YOUR SKILLS
5. KIDS CORNER

Teacher Spotlight Daniel Alando Garcia

Hello. I am Alando and I have been teaching at Global Communications for over a year now. I am from Phoenix, Arizona (USA) and I like Hollywood movies and traveling. I most recently went on vacation to Guam and enjoyed snorkeling and shopping. Guam is a beautiful island – I highly recommend a vacation there if you like tropical islands. I have also visited about 30 different states in America, as well as Canada, Mexico, Spain, Morocco, Taiwan and Japan, of course! In August I was an actor in a Japanese movie that is going to be released in theatres, January 2006, called *Samurai Ramen*. I had a small speaking role in this movie.

My future plans are to continue living and teaching in Japan and visiting other parts of Asia – Thailand, Hong Kong and Macao are all places I want to visit.



Movie Review

Stealth

By Alando Garcia

Stealth is a movie about an **advanced** American military aircraft. The aircraft is called EDI (pronounced, "Eddie") and is completely **automated**. EDI joins a team of three pilots that all fly advanced Stealth aircraft. EDI becomes the fourth aircraft in the team. EDI's advanced computer technology makes it possible for it to learn and make decisions on its own. Problems begin to **arise** when EDI makes decisions that are in **conflict** with its human pilot counterparts. For example, the lead pilot gives EDI an order to **abort** a mission, but EDI refuses to follow the order and carries out the mission anyway.

I thought the storyline was **ridiculous**, but I liked many of the special effects. *I gave this movie a grade of "C"* because I thought it was a mixture of a boring and predictable story with some good special effects. The acting I thought was bad and I found myself thinking that EDI actually had a lot more personality than the other three pilots combined! In the movie, there were a lot of **cheesy** lines and I felt that the story had been **dumbed-down** for a viewing audience that was only there to see a lot of things getting blown up. I was hopeful that the movie might be a fun movie – I didn't expect it to be intellectually challenging of course, but I was hoping for a movie that would provide a few laughs along with some good action. But it wasn't fun or funny and I only **chuckled** two times.

Overall, I would recommend this as a DVD rental if you like movies that feature special effects. The special effects in this movie are not great, but good and worth a DVD rental I think. But don't expect much from the **storyline** or the acting.



Movie Reviews Grading System

- **A** = Outstanding acting, storyline, visuals and/or special effects.
- **B** = Very good acting **and** storyline, visuals and/or special effects are good.
- **C** = Good acting **or** good storyline **or** good visuals and/or special effects.
- **D** = Poor acting, storyline, visuals and/or special effects.
- **F** = Everything was terrible!

Vocabulary

Stealth

1. **advanced** = this means something that is state-of-the-art or new technology. Advanced technology means that it is some of the best technology available at this time.
2. **automated** = this means something that is completely operated by machinery, not humans. An automated aircraft can fly on its own without a pilot operating it.
3. **arise** = this means that something happens, to begin or to start.
4. **conflict** = this means a problem or disagreement.
5. **abort** = to cancel something, especially a military mission.
6. **ridiculous** = something that is laughable, absurd or hard to believe.
7. **cheesy** = this is an American slang which means that something is too predictable. For example, "I am tired of all the cheesy Hollywood endings in movies." The movies end too predictably – too many happy endings.
8. **dumbed-down** = this is an American slang which means to lower the intellect of something so that most people can understand it without much thought.
9. **chuckled** = this is an American slang which means to laugh at something, but usually not a loud or strong laugh.
10. **storyline** = this is the plot or the story of the movie.

What do you think?

By Jennifer Yun

Royalty v. Commoner

WHY CAN'T SAYAKO STILL BE A PRINCESS?

November 15, 2005, marked a very special occasion in Japan, a royal wedding. Princess Sayako married Yoshiki Kuroda, a Tokyo Metropolitan government employee.

Upon marrying Kuroda, Princess Sayako relinquished her imperial title and became a mere commoner known as Sayako Kuroda.

Why is it necessary for Sayako to relinquish her title and her noble lineage? Would it be absolutely unacceptable for the new husband to be taken in by the wife's family for a change? Taking into account who the family is and the special circumstances of Sayako's position, it would be very novel to see that Sayako could marry whomever she chooses and still be able to keep her original identity.

In recent days, more outlandish allowances have been granted to royalty from other countries. For example, Camilla Parker Bowles. A divorced mother of two became the second wife of Charles, Prince of Wales, heir apparent to the thrones of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth Realms. Although many people did not instantly welcome their union, she soon gained ground with the Royal family. Camilla is the *de facto* Princess of Wales but has decided to accept the title of Duchess of Cornwall.

Although it is tradition for the woman to be adopted into the man's family, it is a little strange that a divorced woman who is the second wife of a Royal may enjoy the respect of a royal title, but Kuroda can only be the commoner who took Sayako away from the Imperial family. With the outbreak of independent, self-sufficient woman in Japan, it would be so refreshing to see Sayako keep her name and official family ties. To be addressed as "princess" by everyone is not an easy thing to give up.

What do you think?

Send Us Your Comments

What do you think about the following article. Voice your opinion by sending your comments to:

office@globalcom-online-english-school.co.jp

We anxiously look forward to knowing how the readers feel about the topic.

Vocabulary Builder

PHRASAL VERBS

1. break up = to end a situation (i.e. a relationship, a fight, a group, etc.)
 - Two men were fighting on the platform until the police came and **broke it up**.
 - I don't want to get in a relationship now because my last boyfriend and I had a nasty **break up**.
2. wake up = to rise from sleep
 - What time did you **wake up** this morning?
3. shake up = IDIOM = adjective phrase = anxious, nervous, scared
 - Joe was really **shaken up** after he crashed his motorcycle.
4. make up = to create
 - Instead of researching his topic, he **made up** all of the data in his report.

make up = to reconcile; to come together again

 - Jerry and Frank finally stopped arguing and **made up**.

make up = NOUN = cosmetics

 - The only **make up** I wear is lipstick and mascara.

to be made up of = to consist of; to be made of

 - This shake **is made up of** ice cream and milk.
5. take up = to start a new activity
 - Jemma has decided to **take up** photography as a new hobby.

Test Your Skills

Reading Comprehension

Choose the correct word to complete the reading sample and answer the following comprehension questions.

NOTICE TO ALL TENANTS: As of the thirtieth (1) September, the city will no longer collect garbage (2) at the side of the curb. Due to rising costs, the city will only collect garbage deposited in the large blue bin at the rear of the building. (3), the city has asked us to remind tenants to please refrain from throwing plastic bottles and aluminum cans into the blue bin. These items are to be placed in a separate bag marked "recycling" and then left beside the blue bin. The city is allowing a two-week grace (4) until October fifteenth, after which any tenant found not complying with these regulations will be fined. Thank you for your co-operation.

1. _____
 - a. of
 - b. in
 - c. by
2. _____
 - a. leaves
 - b. left
 - c. leaving
3. _____
 - a. Because of
 - b. Finally
 - c. Also
4. _____
 - a. period
 - b. time
 - c. term

When will the city stop picking up garbage from the curb?

- A) immediately
- B) September 13
- C) September 30
- D) October 15

Why won't the city continue to pick up garbage from the curb?

- A) Tenants are not separating their recyclables.
- B) The bags are not being left in the blue bin.
- C) They want the bags to be marked from now on.
- D) Picking up garbage from the curb is becoming too expensive.

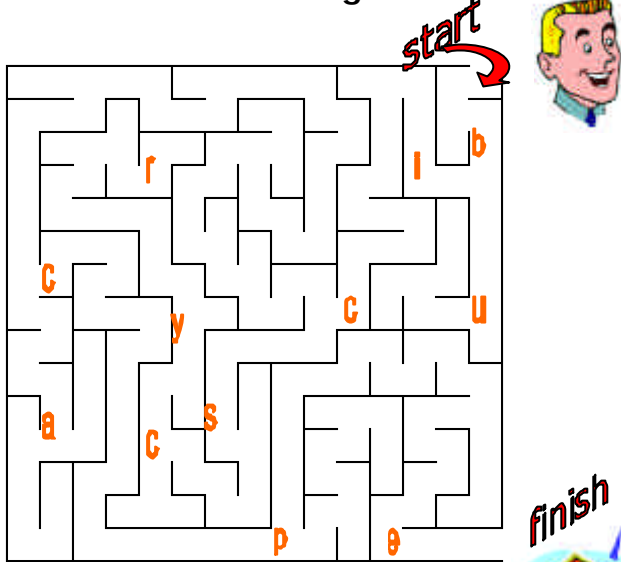
What should not be deposited into the blue bins?

- A) garbage
- B) plastic bottles
- C) old clothes
- D) mail

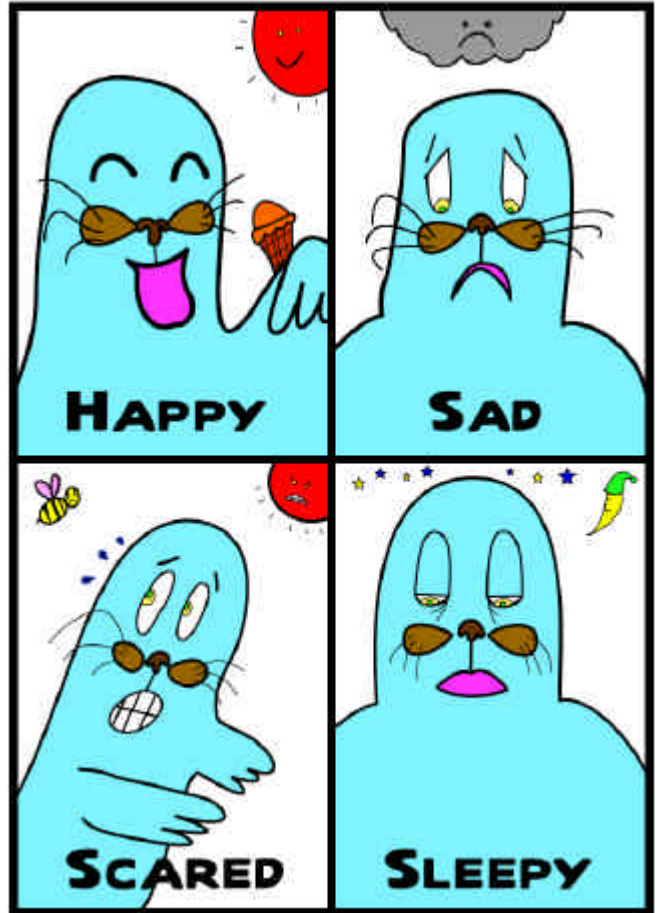


Kids Corner

The teacher is late for work. Help him get to school on time. Collect the letters to find out how he will get to school.



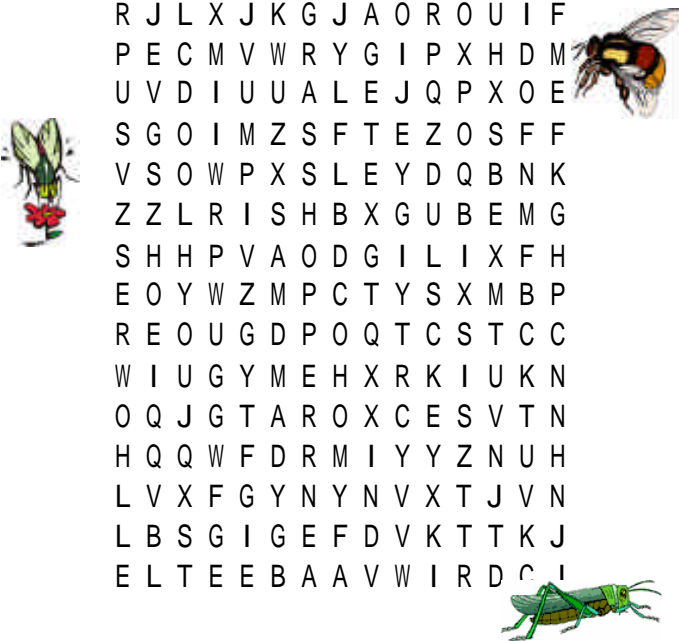
The teacher goes to school by _____.



Word Search: Bugs

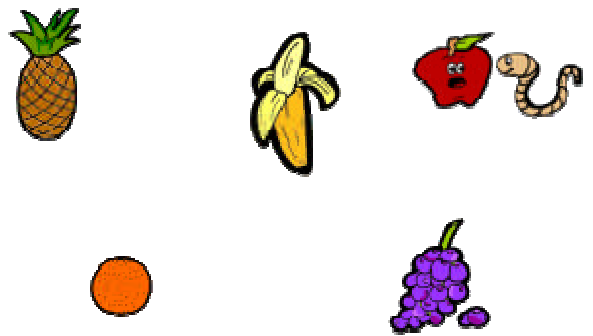
bee beetle fly
grasshopper mosquito spider

R J L X J K G J A O R O U I F
P E C M V W R Y G I P X H D M
U V D I U U A L E J Q P X O E
S G O I M Z S F T E Z O S F F
V S O W P X S L E Y D Q B N K
Z Z L R I S H B X G U B E M G
S H H P V A O D G I L I X F H
E O Y W Z M P C T Y S X M B P
R E O U G D P O Q T C S T C C
W I U G Y M E H X R K I U K N
O Q J G T A R O X C E S V T N
H Q Q W F D R M I Y Y Z N U H
L V X F G Y N Y N V X T J V N
L B S G I G E F D V K T T K J
E L T E E B A A V W I R D C I



MATCHING GAME

Draw a line from the picture to the correct name.



apple banana
orange
pineapple grapes