

DAY 16 Japanese tourists call police over rip-off restaurant bill



Four Japanese tourists are very angry after a restaurant in Venice, Italy charged them €1,100 (\$1,350) for a dinner of steak, fish and water. In fact, the four tourists say they were ripped off (overcharged) for their meal. The four diners are

students and study in the city of Bologna. They were on a day trip to Venice and decided to have dinner at a restaurant near the world-famous St Mark's Square on Friday. As well as the police looking into this incident, the mayor of Venice has promised he would also take action. The mayor said: "If this disgraceful episode is confirmed, we'll do all we can to punish those responsible. We are for justice - always."

It is common for tourists to be overcharged anywhere in the world. Tourism groups in Venice are worried about the Japanese tourists saying they were ripped off. This is because there have been many similar cases recently of rip-off prices in Venice. One tourism group tweeted: "Whoever puts the good name of Venice at risk, harms all Venetians." The restaurant has a very low 1.5

(out of 5) rating on the website TripAdvisor.com. A huge 83 per cent of visitors gave it a "Terrible" rating. One TripAdvisor user complained that: "The food was very average....They added almost €50 in taxes and a tip - these are the hidden fees that they don't tell you about. And the service wasn't that good. I feel scammed."

WORD CHECK UP

1. Furious
2. Vow
3. Incident

GIVE YOUR BEST ANSWER

Japanese tourists were charged \$1,100 for a steak dinner. T / F

The meal the Japanese tourists had also included fish. T / F

The police are looking into why the Japanese tourists were overcharged. T / F

Venice's said people would be punished if this story were true. T / F

What did the tourists eat besides steak?

How long did the tourists stay in Venice?

On what day of the week did the tourists visit Venice?

Who said he would take action?

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DAY 17

She's a real tattletale !!!

Tina	I wouldn't mention that to Gloria if I were you.
Vaughan	Why not ? She seems a very sympathetic person.
Tina	No doubt she is, but she's not the most discreet person in the world.
Vaughan	Aren't you being a bit unfair ?
Tina	No, not at all. I know from experience that she's a real tattletale.
Vaughan	Well if that's the case I'll take your advice.

Explanation :

Tattletale (tell-tale) - Someone who gossips indiscreetly.

Example : If it were not for that treacherous **tattletale**, the teacher would never know that I did a bit of cheating in the examination.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASE

- 1. Fatal
- 2. Discreet
- 3. Sympathetic



DAY 18 'Nutella riots' in France after 70% price cut

There have been crazy scenes in supermarkets across France. Shoppers have been fighting and punching each other to buy jars of the hazelnut spread Nutella. A nationwide chain of supermarkets cut the price of it by 70 per

cent. The supermarket Intermarché launched a promotion on 950-gram jars of the sweet treat on January 25. The cost was slashed from €4.50 to €1.41. Long queues formed outside stores, but shoppers lost their cool in the aisles. A witness at one store described the chaos. She told French media: "They fought like animals. A woman had her hair pulled, an elderly lady had a cardboard box put on her head, and another woman had a bloody hand. It was terrible."

The maker of Nutella is an Italian company called Ferrero. It said it had nothing to do with the discount. It tweeted: "The decision for the promotion was taken [only] by Intermarché." It added: "We condemn the consequences of this operation, which created confusion and disappointment among customers." The supermarket has not commented on this story. An employee said: "It was crazy. It seemed like it was the first day of sales. People just rushed in, shoving everyone and breaking things." He added: "It was like a riot. We nearly called the police." A tweeter

explained how important Nutella is in France. She said: "French people eat it by the spoonful. I had it on toast for breakfast as a child."

WORD CHECK UP

Horrible

Disorder

Consequences

GIVE YOUR BEST ANSWER

Shoppers in France punched each other to buy cheap Nutella. T / F

All supermarkets in France cut the price of Nutella by 70%. T / F

The discount was on all sizes of Nutella jars. T / F

A witness said a woman had a bloody mouth. T / F

What did shoppers lose in supermarket aisles?

What did a witness say shoppers fought like?

What did someone put on an elderly lady's head?

What country is the maker of Nutella from?

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Day 19

Pain in the neck !!!

Holly	Watch your language !
Jordan	Sorry, but I can't help it. It's so frustrating.
Holly	Is there something the matter with your laptop ?
Jordan	Something the matter ! It's an absolute pain in the neck . Every time I try to log on to read my e-mail, it loses the connection. It's happened about ten times so far.
Holly	It may not be the laptop. It could be that the wireless connection is unreliable here.
Jordan	I suppose you could be right. I'll try to find somewhere where the connection is more stable.

Explanation:

Pain in the neck - Someone or something that is very annoying

Example: That child is a real **pain in the neck**.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASE

- 1. Frustrating
- 2. Unreliable
- 3. Simultaneous

DAY 20 Centipedes eat animals 15 times their size



Centipedes are the kind of creatures that are not to be messed with. Their venom packs a serious punch and can cause rapid paralysis and death in insects and small animals. They have even been known to kill people with their highly venomous sting. Scientists have now discovered a deadly toxin in

centipede venom that can shut down the hearts of animals that are 15 times bigger than them. The scientists isolated a toxin in the Chinese red-headed centipede. This beast can grow to roughly eight inches in length. The toxin in its venom blocks potassium from moving in and out of cells. This blocking of potassium prevents the brain from sending signals to the heart to beat, thus causing a rapid death.

The venom is rarely fatal for humans, but it can cause agonizing pain and swelling for up to two weeks. The scientists have called it SSM Spooky Toxin. Researcher Shilong Yang, an expert in toxins at China's Kunming Institute of Zoology, explained: "The centipede's venom has evolved to simultaneously disrupt cardiovascular, respiratory, muscular and nervous systems. This molecular strategy has not been found in other venomous animals." Despite their name (centi is "hundred" in Latin and pedis is "foot"), centipedes do not have 100 legs. They have a varying number of

legs, ranging from 30 to 354. Centipedes always have an odd number of pairs of legs. This means no centipede has exactly 100 legs."

WORD CHECK UP

1. Differ
2. Precise
3. Severe

Give your best answer

Centipedes punch insects and small animals. T / F

Scientists looked at a toxin in a Chinese centipede. T / F

The toxin pumps potassium from cells to an animal's brain. T / F

A centipede sting can swell up for two weeks. T / F

What kind of punch does the article say the venom packed?

What did scientists discover in the venom?

What does the venom shut down in small animals?

How long can the Chinese red-headed centipede grow to?

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