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DECEMBER 30, 2012-JANUARY 5, 2013 | Issue 81

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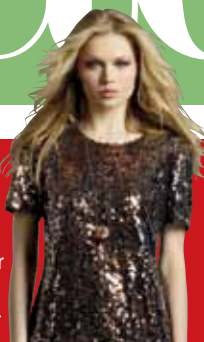


JACK REACHER

Does the small man of the big screen portray a larger-than-life character that can do the Lee Child novels proper justice?

GLITZY BITS

Dazzling on New Year's Eve by sparkling brighter than the fireworks will make your outfit as memorable as the last night of the year



NICARAGUAN WONDER



GLORY HUNT

Unashamed by its attack on the sporty executive saloon market, Cadillac is here with the new ATS

Out with the bad

There's never been a better time to break your bad habits

Health | Fitness | Film reviews | Entertainment | Cars & gadgets | Community | Listings

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Read.

THE WEEKLY
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ENJOY EVERY DAY

2013

JANUARY

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DECEMBER

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Letters

Email: letters@readme.ae

A selection of the letters we've received this week. Write in to have your say.

✉ ELEVATING THE ISSUE

It seems many people are not aware that the Dubai Metro elevators are meant also for old and sick people and pregnant women. At any given time—especially at Al Rigga station—I see the ugly sight of young, healthy men and women rushing to use the elevators. Sometimes, they even push older people out of the way to get into the elevators, when they could easily use the escalators or stairs provided.

Oowais Ali

✉ ALL ABOARD

The Dubai Metro helps a lot with travelling around in daily life and I love using it. Nowadays, more people use the Metro—especially ladies—and I sometimes feel very congested in the ladies' compartment, particularly in the morning and evening peak times. If there were two compartments for ladies, it would be very helpful. Another thing I have noticed is



that the announcement of the Metro's arrival and departure is very sharp. Many times, I have seen people hurry when they hear the announcement but they don't manage to get the train. In my opinion, the announcements should be every two minutes before the train arrives or leaves.

Ansiya Razak

Read. Poll

Are you superstitious about there being '13' in the New Year 2013?

- Yes
- No

Cast your vote online at www.readme.ae

LAST READ. POLL RESULTS

Will the day come when banknotes and coins are no longer used?

- | | |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | 72% |
| No | 28% |

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Station by station guide

Looking for something to do? You could always hop off the train and visit one of these...



New Year celebrations

DECEMBER 31

DOWNTOWN DUBAI

At the stroke of midnight, Downtown Dubai will welcome 2013 with a spectacular fireworks extravaganza. Bear witness to this tantalising moment and celebrate the dawn of a new year. Admission is free. Thousands of Dubai residents and visitors are expected to gather around the world's tallest building for an unforgettable fireworks show, including a light, fire and water performance on the lake, with multiple large-format projection screens. The countdown for the festivities is on. The best viewing areas for this stunning showcase will be at Burj Park, Burj Plaza, Emaar Boulevard and The Dubai Mall waterfront.



Black Light Show

JANUARY 3 TO 6

CENTREPOINT THEATRE, DUCTAC, MALL OF THE EMIRATES

Black Theatre is a place where there is no gravitation and the rules of physics don't apply. It is a black hole out of time and out of space, which has its own rules and frame of reference. The Black Theatre absorbs, thrills and enchants everyone. Watching it, you will find yourself in a new, non-existing wonder world where the audience, the dance, the choreography, the motion, the light and the music melt in perfect harmony. With its thrilling, exciting, sincere and thought-provoking shows, Black Theatre takes you on a visual adventure where you can learn more about yourself by opening up to your imagination. There will be two performances daily at 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

TO FEATURE YOUR EVENT,
EMAIL EDITORIAL@README.AE





Dubai Shopping Festival

JANUARY 3

DUBAI CREEK

Dubai Shopping Festival 2013 will mark the 18th edition of one of the biggest shopping experiences in the world. Between January 3 and February 3, the 32-day festival will paint the city with its unique blend of shopping, prizes and entertainment. Traditionally, the festival kicks off with a huge opening night that features light shows and fireworks across the Dubai Creek, which are then continued throughout the entire festival. Other events associated with DSF range from in-mall fashion shows, musicians, street performers, jugglers and other entertainers.



Sharetea special

UNTIL DECEMBER 31

DEIRA CITY CENTRE METRO STATION (NEAR EXIT 4 - GREEN HOUSE EXIT)

In commemoration of the festive season, Sharetea has launched a discounted offer on a range of its popular drinks. Call 04 256 6125 for details or head to the Sharetea outlet at the Deira City Centre Metro Station for a delicious deal and more.

What's happening this week on readme.ae?

Make sure you check out our website for these daily specials, which appear online every afternoon. 'Like' us on Facebook so that we can keep you up to date with our latest online features and fun.

Coming up this week



TODAY

Imagine owning an amazing work of art, a precious watercolour by an old master or a contemporary masterpiece. Then imagine the awkward moment when you inadvertently ruin it. Is there anything worse than accidentally destroying a priceless painting. Well, these poor people have done just that. Check out priceless artworks that were accidentally destroyed.



MONDAY

While the EU is viewed as a single force, it is still too early to dub it a state, given that its members continue to rely on their own governments and still enjoy national identities. What are the misconceptions?



TUESDAY

"Happy New Year!" That greeting will be said and heard with excitement wherever you go for at least a couple of weeks as the New Year gets under way. But the day of celebration was not always January 1.



WEDNESDAY

Even though psychology is a rather young science, its contribution to understanding human nature cannot be contested. But some tests have actually spiralled out of control.



THURSDAY

While it is true that most of the things found in an office building are there to help people finish their tasks faster and more efficiently, at times they also represent a source of distraction.



FRIDAY

Once again our Facebook page has been full of your opinions on our daily question. We find the best responses from our Facebook fans and bring you the answers that matter most to the people of Dubai.

Facebook chatter

Here's what you have been saying on the *Read*. Facebook page.

(Responses only edited for length)

The ability to buy Caribbean citizenship is available for approximately Dh1.4 million. What are your thoughts on buying citizenship? What are the benefits or downsides?

When adopting citizenship of another country, one has to sign and honour in letter and spirit, the oath of allegiance to be sincere to the adopted country's applicable rules of law. Therefore, if the adopted country, for any reason, decides to be against the country of origin of a person, he has to be faithful to the one he adopts.

— Nouman Owaize

The fact is that not many people are financially well-off to purchase a citizenship worth a whopping sum of AED 1.4 million or more. Only a selected few can opt for such options given that they have the required funds.

— Fatima Suhail

The advantages for buying citizenship is migrating your family and kids. Aside from that, great opportunity for career and work.

— Czar Johnlloyd Alde Portugal



CITIZENSHIP AT A PRICE

It's benefit is somehow to find a greener pasture, where one can live better and settle for greater things. But it's downside is losing one's patriotism, losing your origin and values. I know many people who have been influenced and changed by the standards of the place where they live in, becoming a disadvantage to instill morals & nationalism. I always believe that home is where the heart is.

— Herdy Villabroza Hervera

Two days after a petition to have British CNN host Piers Morgan deported over his criticism of America's gun laws was posted on the White House website, it had already garnered more than 30,000 signatures, surpassing the 25,000 required to get a response from the White House. What petitions have you ever known to work, and why



PIERS MORGAN

were they successful?

Petitions always tend to work if there are more people signing for it. It's then the requested authorities who look into it and see what they can do for it.

— Mohammed Muzammil

I can vividly recall that I've been part of Philippine history when the nation ousted a corrupt president in 2001, hence, the People Power 2!

— Clen David

Emax wins top prize

Retailer recognised as the 'Most Admired Retailer of the Year' at the Retail Middle East Awards 2012.



LANDMARK GROUP AND EMAX OFFICIALS CELEBRATE WITH THE 2012 RETAIL AWARD

AWARDS

Emax was recognised as the "Most Admired Retailer of the Year" in the consumer electronics category at the annual Retail Middle East Awards 2012, which was held recently in Dubai. Part of the Middle East Retail Forum, a distinct platform for leading retailers in the Middle East, the coveted annual awards were presented to top performing retailers from the region across 22 categories.

Emax was recognised for its outstanding performance in the consumer electronics category and for its innovative approach toward connecting with consumers.

Receiving the award, Neelesh Bhatnagar, CEO of Emax, said, "We are honoured to receive this prestigious award. Retail is one of the fastest growing sectors in the Middle East and with the rising demand for consumer electronics in the region, the industry is evolving at an extremely rapid pace. Since the beginning of our establishment in 2006, we have worked relentlessly to build trust in our brand. Our partners and

consumers have contributed significantly to the growth of Emax over the years and we will continue to strive hard to ensure that the customer remains at the centre of our business."

Emax is an electronics retail chain with 37 stores in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain. An integral part of Landmark Group since the opening of its first store in 2006, Emax represents more than 300 brands, with over 100,000 products across more than 20 categories. The product range includes photography, mobiles and telecom, home appliances, health and fitness, gaming, gifting, personal care, car navigation, home solutions, musical instruments, MP3 players, music, videos and security solutions.

"Our partners and consumers have contributed significantly to the growth of Emax over the years and we will continue to strive."

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Enjoying the holidays

Get ready for fun and frolic this holiday season in the city. Make a big splash on your family holiday at the many beaches or else partake in some indoor fun at Dubai's very well equipped malls.



Indoor entertainment

What is this time of the year without some snow? To enjoy a winter wonderland, head to Ski Dubai's indoor slopes for some fun snow activities and hone your skiing skills. Or visit Dubai Mall's Ice Rink for an ice skating experience. This is a great place for beginners as well as those keen to master their talents. Whether you want to play ice hockey, socialise with friends or just have a great time, this venue is the coolest place to hang out. The Dubai Mall also features the Dubai Aquarium, which has the largest viewing panel in the world. Witness a shark dive or check out the night safari at the underwater zoo.

Fun-filled outdoors

A family-friendly holiday is all about getting outdoors. And this time of the year has the perfect weather to do so. Follow the thrilling water slides and rides at Wild Wadi or go for a picnic and a swim in the sea at the Jumeirah Beach Park on your family holiday. Or else, take part in some fun and games at Al Mamzar Park in Deira. For a more exotic feel, spot flamingos at the Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary, or pay a visit to the largest water park in Dubai, Aquaventure, which is located in Atlantis. The park gives you access to all of the different water rides as well as a stunning patch of beach.



Amazing attractions

For a more laidback trip, explore Old Dubai and cruise down the Dubai Creek in a traditional dhow. This offers the best of scenic Bur Dubai and Deira and affords glimpses of the city's old architecture. Stop by the Grand Souk and Spice Souk to load up on nifty goodies. On the other side of town, you can also visit Dubai's first school, Al Ahmadiyah School, which recently celebrated its 100-year anniversary. You can further take a trip down memory lane on your visit to the Dubai Museum, where interactive displays explain the tremendous growth of Dubai in a short span of time. Hop on one of Dubai's bus tours and experience the city's sights and landmarks on the go. For the foodies out there, stop by the Walk at JBR and indulge in cuisine from around the world with views of the stunning beach.



Adventurous trips

Your holiday wouldn't be complete without taking a day trip to explore the oasis town of Hatta. Splash in its waterfalls and admire the Hajar Mountains. Alternatively, take the family and friends on a desert safari trip and experience a rollercoaster ride down the high dunes. You can also opt for an overnight Bedouin-style desert safari and count the stars in the desert night sky. Or take the perfume trail and indulge your olfactory senses at Deira's Perfume Souk, where shopkeepers concoct scents according to your personality.

Happy New Year

2013



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Soya milk
1Ltr 2's



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Canola Oil
2ltr



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Kellogg's Special K
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375gm



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Brut Lotion Spray
100ml
+ Deo 200ml



21.75 Dhs.
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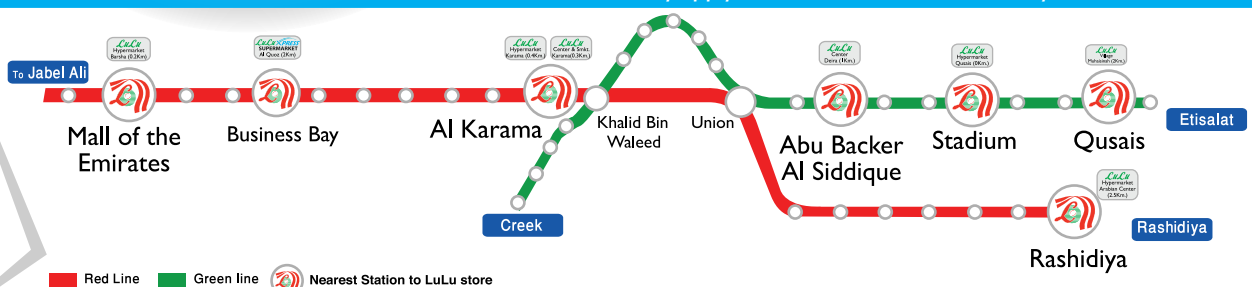
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BYTES & PIECES

Martin Cooper



April 3, 2013 will mark the 40th anniversary of the first public telephone call placed on a portable cellular phone. Martin Cooper, chairman, CEO, and co-founder of ArrayComm Inc, placed that call in 1973, while he was general manager of Motorola's Communications Systems Division. It was the incarnation of his vision for personal wireless communication, distinct from cellular car phones. That first call, placed to Cooper's rival at AT&T's Bell Labs, caused a fundamental technology and communications market shift toward the person and away from the place.

As he walked down the street while talking on the phone, sophisticated New Yorkers gaped at the sight of someone actually moving around while making a phone call. Following the public demonstration, using a brick-like, 850-gram phone, Cooper started the 10-year process of bringing the portable cell phone to market. Motorola introduced the 450-gram DynaTAC phone into commercial service in 1983, with each phone costing the consumer \$3,500 (Dh13,000). It took seven years before there were a million subscribers in the United States. Today, there are more mobile phone subscribers than wire-line phone subscribers in the world, with mobile phones weighing less than 85 grams. Cooper stated at the time that his inspiration for the mobile phone came from watching *Star Trek's* Captain Kirk talk on his communicator device.

“Today, there are more mobile phone subscribers than wire-line phone subscribers”



MARK ZUCKERBERG MADE THE INSTAGRAM PURCHASE IN APRIL

Future fiscal Facebook

Following a groundbreaking year that saw social networking become a publically traded entity, Facebook is looking to cash in on your online obsession through advertising.

Mark Zuckerberg has built the world's largest startup. His is a giant company, for sure—\$5 billion-plus in revenue, a stock market value of around \$60 billion—but it's as nimble as they come. Its engineers push out products and features at a near-constant pace, emboldened by posters around Facebook's campus that read, “Move fast and break things.”

Zuckerberg, too, moves fast when he wants. He's even structured the company so that he can make huge decisions without his board's approval, and he hasn't hesitated to do just that. His surprise purchase of Instagram in April is exhibit A.

While 2013 might see another big acquisition—a run at Yelp or Pinterest, say, or some hot startup that suddenly has too much traction for Zuckerberg to ignore—that's not the path the company is on. Instead, it'll keep scooping up smaller compa-



INSTAGRAM'S PRICE TAG GOT CUT DUE TO FACEBOOK'S SAGGING STOCK PRICE

nies. And given all the changes that occurred in 2012—a range of new ad products, the roll-out of Facebook Gifts, closing the Instagram deal, and that big IPO that helped set the “we need to make money” mindset—much of what happens next year seems somewhat predictable.

Facebook, as Zuckerberg and his team like to remind the world, is all about mobile now. While Facebook's mobile revenue, which mostly comes from so-called sponsored stories, is growing, there clearly are opportunities beyond ads as Facebook strives to better make sense (and cents) of all your data.

First up, sending you offers to restaurants or stores based on your location. Last spring, Facebook bought a startup called Tagtile, a mobile-based customer loyalty business that offers local merchants a device for customers to tap on with their phone when they check out. Facebook already lets merchants offer deals via Facebook offers.

Putting this all together is the next logical step, so Facebook could, for instance, notify you of a deal at a nearby store that it knows you “like”.

In mid-December, in fact, Facebook took a big step in this direction. It rolled out a major revamp of its “Nearby” feature for iOS and Android devices so that the apps show you local hotspots based on likes, check-ins, and recommendations of your friends.

Facebook might, for example, offer you a deal for a restaurant you like, but it would be a lot better if it also knew if you were hungry. Or if you had time to eat.

Facebook needs a rating service, similar to that of Yelp or TripAdvisor,

100 million

Today, Instagram boasts more than 100 million members

to help it parse what might interest a user, and the roll-out of Nearby is a direct shot at Yelp and Foursquare.

The folks at Facebook and Instagram ended 2012 with quite the firestorm, after rewriting their terms of service to allow Instagram to sell your photos. A rapid backlash forced Instagram to quickly pledge to rework the whole policy.

Even so, Facebook will get through this mess. And even if a few million users bolt, Instagram, which now boasts more than 100 million members, will probably weather it easily. Its growth has been so strong that people are no longer talking about Instagram's steep price tag, which got cut by a cool \$285 million or so due to Facebook's sagging stock price. The deal made strategic sense for Facebook to jump-start its mobile efforts.

Instagram will become a big revenue driver for Facebook, even without selling your vacation photos.

Now that Facebook is pooling the data it collects from Instagram with what it collects from Facebook itself—based on a policy change in December—you can expect Facebook to amp up all sorts of cash-making tactics. ●

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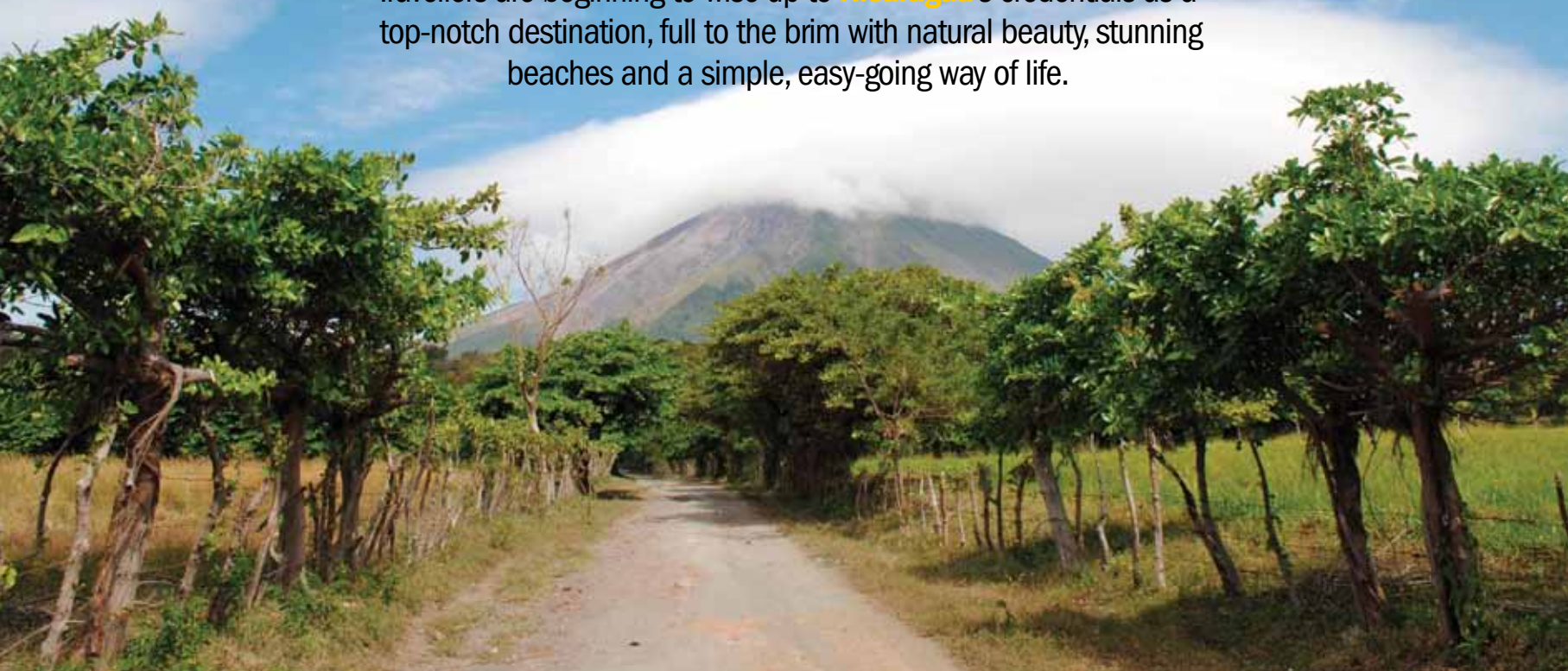
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Natural wonder

Travellers are beginning to wise up to **Nicaragua's** credentials as a top-notch destination, full to the brim with natural beauty, stunning beaches and a simple, easy-going way of life.



By 2007, tourism had become Nicaragua's largest industry, and the number of holiday visitors entering the Central American country increased by 300 per cent over the past 10 years. Around 60,000 people visit every year from the United States alone, and foreign investment in projects such as hotels, water parks and other attractions has increased by 79 per cent since 2007.

It's as if Nicaragua magically appeared on the travel map only recently. And now that they've been alerted to its presence, seasoned travellers are eager to know just what makes this diversified nation tick. Is it the sweeping vistas visible from the mountainous region of Matagalpa, or is it the incredible surf off the coast of San Juan Del Sur that lures people in? Perhaps it's the vibrant annual festivals that take place across the country, or else the fact that Nicaragua is a budget paradise.

Inevitably, the rise in Nicaragua's popularity as a holiday destination is due to all of these reasons, and many more besides. The weather, for example, is a strong draw for many. In the dry season, from November to



THE PACIFIC BEACHES SPORT FANTASTIC SURFING SPOTS

April, the weather is hot and beautiful, not unlike a Middle Eastern spring. The lowlands near the Pacific and Caribbean coasts are particularly warm, while the highlands are wetter and cooler without being unpleasant.

For others, Nicaragua's draw comes in the form of the two vast lakes it is home to, Lake Nicaragua and Lake Managua. The former of which is the largest freshwater lake in Central

“The lowlands near the Pacific and Caribbean coasts are particularly warm, while the highlands are wetter and cooler.”

America, and the nineteenth largest in the world. The latter is almost as vast, and just as impressive to behold. When choosing between the two, though, it has to be Lake Nicaragua, simply because this is home to the Isla de Ometepe, a set of twin volcanic islands residing in the middle of its waters.

The island, like the lake, is vast, and home to a number of small settlements and coffee plantations. Tourists can regularly be seen perusing the Reserva Charco Verde, a nature reserve on the southern part of the island, or else partaking

in the five-kilometre hike up to the San Ramon Waterfall. Others take the longer, six-hour hike to the top of Volcano Maderas, which has a lake in its crater. An adventurer's dream day out, any experience at the Isla de Ometepe is surely to be remembered for a lifetime.

Nicaragua-visiting adventurers also opt for trips to the Parque Nacional Volcan Masaya, a national

park just outside the capital city, Managua. Apart from the stunning wildlife that can be found, the biggest draw here is the active volcano, Masaya, which has constant flumes of smoke spewing from the vents of its main crater.

Lava flows have not occurred in over 200 years, though explosions are known to happen from time to time. For this reason, and because of the treacherous pathways, it is best to take this volcano on with the help of a local guide, who will be cheap to hire for the day.

Indeed, everything in Nicaragua is cheap, from the food to the shopping. The growing number of tourists may have inflated prices slightly over the past few years, but this doesn't mean much. It's possible to live very comfortably for several days on less than \$100. Food, in particular, makes for a great bargain—the very best of South American and Central American cuisine can be found all over, and it can be had for a steal.

Did you know?

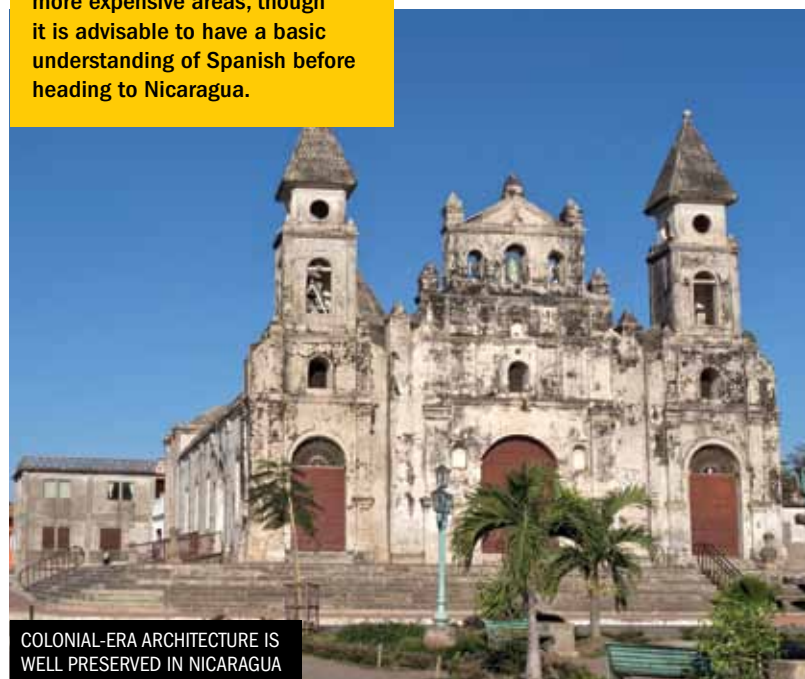
- Nicaragua gained independence from Spain in 1821. It did not adopt a political system until after the revolution of the 1960s and 1970s.
- In 1990, Nicaragua elected Violeta Chormorro as its President, making it the first country in Central America to adopt a female head of state.
- Though it is the largest country in Central America in terms of land mass, Nicaragua's population lies at a relatively low six million people.
- English is spoken within the more expensive areas, though it is advisable to have a basic understanding of Spanish before heading to Nicaragua.

“It's possible to live very comfortably for several days on less than \$100. Food, in particular, makes for a great bargain.”

That said, there are more expensive areas popping up in tourist hotspots. San Juan Del Sur, for example, is a hotbed for American tourists looking to take advantage of the fabulous surf on the Pacific coast. The area was recently named as one of the top five surfing destinations in the world, meaning bars, restaurants, and hotels have sprung up almost overnight. While this makes for an exceptional party town where the sun is strong and the times are easy, it is more expensive.

Granada is another city that has become more expensive in recent years, but the swelling number of tourists that it plays host to every year suggests that it is still well worth a visit. One of the oldest cities in Nicaragua, it is famous for having preserved some of the finest colonial-era architecture in the world. Sites worthy of mention include the 18th-century Fuerte La Polvora fort, the Parque Cathedral and the local market. For partygoers, a visit to Mombacho Beach Club is well worth the extremely cheap—by Dubai standards—entry fee.

Nicaragua has so much more to offer, making it little wonder why it hosts increasing numbers of tourists every year. With natural wonder and beauty, an easy way of life and strong sunshine, it is something of an undiscovered paradise. Just get in there quick, before the tourists ruin the country's authenticity. ●



COLONIAL-ERA ARCHITECTURE IS WELL PRESERVED IN NICARAGUA



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The new contender

Cadillac really wants to be taken seriously in the compact sedan market, and the American carmaker's bid for glory is the brand new ATS.

Most car manufacturers are a little coy about naming what they see as competition for their latest vehicle. You'll get one of two responses: "We don't see any directly comparable vehicles in the market at the moment", or perhaps "we're bringing a new vision to the much neglected sub-compact B-sector bootied sedan sect". In other words, not naming names.

So when Cadillac stepped up to the plate at the launch and said that its new ATS was aimed squarely at taking on BMW and its hugely successful 3-Series, a lot of eyebrows in the room were promptly raised. It is a bold claim to make—the BMW 3-Series is a perennial favourite, and the flagship 335i is popularly regarded as one of the best of all the sporty executive saloons on offer. Cadillac's confidence is a bravura display.

To give sub-

stance to its claims, Cadillac also did something unprecedented at the launch drive held recently in Abu Dhabi. The brand told us to go and drive the cars as fast as we wanted to. No restrictions. And we were given Yas Marina Circuit to hoon about on. Very impressive.

So what is it we were all there to drive? The Cadillac ATS is a compact luxury four-door sedan, the smallest of the current range, designed to offer a first step on the ladder into Cadillac ownership, slotting in below the larger CTS and XTS models.

It shares Cadillac's "art and science" design language of sharp lines and bold creases, and, it has to be said, the theme does not suffer at all for being applied to a compact saloon. The finished form has real presence in the metal, and the smaller size of the front face actually makes it work better.



THE FIT AND FINISH IS SUPERLATIVE

There's plenty of room and a load of technology inside, with the centre console sharing the larger cars' haptic touch switchgear and gloss black finish, but it works well and is very satisfying to use. This clever panel also pops open to reveal a concealed storage

compartment behind. Neat.

Two models are coming here—a base 2.5-litre, four-cylinder version with steel springs, and a more athletic 3.6-litre V6, producing 321 bhp and 373 Nm of torque. All this is sent to the back wheels through a standard six-speed automatic gearbox, and is enough to send the V6 to 97 km/h in just 5.4 seconds.

Of the two, the larger-engined car is definitely more interesting, mainly because of the standard magnetic ride suspension. This enables the use of computerised adjustment to suit your driving style and road conditions. Two modes are offered, Touring and Sport, and both do their job very well. On the road, Touring is compliant and cossetting, ironing out both small and large imperfections well, while Sport provides real bite at the front and good grip all around. So has the ATS accomplished Cadillac's objectives? Its looks are unmistakably Cadillac, but well resolved, the interior fit and finish is superlative, it is packed with technology, handles well and the larger engine is a peach.

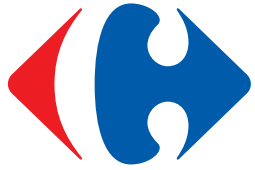
But the killer punch came when the brand revealed the price—just Dh135,000 for a "competitively specced" 2.5-litre four-cylinder, and Dh175,000 for the V6. That makes it a very serious contender indeed. ●



THE CADILLAC LINES WORK WELL IN THIS SMALLER FORM

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(as tested)
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Torque: 373 Nm
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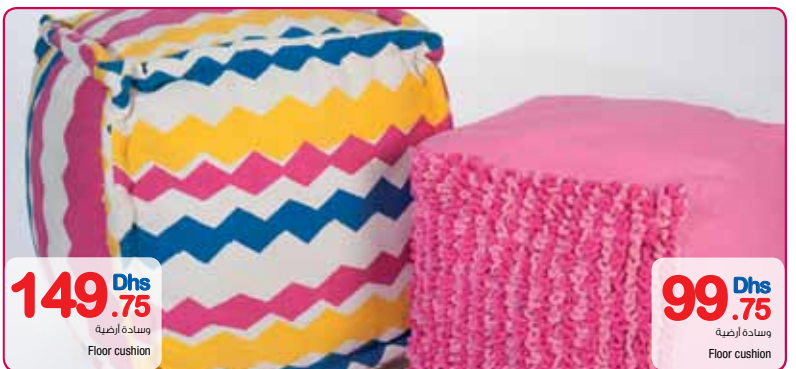
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Criticising the right way

Telling employees how to improve their performance is important. Below are a few tips to do it effectively.



FEEDBACK IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MUTUAL GROWTH

CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

Compliments and criticism are inevitable at any workplace as they are two of the most important tools for making your business work. While praising good performance is easy, many managers find it difficult to tell their employees where they need to improve. But what can you do when criticism is the only way to go about in a specific situation? Akhtaboot reveals six rules to follow that will help you criticise employees effectively.

TREAT CRITICISM AS A FORM OF FEEDBACK

The term “criticism” carries a baggage of negativity. On the other hand, the term “feedback” implies a request for improvement. Giving feedback is a two-way discussion where both people offer their opinions, learn from each other and grow. Feedback is an opportunity for mutual growth and progress; you learn by getting feedback and you also learn by giving feedback. The moment you reposition your criticism into the context of feedback, both you and your em-

ployee will feel much more relaxed and receptive.

PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON A WEEKLY BASIS

Many bosses put their feedback on hold until the yearly performance review. This is very ineffective and will harm your employees’ performance for sure. Try to set up a weekly meeting to track your employees’ progress and be as specific as possible. People have a difficult time responding to instructions that are vague and unclear. It is important to check for understanding; avoid assuming that you are on the same wavelength.

BEGIN BY ASKING QUESTIONS

Your aim shouldn’t be to persuade employees to do things the way you would do them. Instead, when you find that something is done the wrong way, ask the employee a number of questions. “Why did you approach this situation in this way; how could we have done better; what do you think could use improvement?” Such questions lead employees to discover their own insights and solu-

“When you want to change a behaviour, don’t address it as a personality issue. Focus on the problem and try your best to avoid personal attacks.”

tions on the matter without making you sound like you’re imposing.

LISTEN, ACKNOWLEDGE AND TRY TO LEARN

People react differently when it comes to receiving feedback. You need to understand each employee’s personality and address each one differently. Listen to your people carefully and don’t assume too much. People are more receptive when they have a chance to explain themselves first. You might also learn something unexpected that could help to explain the situation or change your own point of view.

ADDRESS THE BEHAVIOUR, NOT THE PERSON

We often get caught up in our emotions and take it out on the other person by saying things like they are “unreliable” or that they “usually give better results”. This is inappropriate and unprofessional. When you want to change a behaviour, don’t address it as a personality issue. Focus on the problem and try your best at all costs to avoid any personal attacks. Always take the time to plan what you want to say before giving honest feedback. Taking the time to gather your thoughts and clarify what you want your feedback to accomplish increases the chances that you will communicate clearly.

FOLLOW UP TO TRACK PROGRESS

If you see that the employee corrected a problem situation, you still need to follow up. When you follow up, you are telling employees that you are being thorough and that the work they do is important. ●
By Akhtaboot—the career network (www.akhtaboot.com).

Gone Girl

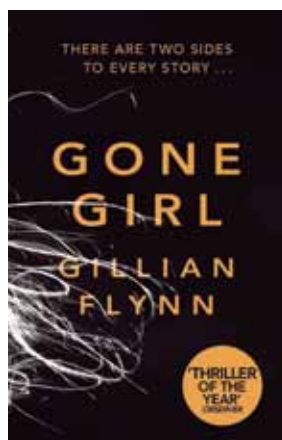
By Gillian Flynn

BOOKS

How well can you ever know the person you love? This is the question that Nick Dunne must ask himself on the morning of his fifth wedding anniversary when his wife, Amy, suddenly disappears.

Her absence quickly gains attention, because Amy happens to be Amazing Amy—the real-life inspiration for her psychologist parents' best-selling children's book series.

At one level, *Gone Girl* may seem like a conventional thriller. All the pieces are there including an assort-



ment of suspects and secrets.

But the author also delves into the myriad ways where frustrated expectations kill love and replace it with bitterness. Characters with grey shades make this a real page-turner.

Unapologetic

Artist Rihanna Label Def Jam Recordings ★★★★★

ALBUM

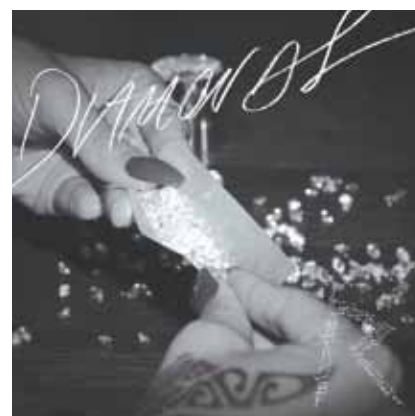
Rihanna's seventh album, *Unapologetic*, has already hit number one on the charts and features collaborations from Future, Kanye West, Chris Brown, David Guetta and Eminem with various genres of pop, hip-hop and techno, all in one album. These new tracks are a combination of different moods and meanings.

The first single off the fresh collection, *Diamonds*, is already a hit and has become a radio staple these days. *Unapologetic* is dark and sad, yet at the same time, it's dance-oriented and fun. The album morphs from dubstep through R&B to ballads and pop-reggae.

It's not something that other genre-jumping albums couldn't get over, if it weren't for the fact that it suffers from a serious sequence problem by kicking off with *Phresh Out The Runaway* and *Numb*, tracks that are full of abstract beats

and are not melody driven.

The Chris Brown duet, *Nobody's Business*, is the central attraction of this album. It's a wonderfully light throwback to late-1980s piano house. The album also includes party tunes such as *Jump* and some passionately emotional tracks such as *Get It Over With*. These tracks are a refreshing transition for the singer, and her fans will no doubt swallow them whole.



If you like this, you could try...

The Cornish House by Liz Fenwick

When artist Maddie inherits a house in Cornwall after the death of her husband, she hopes for a new beginning for her and her stepdaughter. As she discovers the stories of generations of women who've lived there before, Maddie begins to feel her life is somehow linked within the house's walls.

G

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A fresh start

The beginning of a New Year is the perfect time to start over again, so make 2013 the year you finally ditch the horrible habits.

Horrible habit: Losing touch



Living in a city like Dubai, it can be all too easy to lose touch with friends and family—especially if you came here from another country. Make this the year that you make a concerted effort to keep ties intact. Make a note in your diary to send postcards or emails—even just every couple of months—or perhaps arrange a long Skype call when neither party has to rush off or is distracted by other things. It's easy to forget loved ones back at home while you're busy going about your daily life, but the chances are that they miss you just as much as you miss them.

Horrible habit: Backwards body clock



Going to bed too late or not sleeping very well is probably one of the most common complaints among Dubai residents. With so much to keep you busy, going to bed early is probably the last thing most of us want to do. However, getting enough sleep each night can have huge benefits when it comes to your mental alertness, health, energy levels and overall well-being. Clear anything from your bedroom that distracts you from sleep, such as tablet computers, TVs or paperwork that you bring home from the office. Set a bed time and stick to it for at least a week. Your body will soon adapt to the change in routine and you will start to drop off sooner and sleep much better.

Horrible habit: Smoking

So you've tried before but are still caught up in the web of the evil stick. Quitting smoking is one of the most difficult things to do but the benefits are endless—more money, better health, no more stinky smoke and a longer life. Going cold turkey isn't the best option for everyone, but gentle steps and determination will get you there. There is a huge amount of stuff out there to help you along the way, whether it's self-help books, hypnosis, nicotine replacement therapy or support groups, so don't worry if one option doesn't work—there is a method for you to become smoke-free and enjoy a healthier life.



Horrible habit: Gossiping

It's difficult to stay out of gossip, whether it's at work, among family members, or within your circle of friends. But imagine if the tables were turned. How hurt would you be to find out that people had been talking behind your back? If there is an issue with a certain person then the best way to overcome this is to deal with it directly in a clear but caring manner. Chances are that they have their own horrible habits to shake off and will appreciate a heads-up as to where they're going wrong.



Horrible habit: Self-doubt

Whether you worry that your career isn't progressing as it should, you're not confident enough to take up that new class you always fancied or you're afraid to finally go travelling, it's time to shake off the self-doubt that stops you from doing what you really want to. Take a look at the aspects of your life where you may feel that you're underachieving and plan a solid route to get to where you want to be. Make a list of all your positive characteristics and things you are proud of. Once you realise how many things you have achieved so far in life, you will soon see that you do have the confidence to be successful and happy after all.

Horrible habit: Over indulgence

Perhaps you live to eat rather than eat to live, or your credit card repayments are costing you as much as a small yacht each month. Whatever your indulgence, reign it in for 2013. Keep a food diary if you're looking to cut down on the calories, or perhaps knock up a basic spreadsheet to track all your outgoings each month. Small changes, such as taking your tea without sugar or not buying a cappuccino on the way to work each morning can soon add up. Once you start to see the benefits, bigger changes won't seem quite as scary.



Horrible habit: Interrupting

Are you always talking over your friends? Language is like a formal dance—one person leads, takes a swing around the floor, then another person politely cuts in, with the permission of the first person—a nod or an agreement that their turn is over for now. You may have a lot to share but it's important not to interrupt someone while they are speaking. Focus your energy on listening and also take deep breaths and reflect on what someone is saying before you interject.

Dazzle and sparkle

Add some oomph and shine to bring in the New Year by looking elegant and classy.

Big night playlist

Never mind what are you doing on New Year's Eve—what are you wearing? New Year's Eve is all about fireworks and fun, so whether you are heading out to celebrate, or plan on ringing in the New Year closer to home, here are a few suggestions on how to make your night the best way to usher in a brand-new year. Dresses for the occasion can be formal or informal, depending on the party scene. Gorgeous gold outfits are hot this season and will make you stand out from the crowd. Team them with heels and a black tux and you will be instantly glamorous.

WALLIS

MONSOON

DEBENHAMS

DOROTHY PERKINS

RIVER ISLAND

BHS

BHS

MISS SELFTRIDGE

MONSOON

Rock the sequins

Sparkle your way through the evening in sequins. A sequinned top would look fantastic with your favourite jeans and heels, or experiment with a bold sequin skirt. Sparkly dresses up the glam quotient on New Year's Eve. Try a shiny metallic dress to turn heads, or opt for sequins in different styles and in shades of gold, silver or gun metal. Pair a silver dress with a shiny clutch bag for a shimmery look. Or rock two trends at the same time by choosing a gold, one-sleeved dress. Sequins are a sure-fire way to get the party started.

Her

Dress me up

Glitzy accessories come in a variety of designs and colours with stylish bags, earrings, bracelets, clutches and necklaces. Add them to complete the look. Pair a black blazer, matching skinny jeans and a shiny top, and then give the look an edge with a charm necklace and sky-high heels.

MARKS & SPENCER

DOROTHY PERKINS

WALLIS

TOP SHOP

MARKS & SPENCER

MONSOON

NEW LOOK

Time to party

For New Year's Eve, pair classic tuxedo trousers with silk blazers in midnight blue, brown or white colours to stand apart. For formal parties, make your entrance with a polished tuxedo and a matching waistcoat. For an informal event, try a tuxedo paired with jeans.

Him

BURTON

RIVER ISLAND

MARKS & SPENCER

MARKS & SPENCER

MARKS & SPENCER

Colours and cuts

Sleeveless dresses are great for people who don't like to accessorise much and want an easy look that is still sophisticated. Pick one with a bold pattern, or try a bright shade. Complete the look with bold earrings and a glittery clutch. Choose outfits with bright colours, such as jewel tones, which are all the rage this season. While sleeveless dresses still feature on a large proportion of the dresses in the New Year's Eve collection, more stores are also bringing sleeves into their winter dress mix.

Suit up

The traditional tuxedo is the key look. You can add a satin tie to a classical black or dark blue suit with a polished shirt for a stylish evening. One thing you definitely want to add to your suit is either a bowtie or a skinny tie. Skinny ties complete the blazer-vest, button-up look, and they can look formal or casual, depending on how you dress them up. A one-toned bold-coloured tie can make an outfit stand out, and you can always add sparkly cuff links to make a bold statement. An outfit needs a great shirt, so make sure you pick one that fits perfectly.

FASHION OPINION

ZOYA PASHA
DESERTS AND
DIAMONDS



New beginnings

So as we say goodbye to 2012 and welcome 2013 in, I (along with countless others) have been thinking about what my New Year's resolutions are going to be, as well as the changes that I want to make in 2013.

What I enjoy about fashion is the statement that clothes can make about people's personalities, so in the New Year, along with my New Year's resolutions, I am going to try to be a bit more experimental with my outfit choices.

And in the same vein, I want to be a little more diverse in my out-of-the-office activities. Meditation, yoga and more solo adventures are all in the pipeline, as is becoming a little healthier and making sure that I get more early nights.

I am going to go with my gut instincts about fashion and try the shiny metallic trend that seems to have become all the rage lately.

So far, it's passed me by, so I'm looking forward to

"I am going to go with my gut instincts about fashion and try the shiny metallic trend."

becoming a part of it. I'm also going to invest in some more graphic prints for my wardrobe, as well as indulge in some more fluorescent items, which I love to wear, whatever the occasion.

I am also going to ombr  my hair because I want to—does anyone ever need any other reason?—and just be less aware of what other people think I should be wearing and how I should look in general.

This year, for me, is about exploring new and different elements of myself and using fashion as one way to do this.

What will you be doing differently in 2013?

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Cancer therapy



An experimental "Trojan-horse" cancer therapy has completely eliminated prostate cancer in experiments on mice, according to UK researchers. The team hid cancer-killing viruses inside the immune system in order to sneak them into a tumour.

Once inside, tens of thousands of viruses were released to kill the cancerous cells. Experts labelled the study "exciting," but human tests are still needed.

Using viruses to destroy rapidly growing tumours is

"Experts labelled the study exciting, but human tests are needed"

an emerging field in cancer therapy. One of the challenges, though, is getting the viruses deep inside the

tumour, where they can do the most damage.

In a study, mice were injected with white blood cells two days after a course of chemotherapy ended. At the end of the 40-day study, all the mice that were given the Trojan treatment were still alive and showed no signs of any tumours.

At this stage, each white blood cell contained just a couple of viruses. However, once the macrophages enter the tumour, the virus can replicate. After about 12 hours, the white blood cells burst and eject up to 10,000 viruses each, which go on to infect, and kill, the deadly cancerous cells.

If this treatment goes on to be successful in human trials, it could mark substantial progress in finding better treatments for men with prostate cancer that has spread to the bone.



Bionically altered

A new generation of bionics that can connect wirelessly with the nervous system and feel are under development.

Animal tests have already been conducted in which devices are implanted directly into the nerve to process and transmit signals wirelessly to an external device. Other researchers are developing prosthetic skin which might wrap around a bionic limb and feed back sensory information to the nervous system, in theory enabling users to detect and feel objects.

The current generation of bionic hands can pinch or grasp using two or more electrodes fitted inside the portion of the prosthetic, which fits over the stump. These electrodes are positioned to pick up signals from

the user's peripheral nerve system that are naturally amplified by muscles in the stump.

Progress is almost continuous. German company Otto Bock, which created many prosthetics for paralympians for the recent London Games, has developed a hand incorporating multiple electrodes that can drive wrist flexing and rotation, while Scottish company Touch Bionics builds hands which use software to control individual finger movement, so that the hand can clasp around objects.

The surgical rewiring of nerves in an amputee can also offer a great deal, enabling those with no arm at all, for example, to drive bionic arms.



PROSTHETICS COULD ENABLE SENSE OF TOUCH IN FINGERS

ing worked on is inserted into the nerve, nerve fibres grow through it. Nerve signals associated with particular movements are then selected, and these signals transmitted wirelessly to a receiver in the prosthetic.

So far, the device has been

Scientists at the Cambridge Centre for Brain Repair, are meanwhile developing neural interfaces whereby prosthetics will communicate wirelessly with implants fitted directly into the nerve fibres in the stump.

People have produced very sophisticated prosthetics which will do very sophisticated things, but, in almost every case, the thing that people are struggling with is to link it up successfully to the nervous system. A lot of soldiers who have lost limbs have given up using these devices and gone back to a simple hook, which, at least, is reliable.

Once the device currently be-

tested in mice and rats for up to 12 months. While the researchers do have some concerns that scarring within the device could strangle nerve fibres and disrupt signals, no such problems have been detected to date.

Researchers in Italy are also working on wiring bionics to the peripheral nerve system, and have already conducted trials in which electrodes temporarily connected to the nerves were used to drive an unattached prosthetic hand.

Elsewhere, researchers are looking to make more responsive prosthetics with many looking to flexible electronics or "prosthetic skin" to do the job. Switzerland's Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, for example, is looking into putting electronics onto surfaces that can be deformed, flexed but also stretched like a rubber band.

The idea of the prosthetic skin would be to have some kind of a glove, like a latex glove, which could fit around the current prosthetic limb, but that would be full of electronic sensor function and would mimic the sense of touch we have in human skin. Eventually, such sensors might feed information back to the brain via neural interface devices. However, in the meantime, there are other options.

Otto Bock is working on simpler devices whereby electronic sensors on a prosthetic detect information about objects and temperature, which is fed back to the user via vibrations or pressure applied to the adjacent skin. The surgical rerouting of sensory nerves in the stump (or chest muscles where an entire arm is replaced by a prosthetic) could enhance the effect by creating areas of skin that feel what fingers would once have felt.

A new generation of bionics could also enhance the lives of individuals who are paralysed from the neck downward or who have conditions like locked-in syndrome. Given our propensity for war as a race, there's no denying the benefits to rolling out bionics on a grander scale to keep the world a little more whole. ●

“Researchers are also looking to make more responsive prosthetics, with many looking to flexible electronics or prosthetic skin to do the job.”

But there are problems. Sweat on the skin or any movement in the prosthetic can disrupt the signal to the bionic limb. The prosthetics can also rub against the skin and cause discomfort and sores. The next generation of bionics will try to overcome these problems and offer some sensory feedback to the user.

Researchers in Britain have already developed the Intraosseous Transcutaneous Amputation Prosthesis (ITAP), a rod screwed into the bone of an amputee onto which prosthetics can be fitted directly and securely, be they hands, legs or fingers. The rod means higher loads can be carried than with traditional prosthetics which fit over the stump of an amputee like a glove. It also avoids friction between the prosthetic and the skin.

BIONICS ARE ENHANCING THE LIVES OF AMPUTEES





Reaching righteous violence

Although undoubtedly a physical mismatch for Lee Child's creation, Tom Cruise, as **Jack Reacher**, is a reliably suitable superstar for the film.

NEW RELEASE

"Who are you, Mister?" a young woman asks Jack Reacher (Tom Cruise), and it's a question that recurs, not always quite so politely, throughout the movie that bears Reacher's name. He may be an elusive individual with a sketchy background—ex-military, no fixed address, a single shirt to his name—but, as an archetype, he is easy enough to recognise. He is a cousin of Shane and Caine (from the old *Kung Fu*

television series) and Clint Eastwood's *Man With No Name*: a paladin without portfolio who travels from town to town, dispensing righteous violence and hard-boiled aphorisms.

"It's just what guys like me do," Reacher says wearily at one point, though he could say it at just about any point.

Guys like him are mythical creatures, fantasy figures who dispense rough justice when civic institutions fail. Part comic-book superhero, part Old West vigilante and wholly prepos-

terous, Reacher is far less enigmatic than he, or anyone else in the movie, thinks he is. And also less interesting.

Written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie and adapted from *One Shot*, the ninth in Lee Child's series of macho best sellers, Jack Reacher brings its hero to Pittsburgh, where a sniper has just shot down five innocent people, including a nanny accompanying a small child, in broad daylight. The suspected shooter (Joseph Sikora) lies in a coma—after scrawling "Get Jack Reacher" on a

pad in lieu of a confession—with a seemingly airtight case against him. Shell casings, fingerprints at the scene, security camera video, all the usual stuff that disciplined television crime-show viewers will recognise as solid circumstantial evidence.

But the man's lawyer, Helen Rodin (Rosamund Pike), hires Reacher anyway, possibly because she thinks he might keep her client off death row, and possibly because she, like every other woman in (and presumably beyond) the Commonwealth of Penn-

Did you know?

- The character Jack Reacher from Lee Child's book series is described as six feet and five inches tall, but Tom Cruise is five-foot-seven.
- Lee Child makes a cameo as the cop who gives Reacher his belongings back when he leaves jail.
- The teaser trailer debuted on Tom Cruise's—who did all his own stunt driving—50th birthday.

The self-confident, super-competent Reacher is a character Cruise could play in his sleep, which is pretty much what he does. Pike seems a bit more agitated, perhaps because she is too refined an actress for the kind of

character is an inexplicable collage of empathy, ambition and neediness, on hand to awaken Reacher's chivalrous impulses and to quiver with confused desire whenever he is in the room.

Apart from the car chase, the only real fun in *Jack Reacher* comes from Herzog and Robert Duvall, called in near the end as a gruff former Marine. They enliven the movie's atmosphere of weary brutality for a few moments, but they also call attention to the dullness of their surroundings.

It's an odd way to start a franchise, but then Jack Reacher probably wouldn't want us to know too much about him anyway. ●

sylvania, is made weak at the knees by Reacher's off-the-charts heroic and aggressive magnetism.

Helen also has some father issues, mainly that her father (Richard Jenkins) is the district attorney prosecuting the presumed killer. He and the lead detective on the case (David Oyelowo) are obviously too sure of themselves to be trusted, and even before we meet a character known as the Zec (Werner Herzog, whose casting raises a brief film-geek frisson) we know that the poor fellow in the coma is a patsy. We also know, just because of the kind of guy Jack Reacher is, that the body count is sure to rise.

And so *Jack Reacher* lumbers through a series of beatings, shootings and bludgeonings on its way to a climactic, not terribly surprising showdown. There is a pretty good car chase and a lot of very bad dialogue. McQuarrie, on his second outing as a director (his screenplays include *The Usual Suspects* and *Valkyrie*), seems more suited to action scenes than to the ostensibly simpler task of filming people talking. Nearly every conversation is stilted and lame, laden with the kind of repartee that might be witty if you had no sense of humour.

pulpy sincerity the movie requires. She tries very hard to make sense of Helen's emotions and motives, which is a hopeless task, since the



CRUISE'S PERFORMANCE IS SIMPLE AND UNDRAMATIC



ROBERT DUVALL MAKES A WELCOME APPEARANCE AS A FORMER MARINE

THE ONE TO 100 OF MOVIES

12 Monkeys



In his superb recent novel, *11/22/63*, Stephen King follows a man who travels back in time to stop Lee Harvey Oswald from assassinating John F. Kennedy, thus changing the course of modern American history, from the Vietnam War to whatever consequential fates the flaps of a bazillion butterfly wings might yield. Yet the true villain of the book isn't Oswald, but the "obdurate past," some vague yet overwhelming force that protects the future from being rewritten.

Cleverly fashioned from the bones of Chris Marker's 1962 experimental classic *La Jetée*—a 30-minute science-fiction reverie constructed almost entirely out of still photographs—Terry Gilliam's *12 Monkeys* approaches the past with a similarly intoxicating mix of romanticism and dread. It is also about a time traveller who goes back to a period before a world-altering tragedy, but *The Terminator* it is not. Changing the obdurate past here is an exercise in futility and the road to madness. To a certain extent, the hero has to take that road—five billion lives are at stake, after all, even though his mission is to learn about how they were lost, not put a stop to it—but the past is incredibly resistant to alteration.

The film is more thoughtful and reflective than its action beats might suggest—it is about the mysteries of the past and its seductiveness, from unexpected new passions to the simple pleasures of fresh air and music.

"Changing the obdurate past is an exercise in futility and the road to madness"

Bollywood news

Anurag on jury duty

Anurag Kashyap, whose film has been selected for screening at the 2013 Sundance film festival, will also partake as a jury member for the World Cinema Dramatic section. Scheduled from January 17 to 27 in Utah, Kashyap's *Gangs of Wasseyapur* will also feature in the Spotlight section of the festival.



Practice makes perfect

Sources say that Sudhir Mishra was so intent on perfecting his next film starring Chitrangda Singh, *Inkaar*, that he insisted the cast members go through the entire script a whopping 24 times. The practice should pay off, though, as *Inkaar* is said to be a bold film—the urban story of power politics between a man and a woman.

Inspired by Bachchan

According to reports, Amitabh Bachchan has inspired Sonu Sood for his upcoming film, in which he plays a gangster. While a team appointed by director Sanjay Gupta worked on Sood's look, the actor provided input about how his character would dress and behave. He drew inspiration from films like *Don*, *Khoon Pasina* and *Mr Natwarlal*.



Listings

THE READ. WEEKLY GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON AT THE MOVIES.



CODE NAME: GERONIMO

MOVIE GUIDE

Grand Cineplex - Wafi

Cirque du Soleil (3D) - 10:00, 11:50, 13:40, 15:30, 17:20, 19:10, 21:00, 22:50

Code Name: Geronimo - 11:30, 13:30, 15:30, 17:30, 19:30, 21:30, 23:30

Dabangg 2 - 10:00, 12:45, 15:30, 18:15, 21:00, 23:45

The Hobbit - 12:45, 16:00, 19:15, 22:30

The Hobbit (3D) - 11:00, 14:15, 17:30, 20:45, 00:00

The Impossible - 10:30, 12:45, 15:00, 17:15, 19:30, 21:45, 00:00

Jack Reacher - 10:30, 13:00, 15:30, 18:00, 20:30, 23:00

Life of Pi - 10:20, 12:50, 15:20, 17:50, 20:20, 22:50

Life of Pi (3D) - 11:20, 13:50, 16:20, 18:50, 21:20, 23:50

Storage 24 - 10:30, 12:15, 14:00, 15:45, 17:30, 19:15, 21:00, 22:45, 00:30

Playing for Keeps - 10:10, 12:20, 14:30, 16:40, 18:50, 21:00, 23:10

Truth or Die - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00

Grand Megaplex - Ibn Battuta

Abdo Mota - 11:30, 14:00, 16:30, 19:00, 21:30, 00:00

Argo - 11:40, 14:00, 16:20, 18:40, 21:00, 23:20

Breaking Dawn 2 - 11:40, 14:00, 16:20, 18:40, 21:00, 23:30

Cirque du Soleil (3D) - 10:00, 11:50, 13:40, 15:30, 17:20, 19:10, 21:00, 22:50

Code Name: Geronimo - 10:30,

11:30, 12:30, 13:30, 14:30, 15:30, 16:30, 17:30, 18:30, 19:30, 20:30, 21:30, 22:30, 23:30, 00:30

Dabangg 2 - 10:00, 12:45, 15:30, 18:15, 21:00, 23:45

The Hobbit - 10:15, 13:30, 16:45, 20:00, 23:15

The Hobbit (3D) - 10:00, 11:45, 13:30, 15:00, 17:00, 18:15, 20:30, 21:30, 00:00, 00:45

The Impossible - 10:30, 12:45, 15:00, 17:15, 19:30, 21:45, 00:00

Jack Reacher - 11:30, 14:00, 16:30, 19:00, 21:30, 00:00

Karmayodha - 10:15, 13:00, 15:45, 18:30, 21:15, 00:00

Life of Pi - 10:20, 12:50, 15:20, 17:50, 20:20, 22:50

Life of Pi (3D) - 11:20, 13:50, 16:20, 18:50, 21:20, 23:50

Playing for Keeps - 10:10, 12:20, 14:30, 16:40, 18:50, 21:00, 23:10

Rise of the Guardians - 11:30, 13:30, 15:30, 17:30, 19:30, 21:30, 23:30

Samar - 11:00, 14:00, 17:00, 20:00, 23:00

Skyfall - 10:30, 13:30, 16:30, 19:30, 22:30

Storage 24 - 10:30, 12:15, 14:00, 15:45, 17:30, 19:15, 21:00, 22:45, 00:30

Truth or Die - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00

Grand Cinemas - Festival City

Abdo Mota - 11:30, 14:00, 16:30, 19:00, 21:30, 00:00

Cirque du Soleil (3D) - 10:00, 11:50, 13:40, 15:30, 17:20, 19:10, 21:00, 22:50

Code Name: Geronimo - 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 13:30, 14:30, 15:30, 16:30, 17:30, 18:30, 19:30, 20:30, 21:30, 22:30, 23:30, 00:30

Dabangg 2 - 10:00, 12:45, 15:30, 18:15, 21:00, 23:45

The Hobbit - 11:00, 14:15, 00:00

The Hobbit (3D) - 17:30, 20:45

The Impossible - 10:30, 12:45, 15:00, 17:15, 19:30, 21:45, 00:00

Jack Reacher - 11:30, 14:00, 16:30, 19:00, 21:30, 00:00

Life of Pi (3D) - 11:20, 13:50, 16:20, 18:50, 21:20, 23:50

Playing for Keeps - 10:10, 12:20, 14:30, 16:40, 18:50, 21:00, 23:10

Storage 24 - 10:30, 12:15, 14:00, 15:45, 17:30, 19:15, 21:00, 22:45, 00:30

Truth or Die - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00

Grand Cinecity - Al Ghurair

Cirque du Soleil (3D) - 10:00, 11:50, 13:40, 15:30, 17:20, 19:10, 21:00, 22:50

Code Name: Geronimo - 11:30, 13:30, 15:30, 17:30, 19:30, 21:30, 23:30

Dabangg 2 - 10:00, 12:45, 15:30, 18:15, 21:00, 23:45

The Hobbit - 10:00, 13:10, 16:20

Jack Reacher - 19:30, 22:00, 00:30

Karmayodha - 10:15, 13:00, 15:45, 18:30, 21:15, 00:00

Playing for Keeps - 10:10, 12:20, 14:30, 16:40, 18:50, 21:00, 23:10

Samar - 11:00, 14:00, 17:00, 20:00, 23:00

Truth or Die - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00

Reel Cinemas - Dubai Mall

Anna Karenina - 14:20, 17:00, 19:40, 22:20, 01:00

Argo - 14:00, 16:30, 19:00, 21:30, 00:05

Dabangg 2 - 11:25, 12:30, 14:15, 15:20, 17:05, 18:10, 19:55, 21:00, 22:45, 23:50, 01:30

The Hobbit - 11:00, 12:30, 13:30,

14:30, 16:00, 17:00, 17:15, 18:00, 19:30, 20:10, 20:30, 20:45, 21:30, 21:50, 23:00, 23:40, 00:05, 00:15, 01:00, 01:20

The Hobbit (3D) - 15:00, 18:30, 22:00, 01:25

The Impossible - 11:10, 13:35, 16:00, 18:25, 20:50, 23:15, 01:35

Jack Reacher - 12:20, 13:00, 13:30, 14:00, 15:00, 15:50, 16:10, 16:50, 17:40, 18:40, 18:50, 19:30, 20:20, 21:25, 21:30, 22:20, 23:00, 00:05, 00:35, 01:05, 01:35

Killing Them Softly - 13:40, 15:50, 18:00, 20:10, 22:20, 00:35

Life of Pi - 12:30, 15:05, 17:40, 20:15, 22:50, 01:20

Life of Pi (3D) - 11:50, 14:00, 14:25, 16:45, 17:00, 19:30, 19:35, 22:10, 22:15, 00:45, 01:00

Red Dawn - 14:10, 16:15, 18:20, 20:25, 22:30, 00:35

The Reef 2 (3D) - 16:20, 20:10, 23:05, 00:05, 01:00

Santa's Magic Crystal (3D) - 14:30, 18:20, 22:10

So Undercover - 11:40, 13:55, 16:00, 18:05

Reel Cinemas - Marina Mall

Argo - 13:50, 18:30, 23:20

The Hobbit - 12:30, 16:00, 19:30, 23:10

The Hobbit (3D) - 11:30, 14:00, 17:30, 21:00, 00:30

Jack Reacher - 12:05, 14:40, 17:20, 18:20, 20:00, 21:00, 23:00, 23:40

Killing Them Softly - 11:40, 16:20, 21:00

Life of Pi (3D) - 11:50, 14:25, 17:00, 19:35, 22:05, 00:40

Rise of the Guardians - 11:40, 14:00, 16:10

Vox Cinemas - Deira City Centre

Abdo Mota - 10:00, 12:15, 14:30, 16:45, 19:00, 21:15, 23:30

Code Name: Geronimo - 10:00, 13:15, 17:30, 21:45



Dabangg 2 - 10:30, 11:30, 13:00, 14:00, 15:30, 16:30, 18:00, 19:00, 20:30, 21:30, 23:00, 00:00

The Hobbit (3D) - 17:15, 20:30, 23:45

Jack Reacher - 10:15, 13:00, 15:45, 18:30, 21:15, 00:00

Karmayodha - 09:45, 12:30, 15:15, 18:00, 20:45, 23:30

Life of Pi (3D) - 10:00, 11:15, 12:45, 14:00, 15:30, 16:45, 18:15, 19:30, 21:00, 22:15, 23:45, 01:00

Playing for Keeps - 11:00, 15:15, 19:30, 23:45

Rise of the Guardians (3D) - 09:15, 11:15, 13:15, 15:15

Samar - 12:00, 14:45, 17:30, 20:15, 23:00

Storage 24 - 12:15, 16:15, 20:15, 00:15

Truth or Die - 10:15, 14:15, 18:15, 22:15

Vox Cinemas - Mall of the Emirates

Abdo Mota - 14:45, 17:00, 19:15, 21:30, 23:45, 00:45

Cirque du Soleil (3D) - 11:00, 13:00, 15:00, 17:00, 19:00, 21:00, 23:00

Code Name: Geronimo - 10:15, 14:15, 18:15, 22:15

Dabangg 2 - 11:15, 13:45, 16:15, 18:45, 21:30, 00:00

The Hobbit (3D) - 10:30, 13:45, 17:00, 20:15, 23:30

The Impossible - 10:45, 13:15, 15:45, 18:15, 20:45, 23:15



CIRQUE DU SOLEIL: WORLDS AWAY

SCHEDULE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS; HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE THAT MOVIE THEATRES CAN CHANGE SCHEDULES WITHOUT NOTICE



PLAYING FOR KEEPS

Jack Reacher - 10:15, 13:00, 15:45, 18:30, 21:15, 10:00, 00:00, 01:00
Life of Pi (3D) - 10:00, 12:30, 12:45, 15:15, 15:30, 18:00, 18:15, 20:45, 21:00, 22:15, 23:30, 23:45
Playing for Keeps - 10:30, 12:45, 15:00, 17:15, 19:30, 21:45, 00:00
The Reef 2 (3D) - 11:00, 14:45, 18:30
Rise of the Guardians - 09:30, 11:30, 15:45, 20:00
Santa's Magic Crystal (3D) - 09:15, 13:00, 16:45, 20:30
Storage 24 - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30, 01:00
Truth or Die - 12:15, 16:15, 20:15, 00:15
Wreck-It Ralph - 10:15, 12:30, 13:30, 17:45, 22:00

Vox Cinemas - Mirdif City Centre

Abdo Mota - 19:45, 22:00, 00:15
Cirque du Soleil (3D) - 09:45, 11:45, 13:45, 15:45, 17:45
Dabangg 2 - 17:00, 19:30, 22:00, 00:30
The Hobbit (3D) - 13:30, 16:45, 20:00, 23:15
The Impossible - 16:15, 18:45, 21:15, 23:45
Jack Reacher - 10:15, 10:45, 13:00, 13:30, 15:45, 18:30, 21:15, 00:00
Life of Pi (3D) - 10:00, 12:30, 12:45, 15:15, 15:30, 18:00, 18:15, 20:45, 21:00, 23:30, 23:45
Playing for Keeps - 10:30, 12:45, 15:00, 17:15, 19:30, 21:45, 00:00
The Reef 2 (3D) - 09:30, 11:30
Rise of the Guardians - 09:00, 11:00, 13:00, 15:00
Santa's Magic Crystal (3D) - 10:30, 12:15, 14:00
Storage 24 - 12:15, 16:15, 20:15, 00:15
Truth or Die - 10:15, 14:15, 18:15, 22:15

TO FEATURE YOUR EVENT,
EMAIL EDITORIAL@README.AE

What's happening this week in Dubai



'The Wizard of Oz' Live on Stage

Join Dorothy and her friends as they bring the all-time classic to life in the heart of Dubai.

Date: December 30 - 31

Audience: Public

Category: Entertainment

Venue: Madinat Theatre, Souk Madinat Jumeirah

Admission: Dh165

Telephone: 04 366 6546

Sandance NYE 2013

This New Year's Eve show promises to sizzle right into 2013.

Date: December 31

Timings: 3pm - 3am

Audience: Public

Category: Entertainment

Venue: Sandance Beach, Atlantis, The Palm

Admission: Early bird (Dh250), advanced (Dh295), on the door (Dh350), VIP (Dh500)

Telephone: 055 200 4321



Atelier Festival New Year's Eve Edition

Welcome 2013 to the sounds of six A-list music artists.

Date: December 31

Timings: 7pm

Audience: Public

Category: Entertainment

Venue: Meydan Racecourse

Admission: Standard (Dh500), VIP (Dh850), platinum (Dh1,600)

Telephone: 056 675 2181, 056 675 2182



Dubai New Year's Celebrations

Welcome the New Year 2013 with a fireworks show to remember.

Date: December 31

Timings: 8pm

Audience: Public

Category: Entertainment

Venue: Downtown Dubai, near Burj Khalifah

Admission: Free



Dubai Shopping Festival 2013

Dubai Shopping Festival 2013 will feature 'Dubai at its Best'.

Date: January 3 - February 3

Audience: Public

Category: Festival

Meydan Race Nights

Watch world-class jockeys race to the finish line as part of the 2012-2013 racing season at Meydan.

Date: January 3

Timings: 6:30pm

Audience: Public

Category: Sports

Venue: Meydan Grandstand and Racecourse, Nad Al Sheba

Admission: General admission (free of charge), packages (from Dh25 onwards)

Telephone: 04 327 2110

Metro Classifieds

JOBS AVAILABLE



Tailor/Cutter/Pattern maker required for ladies fashion & tailoring. Must be experienced in cutting and stitching. Call 0553301440. Send CV hrifroz@hotmail.com.

Urgently required for international coffee shop Barista, preferably female, w/ or w/o experience in Dubai. Fluent in English & Req. Housemaid. Send CV: hr.vwpt@gmail.com/971529833552.

JOBS WANTED



ACCA member with 4 years of experience in Audit/Accounts with world's 5th largest audit firm as well as in industry seeking a job in the UAE. Call 0527378365.

Indian female, electrical engineer with 3 years experience. Currently on husband visa, seeks job. Call 0501552068.

MBA graduate seeks job as an event coordinator/event organiser. 2+ years experience in event management. Holds UAE D/L. Email fawaz.tarar@yahoo.com/call 0551175549.

ACCA member, BBA (Acc & Fin accounting & finance), seeks job in similar fields. 5+ years experience. Call 0501481564/zeeshanjanjua@gmail.com.

Indian male, BCom graduate seeks full-time job in accounting. Enough experience. On visit visa. Call 0555153585.

Graphic designer male, graduate seeks full-time job. 3 years experience. Can join immediately. Portfolio: www.nabeelmukhtar.com/call 0505003749.

Indian male seeks job as a logistic/store warehouse asst. 5 years experience. Holds UAE D/L. Can join immediately. Call 0555830549/karbaankaaru@gmail.com.

Indian male, mechanical engineer seeks full-time job. 8 year experience in sales/service/production/manufacturing. Holds UAE D/L. Call 0558586173/karbaankaaru@gmail.com.

Pakistani male, CIA, Emba, BCom degree holder seeks job as internal auditor. 6 years experience. Holds UAE D/L. Email abidhayatawan@yahoo.com/0551086203.

Indian female, BE graduate, software engineer seeks full-time job. 5 years experience. Currently on husband's visa. Call 0529446124.

Filipino male, 23, aircraft technology maintenance graduate seeks full-time position. Any position related to profession will suffice. Call 0528785863.

Male, 31, document controller seeks job. 4+ years UAE experience. Well versed in Ms Office & CAD plotting. Email shaikind81@gmail.com/call 0502807476.

MCA graduate seeks full-time job in IT. Currently on husband's visa. Call 0501983054.

AUTOS



BMW 530i, 2002 model, full options, white colour, driven 201,000km. GCC specs. Price Dh27,000. Call 0528391803.

BMW, two colours: blue and yellow for sale, 2004 model, GCC specs, please call 0529511511.

Mitsubishi Lancer, 2009 model for sale. Excellent condition, fully automatic, grey colour, bank loan can be arranged. Call 0558238415.

BMW 520 for sale, 2002 model, excel-

lent condition, the car has two colours yellow and blue, registered in the car ID, please call 0529511511.

Mitsubishi Lancer, ex 2010, engine 2.0 model for sale. Excellent condition, fully automatic. Bank loan can be arranged. Call 0566234236.

ITEMS



Tablet PC 7" Android 4, available for sale. 4GB storage up to 32GB smooth touch screen with cam, headphone & screen protector also available. For Dh199. Call 0509815607.

(New & Original) Rolex box available for sale. Call 0529927723.

Samsung Galaxy, Note 2, 3G available for sale. 1 year warranty. Dh2,199. Call 0503508093.

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Dell Desktop full set available for sale. Comes w/Intel core 2 duo 2.66GHz, 4GB RAM, 160GB HDD, DVDR/W, 20" Dell Hydraulic LCD (wide screen), Dell multi-media keyboard/mouse. In perfect condition. For Dh900. Call 0554809334.

Pre-owned sophisticated laced wedding dress available for rent/sale in Dubai. Worn only once. Designed by Elie Saab. Size 40. Call 0554242440.

Brand new Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1GTN8000 available for sale. White in colour. In original pack. Comes w/ a leather case. Call 0557818568.

SERVICES



TWS - 50% on all salon and spa services (also keratin and rebonding). For appointment, call 042595128.

Upgrade existing HP server storage capacity and multiply RAM speed. Call now for free consultation. Call 0552243614.

Visa consultation services available. Get 14 days visa for Dh340, 30 days for Dh540, and 60 days for Dh1,540. Please call or email 0558226296, zaheer@mishkatourism.com.

Personal loan, salary Dh4,500 plus company accommodation and auto loan salary Dh3,000 available, fast approval, no salary transfer required. Call 0567865862.

"Better Way Businessmen Services". Our services business consulting, sponsor visa assist, recovery problem pecuniary issues. Call 042554330.

MCITP, CCNA, Exchange Server 2010 & Share Point 2010 training classes available. At Learners Point Training Center. At affordable prices. Call 043266880/0527669500.

IELTS, TOEFL, Business English, Spoken English courses available. At Learners Point Training Center. Call 043266880/0527669500.

Al shams moving services available. We help with moving to villas, apt, offices, etc. Check website www.alshamsmovers.com. Call 0556677234.

Tutoring lessons available. For all subjects from KG-grade 8. Entrance coaching + winter classes. Also help struggling kids. At Al Baraha. Call 0553787461.

Translation services available at Dunia Legal Translation. We work on all types of texts. High quality, affordable rates & on time delivery. Call 0505033530/043575730/email dunia.translation@gmail.com.

Apple Mac OSX training lessons available. We offer Office/graphic/web design/video editing + Apple iMac courses. We also offer accounts, management, IELTS, SAT, English courses. Call 044579128/www.cybermodo.com.

Piano, keyboard, guitar, drum set courses available. Lessons in both theory and practical. Call 0527656435.

Home tutoring lessons available. Classes in commerce, finance, management studies & economics. Taught by experienced teacher. Projects and assignments included. Call 0527551986.

Mashweer delivery services. We collect and deliver anything anywhere in Dubai all in 90 minutes. Call 800900900/www.mashweeruue.com.

IT/ laptop maintenance services available. We fix, repair/update RAM & HD. We are also Apple specialists; we restore all kinds of Apple technical issues. Call 0509815607.

Guitar/drums/piano and violin lessons available. With full notation in class. Regular and fast track crash courses also available. Call 0555674407.

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Courses in computer, languages, management, accounting, secretarial & school tutoring available. At Omega Institute Deira, Qusais & Bur Dubai. Call 043524700/0504941862.

A/C maintenance/installation services available for Dh90 per unit. We also offer electrical, plumbing, painting, pest control services. Call 0556133868/visit www.HomeTalents.net.

Football classes available at Safa Park every Friday for Dh40 per child. Duration 1.5 hours. Will be divided into two groups 7-9 and 10-14 years old. Call Andrei 0559979216.

Registered agency available for service. For all types of business licenses in Dubai and Sharjah. At affordable prices. Call 0556764440.

Professional translation services available. In the following languages: Russian-English-Ukrainian. Call 0552821633.

A/C maintenance & installation, painting, plumbing and cleaning services available. At reasonable rates. Call 042282244/0509209696/www.fastmaid-dubai.com.

We repair cameras of any make or model. Located in Dubai. Photo Experts - professionals in repairing cameras since 30 years. Call 0506510273 or 042623018 Dubai.

We transfer old video/pictures from any format to digital media. 8mm regular/super film-VHS, Betamax, MiniDV. Call Photo Experts 0506510273 or 042623018 Dubai.

Gardening, landscaping services available. From pool to any type of agriculture maintenance also available. For more info call Palm at 0557696734.

Registered agency available for service. For all types of business licences in Dubai and Sharjah. At affordable prices. Call 0555175991.

Shower filter installation services available. At homes and anywhere else in the UAE. Extreme pure shower filter removes 99% chlorine from your water. Unit for only Dh199. Call 0551058988/visit www.extremepurefilter.com.

ACCOMMODATION



Single bedspace available for kabayan,

w/n a partition starting this Jan. Rent Dh550 w/o DEWA, internet, gas free. Complete appliances, quite spacious and clean room. Call 0552948295.

Bed space available for ladies in a brand new flat with central A/C, attached bath, kitchen & internet near Dnata clock tower area @ Dh650 only. Call 0529878699.

One-bedroom apartment, furnished, for rent in Mirdif. Please call 0529511511.

Fully furnished room available for rent in a 2BHK flat. Bachelors & couples only. Walking distance from metro station, Bur Dubai. Monthly/quarterly payments. Call 0527126366.

Room available for rent. Located at Al Khail Gate. Kabayans only. Rent for Dh2,200 + free DEWA internet. Call 0502878913.

Fully furnished bed space available for rent. Filipinos only. Comes with gym, E-vision, TFC and internet facilities. Near Karama metro and bus station. Call 0504002998.

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Bed space available for rent. Females only. Located near Mall of the Emirates. SMS 0529135193.

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Al Tayer meets Turkish Consul

Role of Turkish companies participating in the Dubai Metro and road projects in emirate commended.



MATTAR AL TAYER IN TALKS WITH ELIF ÇOMOĞLU ÜLGEN

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA, recently received Her Excellency Elif Çomoğlu Ülgen, Consul General of Turkey in the emirate of Dubai, in the presence of Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian, CEO of the RTA's Licencing Agency.

The meeting discussed ways and means of boosting cooperation and exchanging expertise between the RTA and its counterpart in Turkey. Both sides also explored cooperation with Turkish firms operating in rail and road projects.

Al Tayer welcomed the Turkish Consul, wishing her a pleasant stay in the UAE. He hailed the relationship

“The meeting discussed ways and means of boosting cooperation and exchanging expertise between the RTA and its counterpart in Turkey.”

between the UAE and the Republic of Turkey, and commended the record of the Turkish firms undertaking a number of projects involving Dubai Metro and roads.

Al Tayer also briefed the Turkish Consul on the key projects currently underway at the RTA, including the widening of roads and bridges as well as the Al Safouh Tramway.

Ülgen admired the sweeping development seen by Dubai over a record time that has made it a focal point for entrepreneurs, business leaders and tourists, thanks to the shrewd vision and prudent leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. The Turkish Consul also expressed her delight to see a number of Turkish firms undertaking RTA projects in Dubai.

New Year sees Metro run 24 hours

Dubai buses and taxis will also operate around the clock, with extra parking slots to be provided on the day.

SERVICES

The RTA has completed preparations for the launch of its Operational Plan for Public Transit Means and Traffic Management to mark the New Year's Eve celebrations at the Dubai Mall and Burj Khalifa.

Ahmed Mohammed Al Hammadi, head of the RTA team dealing with public transport systems, the Metro and taxis during official and annual events, said, “The Metro will be operating around the clock, starting from 6am on December 31, 2012 up to January 1, 2013. The service will be running at a 2.5-minute headway (frequency) during peak hours and eight minutes during off-peak hours.

“Around 10,000 additional parking slots will be provided by using



AHMED MOHAMMED AL HAMMADI

2,000 parking slots from the parking lot of the Dubai World Trade Centre, and 8,000 from the Meydan parking space. Directional signage will be erected to guide the public to the



NEW YEAR'S EVE WILL RUN SMOOTHLY THANKS TO THE RTA OPERATIONAL PLAN

locations of additional car parks, and more buses will be deployed to shuttle people from the parking lots to the events' venues.

“Forty feeder buses will be deployed at the Dubai Metro Stations. Buses will be operating around the clock, in conjunction with the Metro operation,” said Al Hammadi.

About the taxi service on New Year's Eve, Al Hammadi said, “To ensure the deployment of a sufficient number of taxicabs as soon as possible, the RTA has designated lanes exclusively for these vehicles, and also endorsed additional overflow parking at Etisalat at Jafiliya, World Trade Centre and Meydan. Emaar will provide 24 tents at Burj Khalifa for selling Nol cards to the public in order to encourage them to use public transit means.”

I'll keep annoying dad until he stops texting.



I WON'T LET IT HAPPEN

انتبه
takecare

If you're in a car with a person who is **texting while driving**, stop him or her in the best possible way. Or if your spouse refuses to buckle up, don't get into the car. Or if a friend is speeding, sing off key until he or she slows down. Don't let an accident happen. A safer road is everyone's responsibility.

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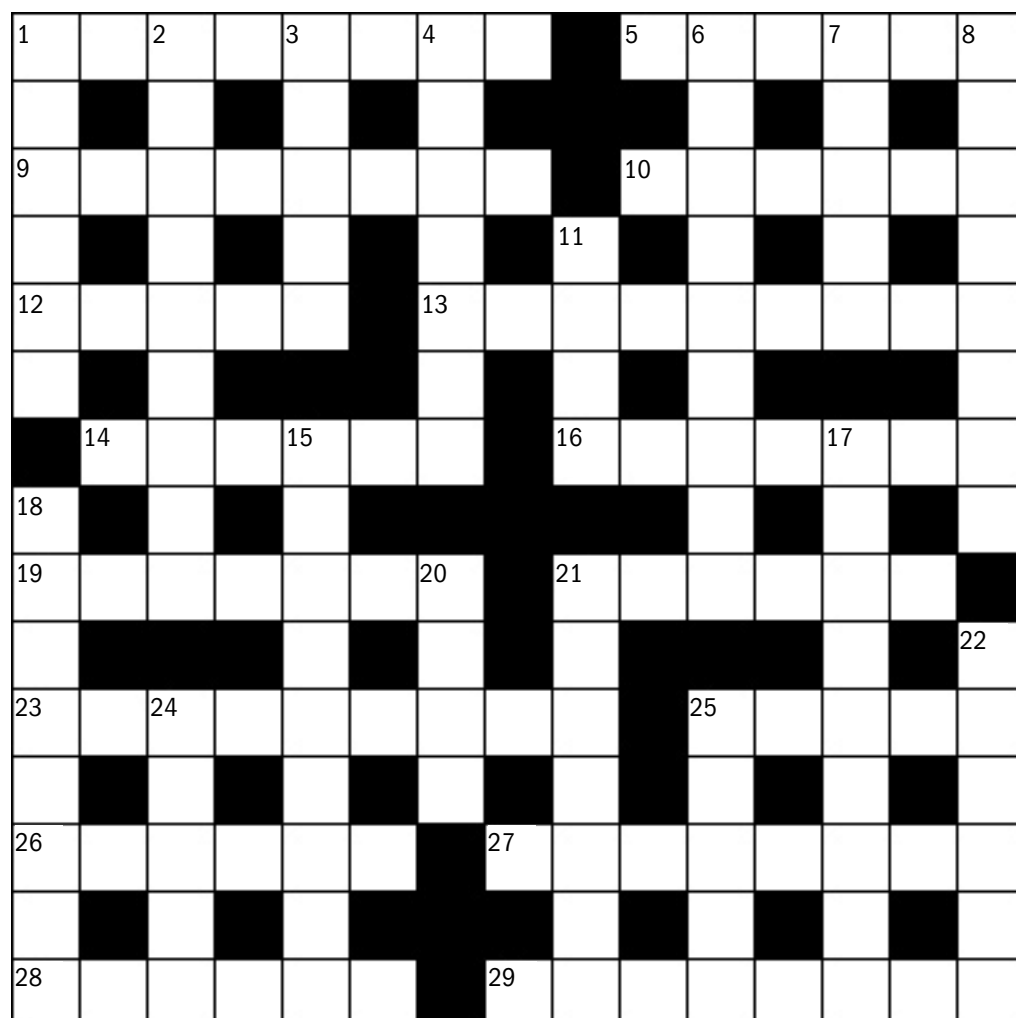
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Taking your time

Ponder over our puzzles, relish a new recipe and catch up with our cartoons.



Crossword

Across

1 Keepsake (8) **5** Anew (6) **9** Penetrating (8) **10** Panther (6) **12** Snares (5) **13** Well-kept (9) **14** Notable initial occurrences (6) **16** Blueprint (British spelling) (7) **19** Lend honour to (7) **21** Change for the better (6) **23** Snarls (9) **25** A glowing piece of coal (5) **26** Have as a logical consequence (6) **27** Deactivates (8) **28** Candies (6) **29** Feelings of ardent affection (8)

Down

1 Garments of the torso (6) **2** Never stopping (9) **3** S S S S (5) **4** Buys into shares or bonds (7) **6** Flagpole (9) **7** Mediterranean herbs (5) **8** Reaps (8) **11** Decorate with gold leaf (4) **15** Laboratory researcher (9) **17** A loose high-necked blouse (9) **18** Inactivity (8) **20** Shout (4) **21** Breathe (7) **22** Came up (6) **24** What a book is called (5) **25** Muse of lyric poetry (5)

ANSWERS



Recipe

Strawberry cream cake

Indulge in the sweet goodness of strawberries and cream this holiday season.

Ingredients

12 eggs
2 tsp vanilla powder
2 tsp lemon zest
200g caster sugar
250g plain flour
2 cups water
1 tin sweetened condensed milk
60g corn flour
2 cups whipped cream
5 strawberries

Method

1. Preheat oven to 175 degrees C.
2. Grease a round cake tin and dust with flour.
3. Mix 8 eggs, 1 tsp vanilla powder, 1 tsp lemon zest and sugar in a

bowl until the mixture becomes very thick.

4. Add the flour while folding the mixture constantly gently using a metal spoon.

5. Pour the cake mixture over the cake tin.

6. Place in a preheated oven for 40-45 minutes. Set aside to cool.

7. To make the filling, mix two cups of water and the sweetened condensed milk in a saucepan and bring to boil.

8. Mix 4 eggs, 1 tsp vanilla powder, corn flour and 1 tsp lemon zest in a mixing bowl then pour them into the boiled mixture.

9. Bring to boil with constant stirring until the mixture thickens. Set aside to cool.

Serves
8

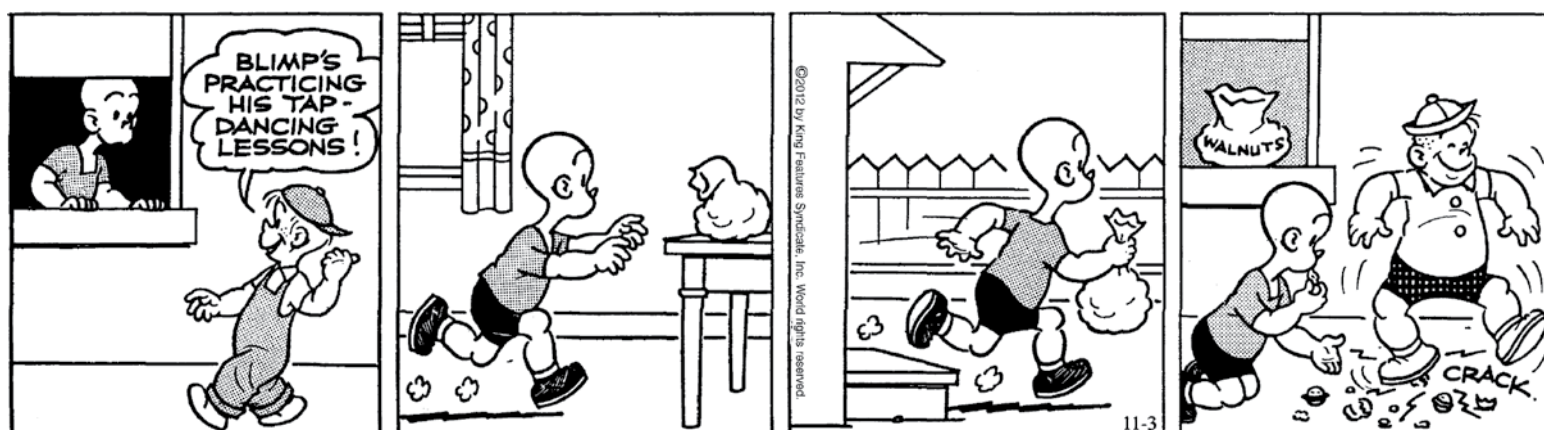
10. Cover the filling with foil to prevent the cream from drying.

11. Cut the cake into 3 layers. Mix the cooled filling with 1 cup of the whipped cream until the mixture is smooth then spread the filling over the first layer, and repeat same over the second and third layer.

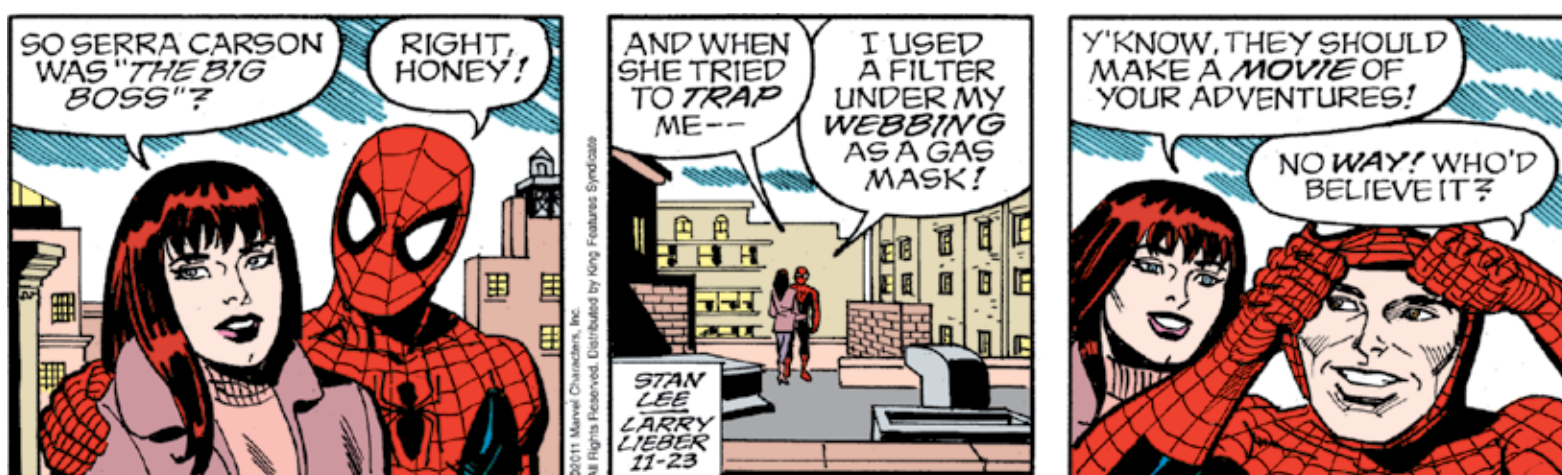
12. To garnish the cake, spread whipped cream on top and on sides of the cake. Cut and arrange the strawberry slices on top.



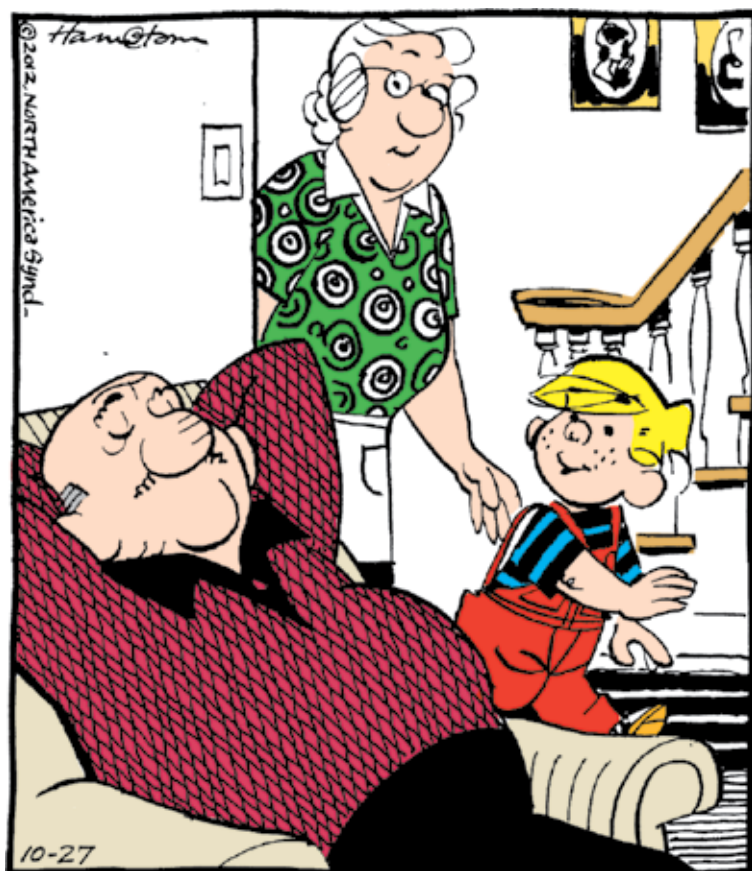
Henry



Spiderman



Dennis the menace



Who's this?

ANSWER ON PAGE 34



Puzzles

Arrowword

Las Vegas' state	Monument of remembrance	Hire vehicles	Football supporters	Simian creature	Health hydro	Operatic song
			Scottish musicians			
Mimics	___ Ferris, actress	Maiden name indicator		Monster	Boorish lout	Food blender
			Budget super-market chain	Domain	Edible root like a potato	
AA's rival (inits)		Hard-shelled fruit	___ Morse, <i>EastEnders</i> actress			Aussie bird
Model married to David Bowie			Fury, wrath		Witch's bad luck spell	
Strong rush of wind	Exacting, difficult					
			Stripling		Belonging to us	

Sudoku 1

8	6	2			9	3		5
		4	6				9	
7	9			3		4	6	
9			8		2	7		
	1		9				8	
2		8		5				
6				1				
				9		7	3	
1	3			8	5			6

Sudoku 2

			9	1		6		
	3							2
							9	3
				6				
5		7						
		4		5	9			6
7	9		3				6	5
3		2			5		4	9
	4							

ANSWERS

ARROWWORD

B	L	A	S	T	S	I	S	T	B
A	B	U	R	D	O	S	N	S	A
X	H	E	R	E	N	V	M	I	T
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C
M	A	V	A	L	A	I	R	A	C

SUDOKU 1

6	2	7	4	9	3	1	5	8
4	8	5	2	9	6	1	7	3
6	2	9	3	1	7	5	4	8
2	7	8	1	5	4	6	3	9
9	4	3	8	6	2	7	5	1
7	9	1	5	3	8	4	6	2
3	5	4	6	2	1	8	9	7
8	6	2	7	4	9	3	1	5

SUDOKU 2

6	4	5	1	9	2	3	8	7
3	8	2	6	7	5	1	4	9
7	9	1	3	4	8	2	6	5
8	1	4	2	5	9	7	3	6
5	6	7	4	3	1	9	2	8
9	2	3	8	6	7	4	5	1
1	7	6	5	2	4	8	9	3
4	3	9	7	8	6	5	1	2
2	5	8	9	1	3	6	7	4

WHO'S THIS? ANSWER - MICHAEL J. FOX



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What's in your stars?

The *Read.* astrologer tells you what you can expect over the next seven days.

ARIES

(MAR 21 - APR 20)

Your many interests or travel could keep you busy this week. It will be best to keep moving. Your amazing energy this weekend demands a physical outlet of some sort, so get to the gym or go dancing. Get back to basics and re-evaluate what is important in life.



TAURUS

(APR 21 - MAY 21)

Stick to the present as future plans may have flaws. Once you get more information, you should be able to set it all out and take the right path. Career growth is highlighted this week. You may have a hard time remaining humble this weekend.



GEMINI

(MAY 22 - JUN 21)

You are quite busy midweek, but most of your activities are fun and engaging, so it's good to have busywork behind you. Keep your wits about you and be sure that you can trust those you confide to. Compromise maybe necessary this week.



CANCER

(JUN 22 - JUL 23)

You may not always dazzle folks with your ideas, but something you say gets them thinking about how they can make changes. You may find your balance and be able to make twice as much progress on your personal projects as you had planned.



LEO

(JUL 24 - AUG 23)

Throw around big ideas in the middle of the week, especially around the workplace. Once you've got a good-sized list of options, use your time to really think each one through and come up with the best one. You can get ready to celebrate your new direction.



VIRGO

(AUG 24 - SEP 23)

You should get into some of those creative hobbies that you always wanted to do. Your confidence will stabilise your position. You feel cool, smart and detached and should be able to get to the bottom of any questions that are still unresolved in your life.



LIBRA

(SEP 24 - OCT 23)

If things don't feel quite right, take a second look at how your friends or co-workers are behaving. Your good energy helps you see all sides of every question. Disruptions may set you back, but you're strong, and, in the end, the choices you make will be favourable.



SCORPIO

(OCT 24 - NOV 22)

Opportunities will unfold; however, you must be willing to pay the price. You may want more than you can realistically get. Dreams of travel take over this weekend, and your great energy might tip you over the edge to actually make plans.



SAGITTARIUS

(NOV 23 - DEC 21)

Make sure you focus on one small thing at a time if you want to get anything done. Life gets pretty interesting, though you may not be doing what you had hoped to be doing. The weekend is great, and your good mood cannot be dampened.



CAPRICORN

(DEC 22 - JAN 20)

Try to stay calm and do the best you can. Your good energy helps you bring projects to completion with your usual diligence and attention to detail. This week is great for clearing out closets, shelves or anything else you don't need any more.



AQUARIUS

(JAN 21 - FEB 19)

It is a good time to reflect on your past. Get a little exercise later in the week, as you body is craving some activity, and you might find something new you really like doing. Don't make any drastic changes or begin fresh projects this week.



PISCES

(FEB 20 - MAR 20)

For the most part, this is a pretty sweet week, filled with creative energy. You might feel a little edgy midweek, but can take away some great ideas from peering into the void. Opportunities to make advancements through good business sense can come through.



This week's local weather

SUN

30th

WARM
HIGH 24C
LOW 18C
HUMIDITY 41%

MON

31st

WARM
HIGH 24C
LOW 21C
HUMIDITY 39%

TUE

1st

WARM
HIGH 24C
LOW 20C
HUMIDITY 50%

WED

2nd

WARM
HIGH 23C
LOW 20C
HUMIDITY 47%

THU

3rd

WARM
HIGH 23C
LOW 20C
HUMIDITY 38%

FRI

4th

WARM
HIGH 23C
LOW 19C
HUMIDITY 39%

SAT

5th

WARM
HIGH 23C
LOW 20C
HUMIDITY 54%

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