



Globetrotter

Volume 1, Issue 16

July 2007

Greetings

Thanks to all of the students who sent comments about the previous Globetrotter issue. Please continue posting your thoughts on the blog!

NEWS---Remember to check out the Global Communications website, which has great features such as blogs, downloadable worksheets and newsletters, video introductions of the teachers, podcasts, and much more!

NEWS---If you are preparing for the test, be sure to check out the e-test at www.e-test.biz.

Please give us your comments or any ideas for articles you would like to see in future Globetrotters! We always enjoy receiving your mail and hearing what you think.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. STUDENT COMMENT
2. PAUL'S CORNER
3. IN THE NEWS
4. KID'S CORNER

Student Spotlight

Keiko

By Paul Michel

Keiko is an investment portfolio manager living in Tokyo and has been a Global Communications student since 2004.

Since she has advanced abilities in communicating in English, Keiko prefers to have a free conversation style lesson that includes using news articles as topics. The news articles regularly used come from sources such as BBC, Newsweek, and the Japan Times.

Keiko has great knowledge and a strong interest of what is happening in the world. She is able to have very well rounded conversations and debates about any topic. We thoroughly enjoy Keiko's lessons because of her enthusiasm for learning, and look forward to teaching her in the future!



Thanks Keiko!

Paul's Corner

Canadian Friends Visit Japan

By Paul Michel

Hello, Globetrotter readers! About a month ago I met with two of my friends from Canada who were visiting Japan. They live in Toronto (where I previously lived) and were visiting Asia on their honeymoon.

I met the bride at our university, Queen's University in Kingston. We were in the same group of friends that included many international students, including four students from Japan.

In Toronto I would meet my friends for dinner, drinks, to attend Toronto Blue Jays baseball games and other activities. Once we travelled down to the Niagara region and visited a few wineries. That was fun!

My friends both work in the insurance industry and they met on the job. After buying a **condominium** together and living together for a few years they finally decided to get married. Unfortunately I was unable to attend their wedding in Toronto but I was thrilled when I heard that they would be visiting Tokyo as part of their Asian honeymoon (they also visited China and Macau).

When we met in Tokyo I was a little surprised that they were accompanied by an elderly Japanese man that I'll call "Mr. Saito". They informed me that Mr. Saito was a long time **penpal** of the bride and he was showing them around Tokyo.

After greeting them and meeting Mr. Saito I asked my friends if they were ready to proceed to a restaurant for lunch as we had planned. They told me that Mr. Saito had already taken them to lunch. I was a little disappointed because I knew a great restaurant in that area that I wanted to introduce them to and I was also a little hungry.

With Mr. Saito out of **earshot**, my friends revealed to me that he had taken them on an exhausting sightseeing tour of Tokyo over the previous few days. They complained to me that he would not leave them alone, even in the evenings! He had gone so far as to book a hotel room near their hotel to maximize their time together! Luckily my friends were able to send Mr. Saito the message that they needed a little time alone.

Have any of you had a similar experience? If so drop us a line!

Vocabulary

1. **condominium**: a individually owned unit in an apartment building: "After buying a **condominium** together and living together for a few years they finally decided to get married."
2. **penpal**: a person with whom another person regularly exchanges letters : "They informed me that Mr. Saito was a long time **penpal** of the bride and he was showing them around Tokyo."
3. **earshot**: The range within which a voice can be heard: "With Mr. Saito out of **earshot**, my friends revealed to me that he had taken them on an exhausting sightseeing tour of Tokyo over the previous few days"

In The News

Learn to Read the News in English

Reading the news is an ideal way to practice your English reading skills. Every month, the Globetrotter will include a new English news article with key vocabulary and definitions. We hope you enjoy this feature of the Globetrotter!

This month's article is about a smoking ban in California. Do you think smoking should be banned in Japan? Let us know!

Beverly Hills Smoking Ban

Beverly Hills is one of the richest cities in America. It attracts tourists from around the world and is home to many expensive hotels and restaurants.

The Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and his friend, the actor Sylvester Stallone, have been known to enjoy a cigar on the patio of a local cafe. But such behaviour will be **banned** from October after Beverly Hills city council voted to create **smoke-free areas** outside restaurants. People will be able to smoke in **sectioned-off** areas around hotel swimming pools.

Opponents say the ban will **prompt** smokers to eat in nearby Los Angeles, which still allows people **to light up** if they're outdoors. But the American Heart Foundation has congratulated Beverly Hills for protecting diners from **second-hand smoke**. The council says it plans to look at **the impact** of the new law after three months.

In 1998 California became the first US state to introduce a complete smoking ban inside public buildings.

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

1. **banned:** made to be against the law; not allowed: "Owning a gun is **banned** in Japan."
2. **smoke-free areas:** places where people aren't allowed to smoke: "My office is a **smoke-free area**, so I must go outside to smoke."
3. **sectioned-off:** separated: "The smoking area in the coffee shop is **sectioned-off**"
4. **opponents:** people who believe the opposite: "The Prime Minister's **opponents** are from the Democratic Party of Japan."
5. **prompt:** to cause or encourage people to do something: "My teacher **prompted** me to answer the question."
6. **to light up:** to smoke a cigarette: "Please don't **light up** in my home."
7. **second-hand smoke:** the smoke that non-smokers breath when other people smoke cigarettes: "I don't like breathing **second-hand smoke** at a restaurant"
8. **impact:** the effect: "Practicing speaking English everyday will have a great **impact** on your fluency."

Kids Corner

How Much Are They?



three dollars each



five for a dollar



seven dollars per dozen

(1 dozen = 12)

1.



The donuts are

_____.

2.



The cookies cost

_____.

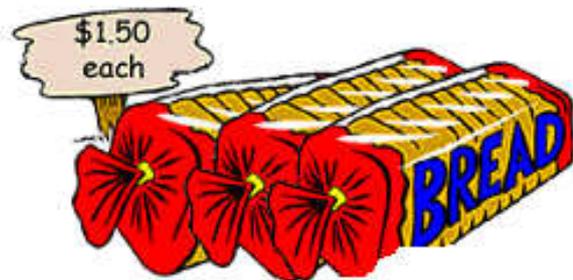
3.



The pies are

_____.

4.



The bread is

_____.