



# Globetrotter

Volume 1, Issue 23

February 2009

## 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](http://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. TEACHER SPOTLIGHT
2. AARON'S CORNER
4. ELEANOR'S GRAMMAR PAGE
6. IN THE NEWS

## Teacher Spotlight

### Aaron Toussaint

Hi everyone, my name is Aaron Toussaint, and I am a new teacher here at Global Communications. Though I am new at Global Communications, I have been teaching English in Japan for three years. I spent two years working at a high school in Okinawa. After that, I moved to a university in Tokyo.

I am originally from Minnesota, in the United States. Minnesota is a very cold place with a lot of snow in the winter. It is not a very famous place, but we do have the largest shopping mall in the United States. It is so big, there is even a Ferris Wheel and a roller coaster inside, just like La Qua at the Tokyo Dome!

I first moved to Okinawa because I wanted to continue to study the Japanese language and culture. After spending two years in Okinawa, I decided to move to Tokyo and enter graduate school at Sophia University. I am currently working on my master's degree while teaching.

One thing that really impresses me about many Japanese people is that even though they are adults, they never stop learning new things. Many Japanese adults go to English or Korean school, take cooking or calligraphy classes, or learn how to play an instrument. I don't think American people are nearly so active!

I have enjoyed my time in Japan, and have enjoyed teaching English the past three years. I enjoy helping people learn, and know how rewarding learning a foreign language can be. I hope that all of you will enjoy learning here at Global Communications. If you have any other questions, please ask me during our lesson. Happy studying!

---

# Aaron's Corner

## Back to School

September is a special month in America. After Labor Day, a holiday in early September, children from elementary school to college across the United States start school. Labor Day is an important holiday in America. On Labor Day, no one is supposed to work. It is supposed to be a time when people who work hard get a vacation. It is celebrated on the first Monday in September. Many people consider Labor Day to be the end of summer. A popular way to spend Labor Day is to go on a picnic or do something else outside. Because it is the last day of summer, many people hope for good weather. Labor Day also marks the start of the season for two popular sports, college basketball and the NFL for American Football.

Labor Day is the most famous holiday in September, but there are many other less famous holidays, too. Because school starts in September, there are many holidays that are related to education. September is designated "College Savings Month." In the United States, going to college is very expensive. During September, we should think about our future and the future of our children and remember to start saving money to pay for college, even though it may be a long time off.

September is also Library Card Sign-up Month. In the United States you need to get a special card to be able to use town and city libraries. The cards are free and anyone can get them. In September, some libraries

run campaigns to encourage people to get their own library cards. Librarians think that if people get their own library cards, they will go to the library and read more often.

September also has many strange holidays. The month of September is National Rice Month. During this month, rice farmers and rice companies have many promotions to try and encourage people to eat more rice. Rice is not very popular in the US, so they have a lot of work to do!

September 5<sup>th</sup> is Be Late for Something Day. On this silly holiday, people are supposed to come to an event or an appointment late. Just make sure you aren't late for anything important!

September 12<sup>th</sup> is Video Game Day. On this day you should make sure to play your DS or go to an arcade.

But my favorite holiday in September is September 16<sup>th</sup>, International Talk Like a Pirate Day. On this day everyone is supposed to try and talk like a pirate. Have you ever seen the famous movie, Pirates of the Caribbean? If you liked it, try talking like Captain Jack on the 16th. All your friends will be impressed!

### Vocabulary

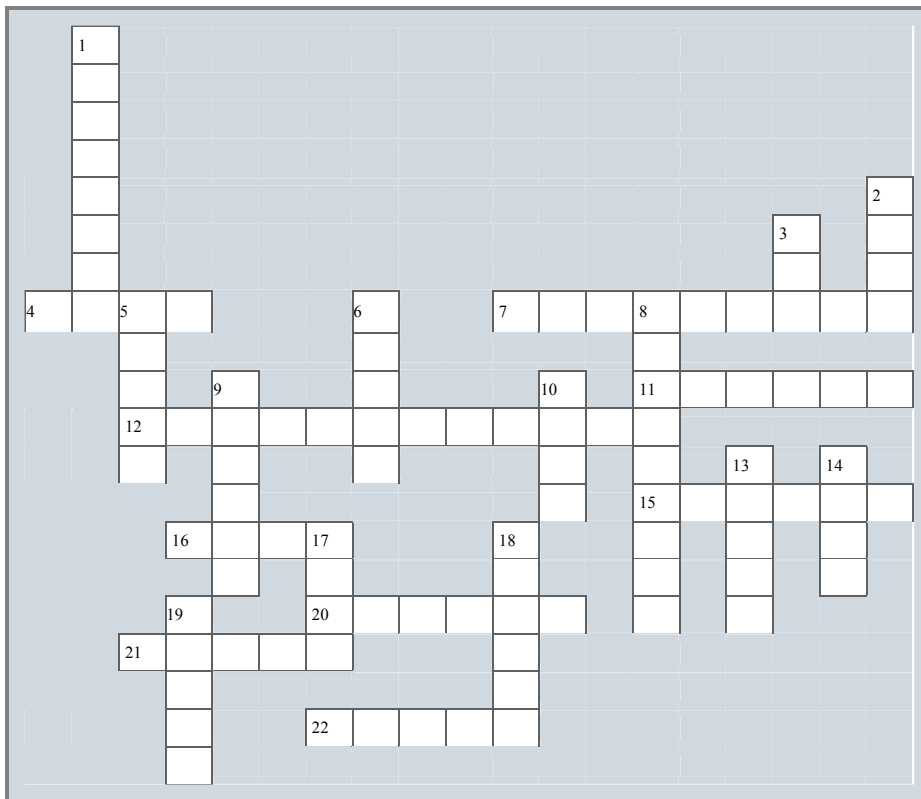
**Designate**-To point out or choose something or someone for a special purpose. Barack Obama was **designated** the Democratic presidential nominee.

**Campaign**- a special activity to try and encourage people to do something or to change the way they do something. Right now, JR is running a special **campaign** to try and get travelers to go to Tohoku.

**Arcade**- A place with many games. In Japan, they are called "game centers." My favorite **arcade** is Sega Joypolis.

**Pirate**- Someone who sails around the ocean, trying to steal from other people, especially other boats. Captain Jack Sparrow is a famous **Pirate**.

## Opposites Crossword



**Crossword puzzles** can be a great way to improve your English, especially vocabulary. Look at the clues on the bottom of the page and try and fill in the answers in the squares. Make sure you spell carefully. If you make a spelling mistake, it can mess up the entire crossword. We'll print the answers next month. Happy Puzzling!

Hint: You might want to use a dictionary to check spelling or to find words. Check the number of letters in the answer before writing it down!

### Across

4. The opposite of pull.
7. The opposite of healthy.
11. The opposite of drop.
12. The opposite of the South Pole.
15. the opposite of smart.
16. The opposite of alive.
20. The opposite of borrow.
21. the opposite of slow.
22. The opposite of right.

### Down

1. The opposite of please.
2. The opposite of few.
3. The opposite of fat.
5. The opposite of north.
6. The opposite of tall.
8. The opposite of cheap.
9. The opposite of Hell.
10. The opposite of up.
13. The opposite of cloudy.
14. The opposite of narrow.
17. The opposite of light.
18. The opposite of exciting.
19. The opposite of urban.

This crossword puzzle was created by Global Communications with [EclipseCrossword](http://EclipseCrossword.com).

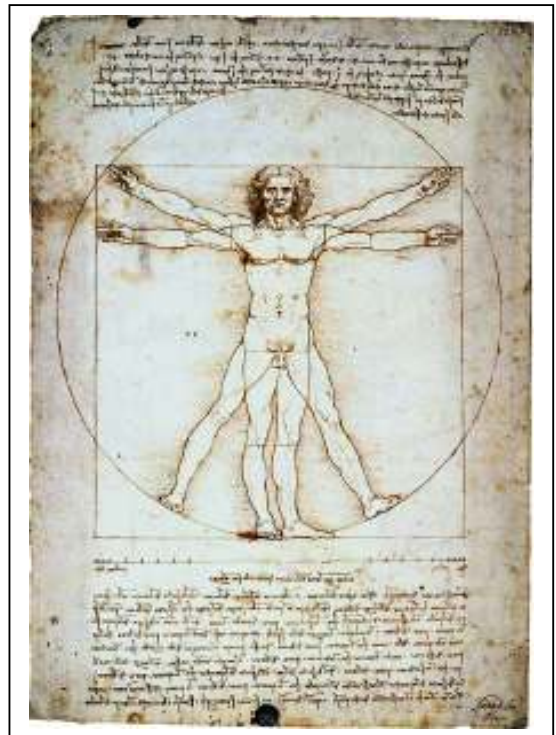
## Word Search

This month we have a word search about anatomy, or the parts of the human body.

Try and find these words in the puzzle below. Good luck! We'll print the answers next month.

Arm, Bladder, Bone, Brain Ears, Eyes, Foot, Finger, Hand, Head, Heart, Kidney, Leg, Liver, Lungs, Muscles, Nose Skin Spine, Toe, Tongue, Veins.

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



Copyright © 2002-2004 Free Online Word Search Puzzles  
All Rights Reserved. [Web hosting](#) by [AfterImage](#)

This is a famous drawing by Leonardo Da Vinci. It is one of the first accurate, and one of the most famous, drawings of the human body.

### **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](mailto:office@globalcom-online-english-school.co.jp).

We look forward to hearing how you feel about this topic.

## 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 week's article comes from the Japan Times.*

### 'Energy boosting' eel drink latest attempt to beat the heat

The Associated Press

It's the hottest season of the year, and that means it's eel season. So, bottoms up!

A canned drink called Unagi Nobori, or **Surging** Eel, made by Japan Tobacco Inc. has hit stores just ahead of the annual eel-eating season, company spokesman Kazunori Hayashi said. "It's mainly for men who are exhausted by the summer heat," he said of Japan's first **mass-produced** eel drink.

Many Japanese believe eating eel boosts stamina in hot weather.

The fizzy, yellow-colored drink contains extracts from the head and bones of eel and five vitamins — A, B1, B2, D and E — contained in the fish.

Demand for eel is so high that the nation has been hit by **scores** of eel **fraud** cases, including a recent high-profile incident in which a ministry publicly scolded two companies for mislabeling eel imported from China as domestic.

The eel involved in recent **scandals** was prepared in a popular "kaba-yaki" style, in which it is broiled and covered with a sweet sauce. The ¥140 drink costs about one-tenth as much as broiled eel but has a similar flavor.

Eel extract is also used in cookies and pies made in Japan's biggest eel-producing town, Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Prefecture.

## Vocabulary

1. **Surge:** This means to move forward very strongly with a lot of energy, or to make a great effort. Yakult was losing the game, but **surged** in the seventh inning and beat Hiroshima by 4 runs.
2. **Mass-Produced:** **mass-produced** means making a lot of the same thing at one time, usually for a small amount of money. In China, clothes and shoes can be **mass-produced** very cheaply.
3. **Scores:** **Score** is an old word that means 20. If you have **scores** of something, you have a lot of something. I have **scores** of free tissues in my pocket, people keep giving them to me!
4. **Fraud:** A **fraud** is something that is not real or something that is fake. I bought this Gucci wallet for 1000 yen, but it is a **fraud**.
5. **Scandal:** A **scandal** is when someone does something wrong or bad and then tries to hide it, but eventually the truth is found out and everyone learns about it. A **scandal** was caused when they found out the students were all cheating on the test.



**"Surging Eel"  
Energy Drink**