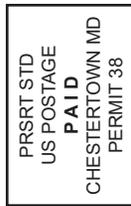


Trivia



Bluetooth technology was named after a 10th Century king, King Harald "Bluetooth" Gormsson. He united Denmark and Norway, just like wireless technology united computers and cell phones. The Bluetooth logo consists of his initials using the Scandinavian runes for H and B.



When watermelons are grilled or baked, they lose their granular texture and take on a texture similar to that of raw fish or a fillet, depending on how long they are cooked. This dish is known as a "Watermelon Steak" and is usually suggested as a meat substitute for vegetarians.

Strawberries that you buy from the grocery store are probably going to be red and taste just like every other one you have ever eaten, but this is not always the case. Strawberries can also be white or yellow, and some can even taste like pineapples!

While albino animals are what people typically think of when they think of animals that have strange coloring, there is actually an opposite! Melanistic animals have too much melanin, which causes them to look dark brown or black.

There's a flower that smells like chocolate! Native to Mexico, this dark red flower is not edible. It is called "cosmos atrosanguineus" or "chocolate cosmos."

Ketchup originated in China. The Chinese mixed a concoction of pickled fish and spices and called it (in the Amoy dialect) koe-chiap, or ke-chiap, which means the brine of a pickled fish. That's right, ketchup actually started more as a fish sauce and didn't turn into the tomato-based sauce we know and love until 1812.

Kaizen is a compound of two Japanese words that together translate as "good change" or "improvement." However, Kaizen has come to mean "continuous improvement" through its association with lean methodology and principles. Kaizen has its origins in post-World War II Japanese quality circles.

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Dates in History

365 On July 21st, a powerful earthquake off the coast of Greece caused a tsunami that devastated the city of Alexandria, Egypt. Scientists now estimate that the quake was actually two tremors in succession, the largest of which is thought to have had a magnitude of 8.0. The quake was centered near the plate boundary called the Hellenic Arc and quickly sent a wall of water across the Mediterranean Sea toward the Egyptian coast. Ships in the harbor at Alexandria were overturned as the water near the coast receded suddenly. In Alexandria, approximately 5,000 people lost their lives and 50,000 homes were destroyed.

1949 On July 27th, the world's first jet-propelled airliner, the British De Havilland Comet, made its maiden test-flight in England. The jet engine would ultimately revolutionize the airline industry, shrinking air travel time in half by enabling planes to climb faster and fly higher. The Comet was the creation of English aircraft designer and aviation pioneer Sir Geoffrey de Havilland. After its July 1949 test flight, the Comet underwent three more years of testing and training flights. Then, on May 2nd, 1952, the British Overseas Aircraft Corporation (BOAC) began the world's first commercial jet service with the 44-seat Comet 1A, flying paying passengers from London to Johannesburg.

1997 On July 4th, after traveling 120 million miles (193 million kilometers) in seven months, NASA's Mars *Pathfinder* became the first U.S. spacecraft to land on Mars in more than two decades. In an ingenious, cost-saving landing procedure, *Pathfinder* used parachutes to slow its approach to the Martian surface and then deployed airbags to cushion its impact. The Mars *Pathfinder* mission, which cost just \$150 million (\$280 million today), was hailed as a triumph for NASA.

history.com

On the Lighter Side



Why was Cinderella so bad at soccer? She kept running away from the ball.

What do sea monsters eat? Fish and Ships.

What's small and red and has a rough voice? A hoarse radish.

The CEO of Ikea was appointed Prime Minister of Sweden. He's currently assembling his cabinet.

Two sailors see an enormous hand come out of the sea. It moves all the way over to one side and then to the other. One sailor says to the other, "Wow, did you see the size of that wave?"

Did you hear about the actor who fell through the floorboards? He was going through a stage.

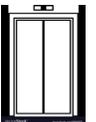
Did you know French fries aren't cooked in France? They are cooked in grease.

How do you make a waterbed bouncier? Add spring water.

How many telemarketers does it take to change a light bulb?

Only one, but he has to do it while you are eating dinner.

I have a fear of elevators, but I've started taking steps to avoid it.



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