

# CrossTalk

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter July, 2020

## Corona

Antonio Fernández was born in 1917 and was raised in Cerezales del Condado, a small village in Spain. His family was poor and he had to leave school at the age of 14 because they could not afford to pay the fees. When he was 32 he emigrated to Mexico and got a job working for his wife's uncle, the owner of Grupo Modelo, a world famous Mexican brewery. He worked hard and slowly improved his position in the company until he eventually became its CEO in 1971 and later, in the 70's, the company's Chairman. He founded the Corona Beer label and helped turn it into Mexico's most popular beer, as well as a very successful export item for Mexico. Indeed, when Fernández died in 2016, Corona was the most popular imported bottled beer in the U.S.A.

Despite becoming a billionaire, Fernández never forgot his humble beginnings in Cerezales del Condado. He contributed large amounts of his personal wealth over the years to various philanthropic causes including the restoration of a church, the redevelopment of the public square in Cerezales del Condado and a project that brought running water to every home in the village. He also donated \$8,000,000 to convert his former elementary school into a foundation which holds exhibitions of local and international artists, concerts, movie screenings, puppet shows and jazz festivals. In addition, he donated generous amounts of money to various charities in Spain and set up non-profit organizations to help disabled people find employment.

Fernández had no children of his own but he had 13 siblings and when he died, he left them and their descendants a substantial inheritance.

He obviously loved his home village, and his home country, Spain. But no one realized just how much until they saw his will.

Not only did he leave his extended family a large portion of his wealth, he bequeathed over \$200 million to his home village Cerezales del Condado. The total population of Cerezales del Condado is only 80 people! The money was not inherited by the individuals living in the village, but, if it had been, it would have been the equivalent of well over \$2 million to each man, woman and child living there. But Fernández did leave instructions for the money to be used towards improving the village's infrastructure and the quality of life for those who lived there.

Now, this is a Corona story that is a joy to read, don't you agree?

By the way, why do you think it is customary to put a wedge of lime or lemon into the mouth of a Corona bottle of beer? No, it was not to improve the taste. The original intent was to keep flies out of the beer! Didn't know that, did you?



## Net News

**NET LESSONS:** Too busy to come to CROSSROADS?

.... Try our *lessons on the net!*

Here is some more on Fernández:

<https://justbeerapp.com/article/antonio-fernandez-the-angel-of-cerezales-the-ceo-of-grupo-modelo>



**Joshua Says:** Why do we forget things? I've read recently that our very survival depends on it! This is so anti-intuitive. After all, how can we pass tests if we can't remember what the teachers "teach" us? Things like remembering where we left the car keys and the like are necessary for survival, but, so the latest studies show, if we remembered everything that ever happened to us, we wouldn't be able to deal with everyday challenges. Our brains would be too cluttered to respond intuitively and spontaneously to situations... Makes you think, right?

**Junko Says:** Since the corona-virus struck, we often hear the terms “Remote-working” and “Net-Lessons.” Yes, these are convenient. All you need to do is log-on and start talking; but there are some draw-backs if your intention is to have a *real* conversation. With time-lag problems interfering with fluency and body language having limited or no effect, you cannot have a complete face-to-face communicative experience on line... Perhaps the new 5G system will improve this situation...



**Marek Says:** Have you ever had the displeasure of coming down with a herpes infection around your lips? *Herpes simplex* virus responsible for “cold sore” normally lies dormant on our skin and usually becomes active when we experience significant dehydration. As annoying as it is, the virus actually forms a symbiotic relationship with our bodies and greatly reduces a chance of succumbing to bacterial infections, such as food poisoning caused by listeria bacteria.

**Mandcy dit:** Depuis le debut du confinement, j'ai développée une étrange passion : Le jardinage. En effet, j'ai commencé un mini-jardin sur mon balcon. Au début, il n'y avait que quelques fleurs. Mais maintenant, mon potager est rempli de mini-légumes, de fruits et de plantes aromatiques. Quel plaisir de cueillir le matin les tomates, les fraises et le basilique de la journée, quel fraicheur! J'aurais dû commencer avant! Mais.... Attention aux insectes Ohlala



## ACROSS

- 1 a hundred times richer than a millionaire  
4 usual or normal  
7 given to a charity or a good cause  
8 of many different kinds  
13 relating to the support and promotion of human  
welfare  
14 the same as  
15 an institution usually supporting education  
or the arts  
16 brothers and/or sisters  
17 after a long delay  
18 leave your own country to live in another one  
19 established

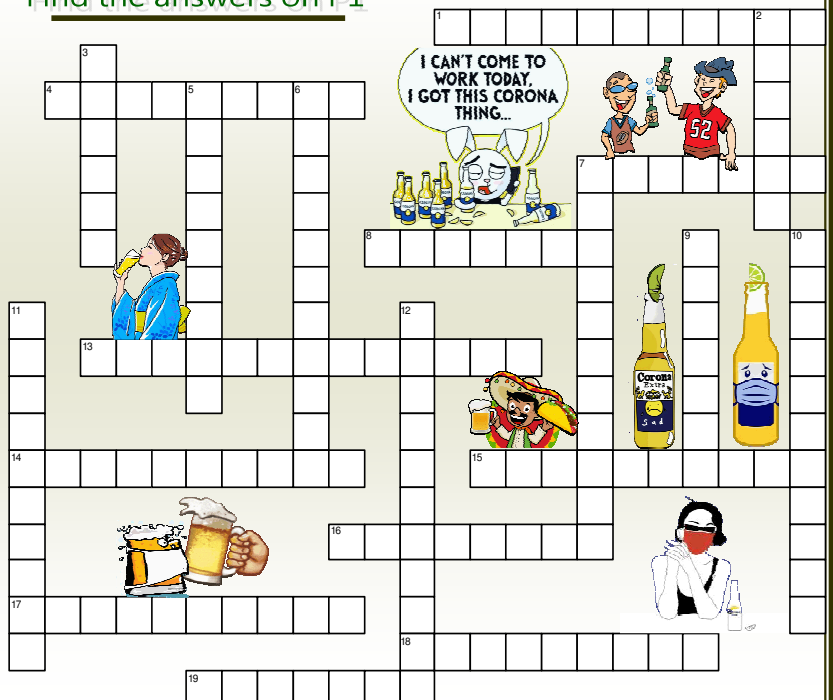
## DOWN

- 2 provide for and care for children  
3 modest or low position  
5 unmistakably, clearly  
6 getting something back to its original condition  
7 all of the offspring from the same blood-line  
9 change or replace with another  
10 fairly large  
11 left by will after one's death  
12 provided time, energy or money to help with development or growth
- [\(print version here\)](#)



## Play A Game!

Find the answers on P1





## Crossroads Writers' Corner - a place for you to get creative and get "published!"

Here's another tale from Natsuki Fukui in S(A)2

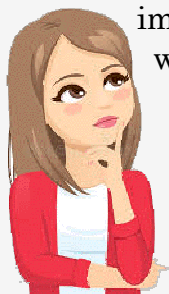
### The professor – Part 1

The university that I go to has a high reputation for the quality of the classes that the professors hold. Many of the professors are renowned throughout the world for their excellent research. Some students come to our school so that they can learn from a specific professor. I came to this school to learn from Professor Purewater, a distinguished professor in the field of water pollution. I was flattered when I found out that I could take his classes and could hardly wait for the classes to start. Little did I know that he was infamous among students and faculty for the lack of tidiness in his office, and that I would eventually decide to drop out of his class because of that.



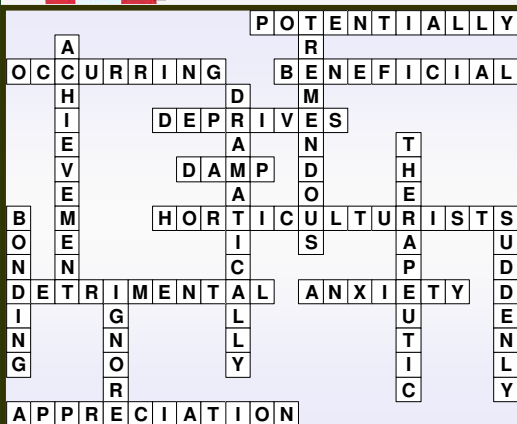
I started looking for a part-time job on campus halfway into the first semester to afford my daily needs. But it was difficult to find one because those that did not require qualifications were already taken. As I was about to give up, I came across a flyer which said that Professor Purewater was looking for assistants who could help him with his work. The pay was good, and from the description, the job seemed quite easy. I immediately applied and was hired.

The professor emailed me saying that he would be much obliged if I could start working immediately. I was delighted I was able to get the job so easily and that I would be working with the professor I had always admired. That night I wondered why nobody had taken the opportunity to work with him when the flyer seemed to have been posted at the beginning of the semester.



The next day, I went to the professor's office and figured out the answer to the question I had the night before....

Continued next month



### Last Month's puzzle Solution

#### ACROSS

- 1 more than a possibility of becoming actual
- 4 come into existence
- 5 and non- threatening
- 7 stop from having
- 9 slightly wet
- 11 people who cultivate plants
- 13 causing harm or disadvantage
- 15 worry, stress, nervousness
- 16 an expression of gratitude

#### DOWN

- 2 very large in size, degree, amount, etc.
- 3 to gain success
- 6 in a very impressive manner
- 8 towards curing or restoring health
- 10 a close relationship
- 12 quick without warning
- 14 take no notice of



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See our notice board, or ask Junko in our office, for the details.