The Grand Prix of the buzzwords in 2013

The other day, the Grand Prix of the buzzwords in 2013 was announced. There are four words this year, "Je Je Je" "Imadesho(Now is the time)” “Omotenashi(treatment)” “Baigashii(the double revenge”). This is the first time when as many as four words are chosen to be the Grand Prizes. Now, let me explain each words in turn. First, "Je Je Je" is the word which is used when you are surprised. It became famous because in a series of the NHK TV drama “Ama-chan,” it is used. The mildness of it may attract people. I came across a parent and child in a fancy dress like Ama-chan on TV program, Uta No Ohsama(king of singers). I felt tenderness in it. Incidentally Ginji, who is a member of the Eagles, appeared. Second, “Imadesho!” is the word said by Osamu Hayashi, who is a teacher of Toshin high school. This word is also chosen to be the Grand Prix of the first half of the year. The origin of this word is the CM of Toshin high school. He said at the end of the CM, “Itsuyaruka, Imadesho!!(When do you study? Now is the time!!) After this, people in Japan began to use this word all the time. Have you ever had an experience in which your friends say “Itsuyaruka?” and you had no choice but to say, “Imadesho!”? I have been compelled to say it many times. Mr.Hayashi now appears on TV frequently and he is quite busy. I want him to devote himself to teaching in that cram school. I think the person of the year in Japan is he. Third, “Omotenashi” is the word said by Takigawa Christel. She was a member of the Olympic invitation committee. During her presentation performed in front of IOC, she emphasized Japanese gentle invitation by saying “Omotenashi.” The stress is “O.” Thanks to her presentation(and the speech by Naoko Inoue), Tokyo was chosen to be the place for the games in 2020. She made a contribution that very much. I like “Omotenashi” but Bunsei high school may be “Omotenashi.” Of course, it is just a joke. Suddenly it occurred to me just now. Let’s move on to the next. Fourth, “Baigashii!” is the word said by Naoki Hanzawa. He is an imaginary person who is the hero of the TV drama, “Hanzawa Naoki!” played by Masato Sakai. “Hanzawa Naoki!” is the interesting drama in which Hanzawa fights against his bad powerful superiors. When he made up his mind to revenge himself, he said it and there are a lot of “Baigashii!” tweets on the Twitter. To hear this, employees around Japan seemed to be refreshed, while employers around Japan had complicated feelings. Other actors are also very good. It is famous that apologizing, kneeling down on the ground, by Ohwada(Teruyuki Kagawa) took, in fact, about half an hour. Sakai was likely to wonder how long Mr.Kagawa’s play lasted. There were a lot of buzzwords this year. But I was impressed by “Tokyo” said by Jacques Rogge, the IOC president, the best. His voice lacks in the will to declare the place, but I like its dreaminess. There were lots of events this year, too. And next year, many new buzzwords or events will appear again. The year 2013 will come to an end soon. Have a nice New Year!!

---S.S.

Mechanism of a Thermography

This time, I’ll introduce the mechanism of thermography. I have not studied this field of physics yet. So I’m sorry I can’t explain it to you in detail. But I will give you as much information as possible. First, I need to tell you about infrared rays. called “Sekigaisen” in Japanese. In fact, the light which we usually can see is called a visible ray. Visible rays consist of seven colors, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, deep blue, purple. The generic name for infrared rays, ultraviolet rays, X rays, gamma rays, microwaves and electric waves is electromagnetic waves. In a word these are all “Waves”. In particular, infrared rays have some features. When our skin receive infrared rays, we feel our body is warm or hot. Also the warmer the temperature is, the stronger infrared rays become. In fact, all objects give off infrared rays so if we can catch them and distinguish them according to their strength, we can know the temperature in detail. This is the basic mechanism of a thermography. As I wrote above, all objects give off infrared rays. Of course a thermography is not an exception. Thermography. A thermography catches infrared rays which objects give off but at the same time a thermography also gives off as many infrared rays as objects give off. In this condition, a thermography cannot catch infrared rays, so when people use a thermography, they cool it by liquid nitrogen or by a cooling device. Then the strength of electromagnetic wave is weakened and we can catch infrared rays by a thermography. In fact, it’s much more difficult to explain this mechanism of a thermography. To be honest, I’m so tired that I cannot explain it to you anymore. So let me stop here. Goodbye.

--- Y.K.

A bill of protection of specific secret

“輪”,or a ring was determined as this year’s Chinese character. Probably, you have already known the reason. But, there are people who do not know the reason. So, I will introduce it to you. First, Tokyo succeeded in being selected to host the Olympics in 2020. Second, the government and private groups cooperated with each other so that Mt. Fuji is registered as a World cultural heritage. Third, support-ring was widened out the revival from the catastrophe that happened in foreign countries, such as the typhoon in the Philippines. This year is the year when people in Japan become a ring and were delighted with many things together. You had a good time this year, didn’t you? The Tohoku Rukuten Golden Eagles win the First-Ever Pacific League Pennant. After that, the team became the strongest team in Japan. Tanaka, the pitcher, played an active part and contributed to the team’s victory. I heard that the team is also a symbol of revival from the big earthquake that we cannot forget. People who live in the Tohoku district were pleased with the victory. Therefore, “輪”, whose meaning is to please people is chosen as this year’s Chinese character in the second place. Which Kanji do you choose to capture this year?

---K.K.

Summary

The research of species on how males and females have different appearances brings the clearest clue about the roles of colors in sexual attraction among butterflies. That’s because each individual must judge whether the same species of butterflies have the same or different distinctions of sex to mate successfully. The Little Yellow, Eurema lisa is an example that is easy to understand. Both sexes appear an identical yellow to humans, but the butterflies can see the difference between males and females. There are two reasons. First, butterflies can see ultraviolet rays over visible rays for human. Second, the scales which cover the males’ wings reflect ultraviolet rays. White those of females’ don’t reflect them.

--- K.M.

Christmas

How did you like this year, 2013? This year will come to an end in twenty days. Did you have a good memory this year? Even if you did not get any good memory, never give up. A merry Christmas will come. That day will be your good memory this year. By the way, do you know the real Santa Claus in Greenland? According to a rumor, an old Santa Claus, who has an eternal life, exists in Greenland. And there is an international Santa Claus association, and Santa Claus, who is admitted a member of that association, also exists in Japan. As for the history of Santa Claus, Nicoruis, who had faith in Christianity very much, was the first Santa Claus. He gave money to a girl who couldn’t marry anyone because of poverty and made her get married. Then he was respected by everybody and he became the first Santa Claus (Santa Claus was named for St. Nicholas.) Did you enjoy this story? Whether you are at the age when you accept presents from Santa Claus or not, you should be interested in Christmas.

--- S.S.