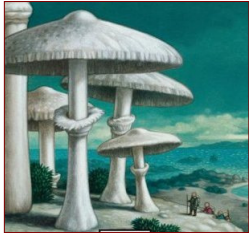


# Crossroads

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter September, 2014

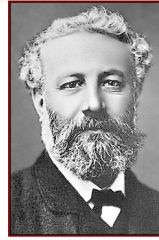
## HIDDEN OCEANS

What a fantastic discovery! A mysterious, coded manuscript that actually contained directions on how to get to the center of the earth! Its discovery in Jules Verne's fictional novel, "*Journey to the Center of the Earth*", sets in motion a series of events that take the protagonists in his story on a journey through many wonderful and often dangerous adventures.



They encounter many strange phenomena including dinosaurs, sea monsters, what appears to be a huge prehistoric human more than three and a half meters tall, huge mushrooms and other plants. They enter an unimaginably vast cavern containing an immense ocean which they then cross in a make-shift raft.

The action takes place in 1863 and is only one of some 50 odd novels written by Verne. Many of his ideas, although pure fantasy at the time he envisioned them, have proven to be quite prophetic. "*From the Earth to the Moon*" (1865) predicted space travel and rocket ships; "*Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*" (1869-70), submarines; "*Around the World in Eighty Days*" (1873), balloon and air travel, etc. But "*Journey to the Center of the Earth*" featuring a subterranean world deep within the earth seems too far-fetched to ever become a reality, or is it?



Jules Verne  
(1828-1905)

Verne's imagined subterranean ocean was not unlike the oceans on the earth's surface, aside from the giant sea monsters he populated it with; surely an impossible idea.

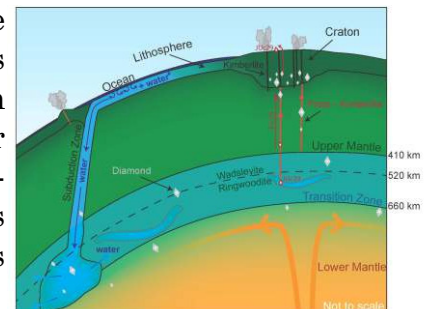
But, according to the latest scientific findings, Verne may yet again be closer to the truth than anyone could have realized.

Deep beneath the earth's surface, between the upper and lower mantles some 700 kilometers down at a depth where diamonds are formed, scientists have discovered a reservoir of water three times the volume of all the oceans on earth's surface combined. It is not the sloshing, gushing liquid Verne envisioned, and has no resemblance to the oceans we are familiar with. But it is water! Lots of it!

It is locked away inside a blue crystalline mineral called ringwoodite; very rare on the surface but, apparently, abundant at that depth.

Scientists have convincing evidence it is there and its discovery has far reaching implications. Does earth produce its own water or did the earth's water arrive here on the backs of asteroids as many have theorized? Does this "hidden ocean" effect the movements of tectonic plates on the earth's surface?

This recent discovery has generated so many new and exciting questions. And as science looks for the answers, we can only wonder at the creative genius of a Frenchman who died over 100 years ago - Monsieur Jules Verne... thanks for the journey!



## Net News

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

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

**SITE OF THE MONTH:**

If you'd like to read any of Verne's books on-line, either in English or French, go here:

<https://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/v/verne/jules/>

# Some Thoughts for the Month



**Joshua Says** It is so gratifying to see students making progress in developing their English skills, especially as many of you are so busy at work every day and have little time left to devote to your studies. Yet, you manage to progress. I have also noticed that people who study English these days are becoming much more serious in their efforts to gain a second language. This is, of course, a development I am very happy about!

**Junko Says:** : We have been doing a survey recently to find out how you are doing in your classes. The information I have been gathering from you is very useful and goes a long way to helping us improve your lessons. I want to thank all those who gave me frank and sincere opinions. We will do this kind of survey regularly, but, of course, you are free to talk with me any time you like. I'm always ready to hear your ideas.



**Kenneth Says:** At the end of August we decided to purchase a car. We have been renting a vehicle over the past year, which seemed to serve our travel needs well. But our usual outlet went out of business, which limited our options especially on holiday weekends when demand is always high. So we now have a little Daihatsu Move ready to enjoy the ocean, hills and countryside.

**Danielle dit:** Bonjour! Je viens de rentrer du Québec où il a fait très chaud. Heureusement qu'il y a des lacs et des rivières pour nager et se rafraîchir! Connaissez-vous les fromages québécois? Ils sont maintenant connus en Europe. Mon favori s'appelle le Pleine Lune. C'est un brie recouvert de cendres. Il ne sent pas très bon mais il est savoureux! Le pain, le vin, tout était délicieux. J'adore m'asseoir à une terrasse le soir avec mes amis. Je vous invite au Québec! Bienvenue!



## Play A Game!

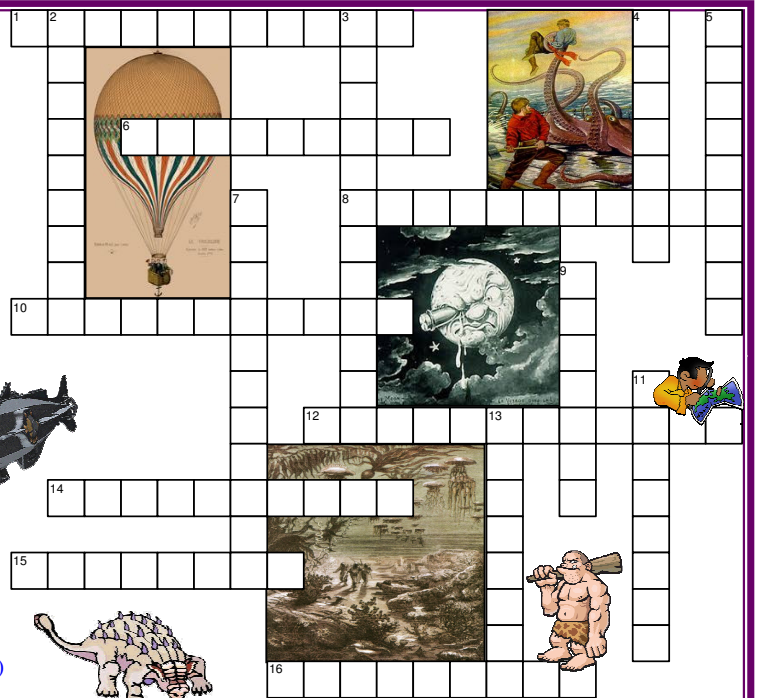
### ACROSS

- 1 the main character in a work of fiction
- 6 come upon or meet as if by chance
- 8 similar in appearance
- 10 having the characteristics of a crystal
- 12 impossible to imagine
- 14 seen in the mind as a mental image
- 15 splashing (usually) water around
- 16 a remarkable experience or event

### DOWN

- 2 a large or extra supply of something
- 3 beneath the surface of the earth
- 4 coming out suddenly and rapidly
- 5 predicting events before they happen
- 7 an inference or suggestion
- 9 great in size
- 11 great quantity of something
- 13 bring into existence

(Print Version [here](#))

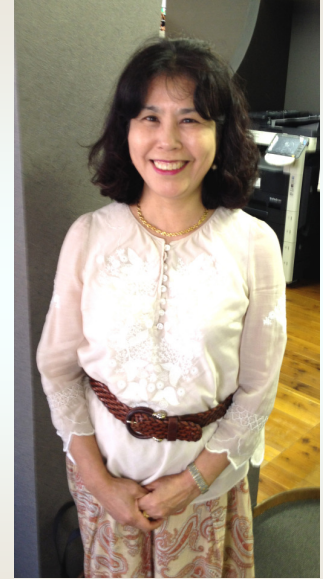


# NOTICE BOARD

## Café on Gogoshima Island

Yoshiko Yagi from S(b)1 tells us.....

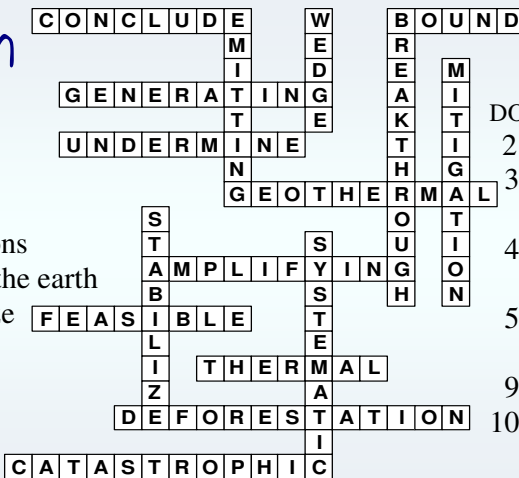
Recently I have become interested in islands in the Seto Inland Sea. Last weekend we went to Gogoshima only to have a cup of coffee, and we stayed there for about one hour. From my house to Mitsuhaman port was 15 minutes and it took about 15 minutes by ferry from the port to Tomari port on Gogoshima. The café used to be a primary school. They offer a free one-way ferry ticket if you stop in for drinks. The short trip made me feel refreshed. At the café I got a booklet about cafés in the Seto Inland Sea, in which I found a new café to go to next time. The island is named Kashima. It is a bit farther out from Houjou. The uninhabited island is famous for its deer. It would be lovely to see deer from the café while drinking a cup of coffee.



## Last Month's puzzle Solution

### ACROSS

- 1 get a result by reasoning
- 4 headed or going towards
- 6 producing (energy)
- 7 restrict or hinder normal operations
- 8 relating to heat in the interior of the earth
- 11 increase in volume (sound) or size
- 12 possible of being done
- 13 related to heat
- 14 the removal of trees
- 15 extremely harmful, disastrous



### DOWN

- 2 giving off or discharging
- 3 something pushed between two things to separate them
- 4 make an important discovery
- 5 lessening the severity or intensity of something
- 9 make steady, stable
- 10 being planned out, logical

## Pet's Corner

Yufiko in In(b)1 has a new friend....

Yufiko says.....

A tiny gold fish came to my house the other day (well, actually she got it from a pet shop, but we won't argue the point). It's still a baby and it is only 2cm long. I bought a bowl and food for it. It was uneasy at first in the bowl. I gave it food 3 times a day, so now, when I go close to the bowl it draws close to me and comes to the surface. He (she?) always wants food. When I give food, he eats quickly and wants more. Now he is still a baby, but I think he will grow up soon. We have become a family. He is SO cute!



Don't forget... Our SPECIAL 1+1 Campaign offer! Up to 50% off!!

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