

# THE READER

OUR ENGLISH MAGAZINE

## R ELVES

Magda Antoniak I B

Q: 'why are the blond jokes so short?'

A: 'So brunettes can remember them'

## R THE NAMES OF THE MONTHS

Magdalena Świerczyńska I b

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### OPTIONAL

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## R CURIOSITY

### ZONE

Ewelina Gorzędowska IIIa

## R JOKES &

### HUMOUR

Ewelina Gorzędowska IIIa

## DO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH?

- a) .....
- b) .....
- c) .....

Angeliki  
Trangas Ib

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# ELVES



An elf is a creature of Germanic mythology. At the beginning, the elves were presented as the gods of nature and fertility; later as pixies or fairies of forest or water. It was believed that they were long-living or immortal and had a variety of magical powers. People imagined that elves lived in forests, springs, and even underground. In Slavic and Greek mythology, elves were identified with pixies and water nymphs. In some traditions, the elves helped Santa Claus in distributing gifts under the Christmas tree. Their story comes from the early days of the world. They look similar to people of all races. Elves are of the people's height, but they are slender. They don't have beards. Their features are more delicate. Elves are one of the most important races of most fantasy worlds.

## HOW TO RECOGNIZE AN ELF?

- ✓ pointed ears
- ✓ beautiful appearance
- ✓ magic talents
- ✓ long hair (usually blonde, silver or black)
- ✓ archery skills
- ✓ beautiful and melodious voice

## MIDDLE - EARTH

In J.R.R. Tolkien's works elves are one of the greatest races of Middle-Earth and Valinor. They are interested in poetry and singing. Their different name is Quendi. They speak their own



languages, of which the best known are Quenya and Sindarin. They overcame Sauron together with people during the Last Alliance. The main tribes are Eldar, Vanyar, Noldor and Teleri

Written by Magda Antoniak I B

# HATS OPTIONAL

When I was a child, I used to be a Catholic. People told me that a man or a boy when he gets into a church has to remove his hat to show respect to the presence of

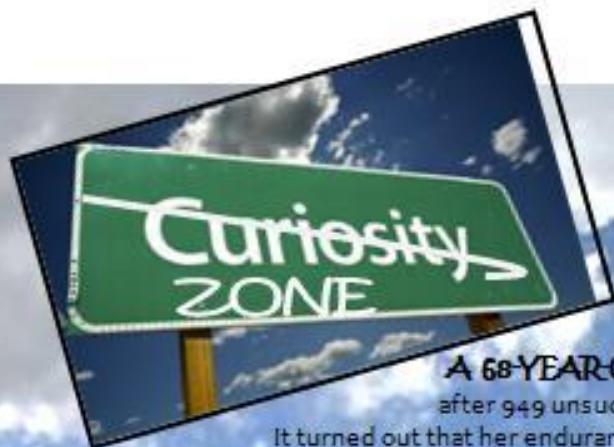


God. But they have already told me that God is everywhere so why not show respect by buying a hat. To confuse things further, they told



women something completely opposite. Catholic women had to cover their heads when they entered a church. In synagogue the same, Jewish men have to wear hats in church but Jewish women cannot do it. ... And try not to get lost. Catholic men and Jewish women - no hats, Catholic women and Jewish men - hats. Maybe in every religion there should be an eventuality of wearing hats

Written by Maciek Chrostowski and Anna Ostrowicz IIIe



**THE GIGANTIC TOADS** brought from South America were kept with quarter-metre-long alligators at one of American universities. One day, someone noticed the lack of one alligator. The X-ray verified the suspicions. The poor alligator had been eaten by a toad.

**A 68-YEAR-OLD WOMAN** from South Korea wasn't discouraged after 949 unsuccessful attempts of passing the theoretical driving test. It turned out that her endurance helped her to pass the examination by the 950th try. Now she just has to pass the practical exam.

**THE COURT IN THE USA** dictated to Artur Younkin (weight: 225kg) losing his weight up to 175kg and forbade him eating more than one meal per day. The convicted, because of his overweight, had lost his job and hadn't paid back the loan. He is getting fit in prison.

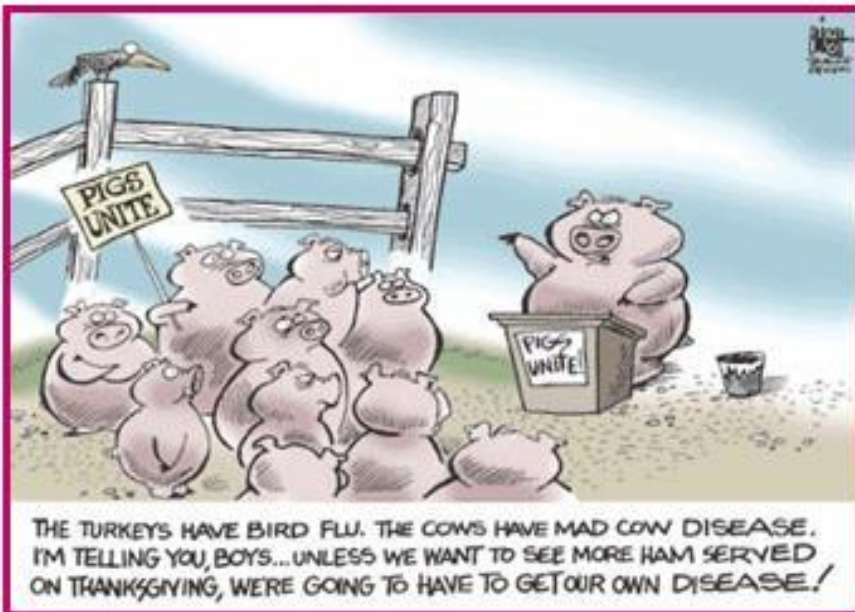
**IN TURKEY DRUNK DRIVERS** are left 30km away from the place where they live. They have to roam to their houses on foot. If they don't want to go to prison, they can't travel by public means of transport.

**IN 1933 IN PARIS A BURGLAR** in disguise of a knight broke into somebody's flat. Why? We don't know, but for sure, it wasn't a good idea. The armour was making a horrible noise with his every move. A landlord woke up and turned the knight out of the flat. The thief wedged in the dilapidated armour and just after 24 hours the locksmith relieved him from troublesome garment.

**IN TANZANIA THE GROOM**, while saying the words of the marital oath, has to repeat after a registrar: "I'd rather bleed to death, I'd rather be killed by thunder, I'd rather be wolfed by a crocodile, I'd rather got deaf or blind, I'd rather become a beggar than I'll lie to my wife or leave her."

By: Ewelina Gorzędowska kl. IIIa

# "SWINE FLU IS DANGEROUS FOR THE WHOLE EUROPE"



"Let us be vigilant" - called on Vassiliou, the European, on the pages of "Die Welt". On what basis should it be claimed that a new A/H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> influenza epidemic in EU countries will reach such a large size? The virus can undergo transformation and as a result, it can become more aggressive. Unfortunately, we must therefore expect a significant increase in the number of deaths.

According to Vassiliou, increased activity of the virus will have its socio-economic impact. It may strike the tourism industry and entertainment. Disturbing news from the front line fighting the virus, in turn, came from Switzerland. There were problems with the registration of a new vaccine against swine flu.

What is happening on the periphery of the EU is not good. In Turkey, there was the first reported fatal case of the new influenza virus. As a result, in Ankara, a school was closed for a week, and Rustic Health Ministry urged the public to abide specific rules of hygiene. The aim is to avoid kissing and squeezing a hand. This should be followed for the next five months.



The first four fatal cases of A/H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> influenza have been reported in Russia. One of the deceased was pregnant. In several regions in the Russian Far East, there have been increase in the number of cases of the new flu.

While half of the world is trembling with fear of infection, the others do not deal with this threat. The survey was carried out in the most populous countries in the world. Despite the massive campaign, more than half of the Chinese do not

intend to be vaccinated against swine flu. Let us hope that this will change soon ...

Written by

Izabela Królak III e

Madgalena Gonera III e

Gunther von Hagens'

# BODY WORLDS

The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies

Body Worlds is a travelling exhibition of preserved human bodies and body parts. Its creator, German anatomist, Gunther von Hagens, invented a special method of plastination which helps the bodies to keep fixed.

This incredible and unusual display caught my attention during my last visit in London. So, I decided to see it. The exhibition had been taking place at the O2 Arena in Greenwich until the end of August.

Now it has become available to everyone to see inner structures of human body.

This exhibition can be called controversial. And opinions in this matter are divided. Some people say it ought to be banned or that it is contrary to all ethics and morals. They think that we should not pay for watching human bodies and give our agreement to make art from death.

On the other hand, it is perceived as an illuminating and interesting subject.

For me it was definitely amazing, shocking a little bit but something new and unconventional. This exhibition is supposed to help understand our own bodies better.



Misshaped or diseased human organs are compared to healthy ones (like lungs of a smoker for instance) which should emphasize the importance of proper life style.

Different displays focus on different systems in the body, including respiratory, locomotory, digestive, nervous and cardiovascular.

Since not long time ago, there is a display of animals' bodies - for example a giant giraffe can be seen - all muscles and inner organs. That is a really stunning view!

To date, more than 28 million people around the world have viewed the Body Worlds exhibition. For some of you, it may seem fascinating, for the others, inappropriate or maybe even disgusting but I am sure no one can stay indifferent to this exposition.

Written by Karolina Klamka kl. IIb

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# THE NAMES OF THE MONTHS

The names of the months all come from Latin. Many of the names were names of Roman gods. January, March, May, June - these months are named after Roman gods.

January was named after the god Janus. Janus was a strange god with two faces. He could look in two directions. He could look forward and backwards at the same time. He was the god of endings and beginnings. January, which is named after him, is the first month of the year. It is a month in which one looks forward to the new year. One also looks back to the old year.

Written by: Magdalena

Świerczyńska kl. Ib



## A FEW GUIDELINES ON HOW TO FULFILL YOURSELF IN LIFE

One of the popular American proverbs is "Nothing ventured, nothing gained". It means the same as the sentence: without risk, we can not get what we really want. Everybody knows this quote and most people would probably say that they agree with it. But how many of them are really trying to fulfill their desires? What does

the most often stand in the way of letting plans become reality?

There could be many answers. The first that comes to mind is fear. And it might be true. Failure is a lot worse than missed chance. Sometimes it might put the stop to the next attempt. Another reason seems to be more complicated. In my opinion, there are fewer and fewer people, who know exactly what they want to achieve, even in the nearest future. Without some kind of confidence it's hard to start doing anything to achieve some goal. It's more simple to make up our mind when we don't care about the opinion of other people.

Basing only on our opinions gives us freedom. They are being created, when we have a system of values. Then we could think only about our wants.

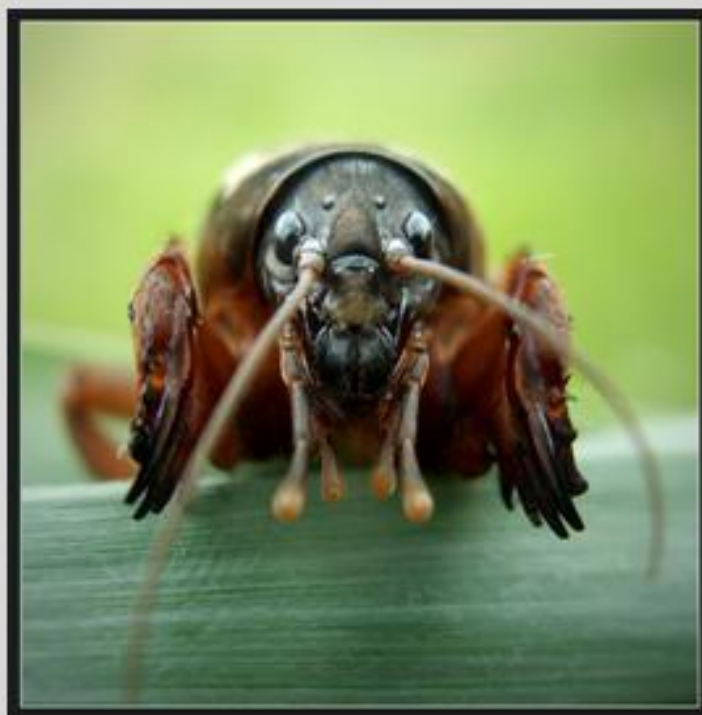
In one of the songs of Rolling Stones there are words, that could be the summary. "You can't always get what you

want..." and it ends "but if you try sometimes (...) you get what you need"

Written by Karolina Kowalczyk 11A



## THE LARGEST INSECTS IN POLAND



Katarzyna Olas, kl. IIa

Do you know that the loudest insects can be heard from the distance of 1,5 kilometers? The loudest are "turkucie podjadki". They are up to 6 centimeters long, spread wings for 4 centimeters.

"Turkucie" are one of the largest insects in the country. In Poland, you can hear them in the lowlands and in mountain areas. The song of "turkucie" is similar to the croaking of the green toad.

# JOKES & HUMOUR

Selected by Ewelina Gorzędowska kl. IIIa

A blind man walked into a bank with his seeing-eye dog that guided him everywhere. He walked into the center of the bank floor, took the dog by the chain, and started swinging him around his head. Everyone stopped what they were doing and stared. The other customers were taken aback and some were very upset at the way the animal was being treated. One of the tellers ran up to the blind man and asked, 'Sir, what are you doing!?!'  
The man turned toward the teller and said, 'Oh, nothing - iust looking around.'

A guy is going on an ocean cruise, and he tells his doctor that he's worry about getting seasick. The doctor suggests, 'Eat two pounds of stewed tomatoes before you leave the dock.'  
The guy replies, 'Would that keep me from getting sick, Doc?'  
The doctor says, 'No, but it'll look real pretty in the water.'

As the doctor completed an examination of the patient, he said, 'I can't find a cause for your complaint. Frankly, I think it's due to drinking.'  
"In that case," said the patient, 'I'll come back when you're sober!'

**Defendant:** Your Honor, I want you to appoint me another lawyer.

**Judge:** And why is that?

**D:** Because the Public Defender isn't interested in my case.

**J:** (to Public Defender): Do you have any comments on the defendant's motion?

**P D:** I'm sorry, Your Honor. I wasn't listening.

## DO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH?

1) What do you answer, when someone says "How do you do?"

- a) I'm fine, thank you
- b) How do you do?
- c) How are you?

2) I'm very ..... in biology

- a) interest
- b) interesting
- c) interested

3) What's the American word for 'lift'?

- a) entrepreneur
- b) elevator
- c) escalator

4) Which expression ISN'T correct

- a) an universe
- b) an honest man
- c) a unit

5) What's the American word for "underground"?

- a) metro
- b) subway
- c) the Tube

6) Which word makes a pair with "fish and ..."

- a) chips
- b) butter
- c) pepper

7) Which sentence is correct?

- a) 'Winnie the Pooh' was written of A.A. Milne
- b) 'Winnie the Pooh' was written with A.A. Milne
- c) 'Winnie the Pooh' was written by A.A. Milne

Angeliki Trangas Kl. I B

based on Focus Tester magazine

Answers and the remaining part of the questions in the next issue

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