



## Get In Their Head

News from Monday, January 9th Listen to the Episode ▷

Eagle-eyed TSA agents spotted a 4-foot python inside a suitcase when it rolled through X-ray at a security checkpoint in Tampa, Florida. Its owner said 'Bartholomew' was her emotional support companion, but when agents asked the airline, the answer was nope - there will be no snakes on our plane. According to the TSA, snakes in carry ons are a hard no. Only a few airlines will allow them to fly in checked baggage, and only then if the reptile is packaged correctly.

Draw a cartoon that shows everyone's perspective (point of view) during this event

\*Use the template on the next page.\*

## No emotional-support snakes allowed!

The owner was thinking...

First	Then	Finally	
The TSA agents were thinking			
First	Then	Finally	
Now, if snakes could think			
First	Then	Finally	

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Monday, January 16th was Martin Luther King Day in the US - a federal holiday celebrating the life and legacy of the famous civil rights leader. The day is a tribute to Dr. King's life and work and also a reminder of the ongoing challenges that African Americans face because of racism. Many people know about Dr. King's work on racial equality and justice but don't know what else he stood for.

Research some of Dr. King's other accomplishments and write a paragraph or two informing others about these lesser-known parts of his legacy.		



Ever wonder what football players do in their downtime? The answer might surprise you. According to the New York Times, many are turning to chess as they are increasingly drawn to the mental challenge they say translates to the football field. Big names fighting for checkmate bragging rights include Kyler Murray of the Cardinals and Joe Burrow of the Bengals. Cleveland Browns wide receiver Amari Cooper has gone so far as to hire a chess coach after being walloped too many times by a former Raiders teammate early in his career. He says "there's a huge correlation. In chess if you make one bad move, you can lose the entire game. And in football, one bad play can cost you."

Choose a different professional sport and design a supplemental (extra) training orogram that includes elements that are, like chess for football players, unexpectedly helpful to performance at the sport. Write out the training schedul and explain why each part is useful.		



## Test It! News from Friday, January 23rd Listen to the Episode ▷

**Preply,** an e-learning company, ranked speakers in all 50 US states by measuring how many syllables were spoken per second. The study found that in general, southerners articulate more slowly while those in the upper Midwest speak at a faster clip. The state with the fastest talkers is Minnesota averaging 5.34 syllables in a second. And the slowest is Louisiana at 4.78.

Record friends and family speaking and figure out what the average

syllables/second is for your community. Then compare your results with those from the study (preply.com/en/blog/speech-rates-in-america/)		



Love to walk, but not how long it takes to get anywhere? There might be a solution for that. Moonwalkers are wheeled gadgets that you can add to your shoes to walk twice as fast with half the effort. They are not strap on roller skates. According to the GoodNewsNetwork, these only move when you do — and only when you reach a certain stride. That means you can go up and down stairs, onto public transit and into crowded spaces with the wheels locked for safety. Then, when the need for speed hits, a flick of the heel slips them into Moonwalking mode for a 7-mile per hour pace, the same speed as a comfortable jog or a moving walkway. Shift Robotics is the company behind them; they employed a team of jet propulsion engineers, race car technicians, and running shoe designers to get them just right. They begin shipping this summer.

Write a short story inspired by this new invention. Perhaps the shoes have more power than their designers think...You can use this story starter:

My uncle thought he was just getting me a cool pair of shoes when he bought m a pair of Moonwalkers. They actually were the reason that I ended up		

