

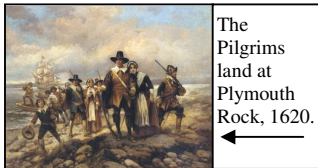
# CrossTalk

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter June, 2017

## SIMULTANEOUS HISTORY

History is seen as quite a basic timeline in most people's minds. From their own life to the history of the world most people can pick out important key events that are in a linear sequence. However there are a number of events that people imagine are years or decades apart which occurred almost simultaneously.

A good first example of this is the birth of America. In 1620 Pilgrims set sail on the Mayflower to colonize what would become the United States for the first time. When you think of this you imagine America as some undiscovered vast landscape with no towns or cities at all. However Spanish conquistadors had already built the town of Santa Fe in what would become the state of New Mexico 10 years before. Indeed, while the pilgrims were constructing their first shelters at Plymouth Rock, you could already eat at a restaurant, stay at a hotel and buy Native American silver in Santa Fe.



The Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock, 1620.

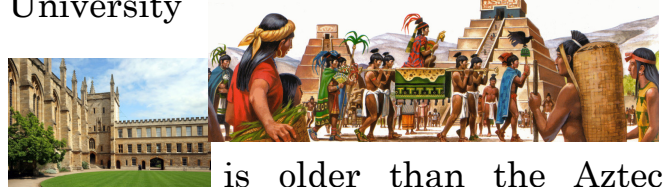
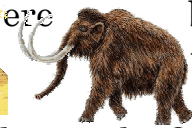


Columbus reaches the Americas, 1492 not long after the collapse of the Byzantine-Eastern Roman empire.



Sticking with America, Christopher Columbus first reached the 'New World' in 1492. What may surprise you is this was only 40 years after the Eastern Roman empire fell. So there were still people who considered themselves Romans who found out about the discovery of a new continent.

Here's some more quick fire simultaneous events. The famous actress Marilyn Monroe and Queen Elizabeth the second were born in the same year. When the Pyramids in Egypt were built there were still Woolly Mammoths on the earth. Oxford University



is older than the Aztec Empire. Prisoners began arriving at Auschwitz concentration camp in the same year the first McDonald's restaurant opened and finally Coca Cola is only 31 years younger than the country of Italy!

I wonder what current simultaneous acts will be seen as

strange 100 years from now.



Article by Matt

## Net News

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

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

Find more simultaneousness here:

<http://actively.com/30-historical-events-that-happened-at-the-same-time-that-will-break-your-brain/yanar-bulag>

# Some Thoughts for the Month



**Joshua Says:** It has been wisely stated that “education is about learning, not about teaching.” Looked at from the learner’s point of view, this idea puts a lot of responsibility on the learner to be pro-active in his/her lessons; take the initiative, strive to improve oneself instead of relying on the teacher to do everything. This in no way makes the teacher’s job any easier, but it does help when students take such a positive approach toward their lessons.

**Junko Says:** Here is another Michelangelo quote: it goes: “The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short, but in setting our aim too low and achieving our mark.” And this reminds me of Confucianism: “The middle way is not merely the balanced way, but it’s the highest centripetal point, completely impartial.” These teachings suggest to us to live towards the same goal. Do you also see the similarity?



**Matt Says:** Next month Kazushi Sakuraba will be inducted into the UFC hall of fame. Even though he only fought in America once, his career and particularly the legendary May 1st 2000 fight against Royce Gracie are world renowned in MMA. As the Catalyst for the heyday of fighting in Japan he will take his rightful place among the greats.

**Darrin Says:** Hello and nice to meet you. My name is Darrin and I'm from the Gold Coast in Australia. I'm actually a return visitor to Matsuyama having spent over ten years here previously before moving back to my home town in 2014. But many things have changed since I last lived there and Australia as a whole has become a very expensive place to try and raise a family, so earlier this year my wife and I made the decision to move back here to live. I hope I get the chance to meet many of you and to exchange many stories along the way.



**Danielle dit** À quoi sert la science ? C'est une question à laquelle apporter une réponse pourrait prendre tout un livre de philosophie. Selon moi, une des réponses est qu'elle nous permet d'ajouter un niveau de lecture à notre vie. Comprendre comment se crée une bulle de savon ou la façon dont notre corps traite l'air sans nous intoxiquer n'est pas fondamentalement nécessaire à la vie mais cela la rend plus intéressante et profonde.

## ACROSS

- 3 start a new settlement far from home
- 10 at the same time
- 11 belonging to the present time
- 13 people who travel in foreign lands
- 14 tens of years
- 15 measured lengthwise
- 16 thought about

## DOWN

- 1 following in order
- 2 a Spanish soldier of fortune
- 4 happened
- 5 a large extinct elephant
- 6 crowding together in a small space
- 7 great in size
- 8 have a desire to know something
- 9 staying, not changing
- 12 a country ruled by an emperor

## Play A Game!

[\(print version here\)](#)

## What would you do?

### An exercise in "thinking outside of the box"

The following moral/ethical dilemma was once actually used as part of a job application: Think carefully before deciding what you would do.

**Q:** You are driving down the road in your car on a wild, stormy night, when you pass by a bus stop and you see three people waiting for the bus:

1. An old lady who looks as if she is struggling to stay on her feet in the bad weather.
2. An old friend who once saved your life.
3. The perfect partner you have been dreaming about.

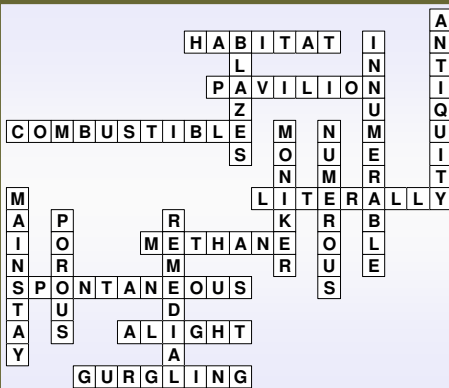
Which one would you choose to offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car?

You could pick up the old lady, because she is in so much stress, and thus you should save her first. Or you could take the old friend because he once saved your life, and this would be the perfect chance to pay him back. However, you may never be able to find your perfect mate again.

Who would you choose to give the lift to? The candidate who was hired (out of 200 applicants) had no trouble coming up with the following answer. Here is her answer:

**A:** "I would give my car keys to my friend and let him take the lady to a hospital, then let him use my car to go home. I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the partner of my dreams."

Remember to always, "Think Outside of the Box."



### Last Month's puzzle Solution

#### ACROSS

- 2 an environment where organisms live
- 5 a roofed shelter
- 6 capable of igniting or burning
- 10 the exact meaning
- 13 colorless, odorless gas
- 14 happening without external cause
- 15 light up usually by fire
- 16 irregular flow, e.g. water, with a bubbling sound

#### DOWN

- 1 very far back in history
- 3 a strong, bright burning flame
- 4 too many to count
- 7 common, easy to remember name
- 8 very many in number
- 9 main source of support
- 11 full of holes
- 12 tending to cure or restore health



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