



# 雙語週報

199 期



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線上訂購

發行人：吳苑庭 出刊日 2022 年 4 月 1 日 訂報專線 (02) 2649-7111

定價 40 元

## Cute as a Button



## 萌力充電



英聽教學

Never underestimate the power of cuteness.  
可愛力量無極限。



## 可愛影音刷起來

## 心靈饗宴不虛耗

英文 / Leila Luo 圖 / 123RF



Some people say looking at cute things on the internet is a waste of time. However, research shows that looking at cute things is good for us. A 2012 study conducted by psychological scientists at Hiroshima University in Japan found evidence that cute pictures may lead to improved performance on detail-oriented tasks that require concentration. This study suggests that viewing cute images makes people behave more deliberately and carefully.

有人批評上網瀏覽可愛事物的影像是在浪費時間；然而研究證明，觀賞可愛的事物有益身心。2012 年一份日本廣島大學心理學家研究發現，人們在閱覽可愛圖像後，處理事情會更從容、謹慎。研究指出，此舉有助於需要高集中力及專注細節的工作提升工作表現。

**More recently, a 2020 study conducted by the University of Leeds in the UK concluded that people who watch cute animals feel calmer amidst stressful circumstances. The study showed that every participant experienced a reduction in blood pressure, heart rate, and anxiety after watching a 30-minute video.**

2020 年，一份由英國利茲大學進行的研究結果顯示，人們於高壓期間觀賞可愛動物的影像將有效紓解壓力。在觀賞 30 分鐘的可愛動物影片後，所有受試者的血壓、心律與焦慮程度皆有所下降。

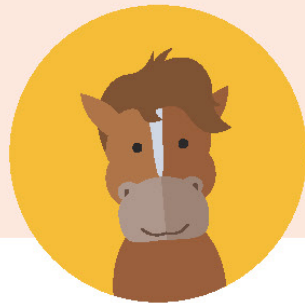


# 森林野火燒不停🔥 放牧牛馬來幫忙

英文 / Andrew Edmunds 圖 / 123RF

There used to be laws in Europe that prohibited shepherds and ranchers from taking their animals into the forest to graze. Now these laws are being bent or even removed. A 2021 GrazeLIFE study showed that horses, bison, and other herbivores were effective in reducing forest fire risk in flatter or thinner forested areas.

2021 年 GrazeLIFE 的一項研究顯示，於平坦或較稀疏的森林地區放牧馬、野牛等植食性動物，可有效降低森林大火發生的風險。據此，歐洲多國曾禁止牧羊人或牧場主人進森林放牧的相關法律，現正計畫鬆綁甚或廢除。

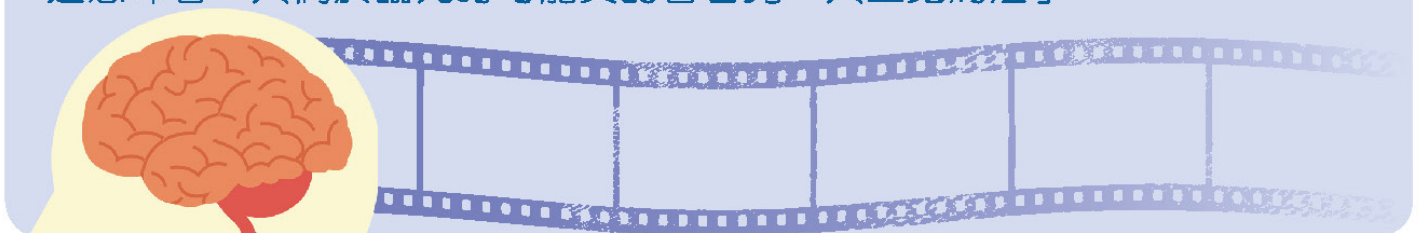


## 臨終腦波近似回憶 甜酸苦辣歷歷在目

英文 / Andrew Edmunds 圖 / 123RF

When an elderly patient died suddenly during a routine test, scientists accidentally captured data on the activity in his brain. His brain waves were remarkably similar to those seen during memory recall, suggesting that people may actually see their life "flash before their eyes" when they die.

科學家們在一名猝死於例行檢查中的老年患者，意外地取得死亡過程中的大腦活動數據。數據顯示該患者當時腦波呈現的狀態與回憶時非常相似。這意味著，人們於臨死時可能真的會看見「人生跑馬燈」。



prohibit (v.) 禁止

graze (v.) 放牧

bend (v.) 放寬、通融

routine (a.) 例行的

recall (v.) 回憶



# 外貌啟動照護本能 可愛與否決定嬰兒待遇



英文 / Leila Luo 圖 / 123RF



The human brain is wired to respond to cute babies with large eyes and heads. This natural attraction to cuteness ensures that parents pay attention to and protect their babies while they are their most vulnerable. But what happens when babies are not cute? There is some evidence to suggest that less-cute infants are treated differently.

對於大腦袋瓜配上大眼睛的可愛嬰兒，人類大腦會本能地產生反應。這種自然吸引力會驅使雙親關注並保護嬰兒，確保他們安然渡過這段最脆弱的成長時期。然而，要是嬰兒不可愛怎麼辦？部分證據指出：較不可愛的嬰兒將會有不同的待遇。

Studies show that both men and women look at cute infant faces longer than less-cute faces. The real-life application of this preference hurts babies who are born with cleft lips or palates. Infants with these kinds of facial problems are more likely to suffer, partially because mothers are likely to respond less to them than cuter babies. This results in slower child development and cognitive problems.

研究顯示，無論男女都會花較長時間照看比較可愛的嬰兒。在生活中，此種偏愛卻會傷害先天唇腭裂的嬰兒。這些面部有缺陷的嬰兒於成長過程中更易遭受到苦難，部分原因可能來自母親對嬰兒較少的反應，甚至將導致兒童發育遲緩與認知問題。





# 喵吉拉攻佔火車鐵道

## 萌照拯救瀕危餐廳

英文 / Leila Luo 圖 / 123RF

Like many other business owners when COVID-19 first spread, restaurateur Naoki Teraoka struggled financially. However, his family still decided to adopt an entire family of stray cats. Once comfortable, the cats began to lie on the model train scenes in the restaurant. Teraoka thought the sight was very funny and cute. So did many others who saw his photos on Instagram.



當日本初次陷於新冠肺炎疫情時，如同許多其他的企業主，餐廳老闆寺岡直樹也陷入了財務困境。儘管如此，寺岡一家人仍決定收養流浪媽媽貓與牠的整窩小貓。在貓咪們適應新家後，牠們開始會趴臥在餐廳的火車模型場景裡。寺岡覺得這畫面超級逗趣可愛，於是上傳可愛貓照，獲得 IG 網友熱烈的迴響。

Teraoka decided to embrace the cuteness and reinvent the entire restaurant as a cat sanctuary where customers could interact with stray cats—and even adopt them. As more customers came, Teraoka was able to expand his operations with a second-floor cat shelter and kitty hotel. “We thought we were helping them, but they were the ones who helped us,” Teraoka said.

於是寺岡決定借助這可愛的力量，將餐廳改造成貓咪保護區。顧客可以於用餐時與浪貓們互動，甚至收養牠們。隨著越來越多的人慕名而來，寺岡得以擴展貓咪保護的工作，並於餐廳 2 樓增設浪貓收容所和貓咪旅館。寺岡表示，或許我們認為幫助了牠們，但事實上是牠們拯救了我們。



adopt (v.) 收養    stray (a.) 流浪的    embrace (v.) 欣然接受    expand (v.) 擴大    operation (n.) 工作；營運

1. How do cute things affect us according to the studies on page two?

- a. People tend to waste more time.
- b. People require more concentration to do tasks.
- c. People's heartbeats slow down.
- d. People's videos are better for psychological research.

2. What does the word flatter mean as it was used on page three?

- a. to praise someone too much
- b. more level than something else
- c. not interesting, or without emotion
- d. a set of rooms for living in, usually all on one floor

3. Which word from page three means a person who is receiving medical care?

- a. capture
- b. patient
- c. rancher
- d. shepherd

4. What is not true about the page four story?

- a. Mothers always respond less to ugly babies.
- b. Humans have an instinct to like cute things.
- c. The cuteness of babies helps them survive.
- d. Less-cute babies can develop more slowly.

5. What is a good title for the story on page five?

- a. Family Aboard Japanese Train Attacked by Stray Cats
- b. Man Shelters in Place During COVID
- c. Struggling Business Saved by Cute Cats
- d. Expanding Thoughts on the Restaurant Business

6. Prohibit is to allow as \_\_\_\_.

- a. anxiety is to calmness
- b. bend is to remove
- c. expand is to interact
- d. infant is to baby

### Cloze Test A

Herbivores \_\_\_\_ animals that only eat plants. Some examples are deer, elephants, and horses. \_\_\_\_ teeth are flatter so they can grind plant matter. They might eat the fruit, leaves, roots, \_\_\_\_ seeds of plants.

### Cloze Test B

Today when I got home, I heard \_\_\_\_ soft meow. I looked around and saw a tiny kitten under a bush. It was sick, \_\_\_\_ I took it to the vet. It \_\_\_\_ so cute that I decided to keep it.



1.c 2.b 3.b 4.a 5.c 6.a

1. 查閱第 2 版報導。一份 2020 年的英國研究指出，受試者在觀看可愛動物影片後心律下降。換言之，(c) 受試者的心跳頻率變慢了。

2. flatter 是 flat (a. 平坦的) 的比較級，第 3 版第 1 則報導雖未明說比較對象，但可從前文後意判斷出是指「相較其他森林地帶更平坦」。因此答案為 (b) 較其他事物平坦。

3. patient 作為形容詞意為「有耐心的」，而在第 3 版第 2 則報導則作名詞使用，意思是「病人」。

4. 此為陷阱題。第 4 版報導僅說，照顧不可愛的嬰兒，母親的反應很可能相對較少，並非全數皆是如此。

5. 查閱第 5 版，最適切的答案為 (c) 陷入營運危機的事業，因可愛貓咪而獲救。

6. prohibit (v. 禁止) 與 allow (v. 允許) 互為相反詞，恰如 (a) anxiety (n. 焦慮) 與 calmness (n. 平靜)。

### Cloze Test A

1.are 2.Their 3.or

植食性動物是以植物為食的動物，如馬、鹿、大象都屬此類。牠們牙齒的形狀較扁平，有助於磨碎植物纖維。果實、葉子、種子或根部皆可為牠們的食物。

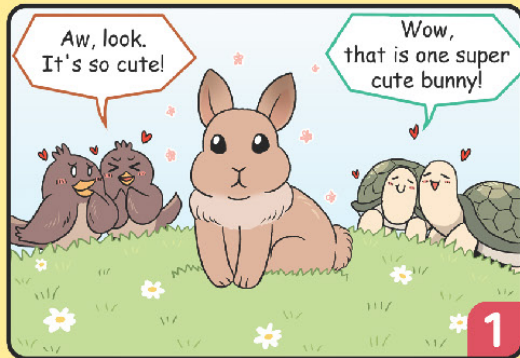
### Cloze Test B

1.a 2.so 3.was

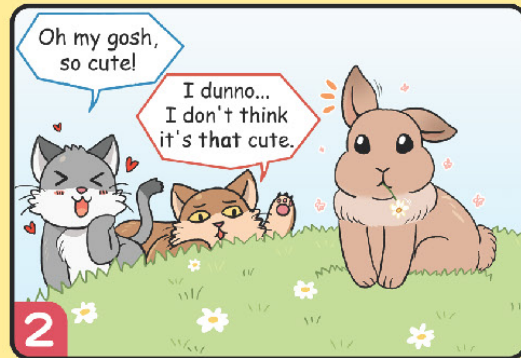
今天回到家時聽見了微弱的貓叫聲。我環顧四周，發現一隻小貓咪躲在灌木叢下。牠生病了，於是我帶牠去看獸醫。這隻小貓咪太可愛了，讓我決定收編牠。

## 可愛誅心♥

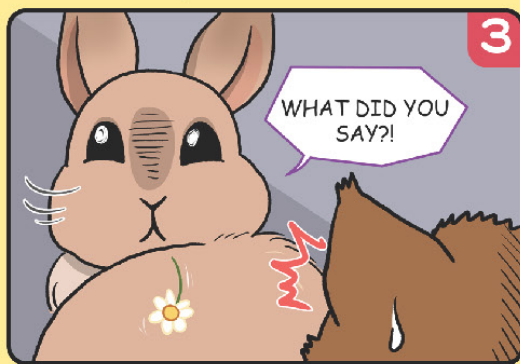
腳本 / Leila Luo 漫畫 / 瀚昇



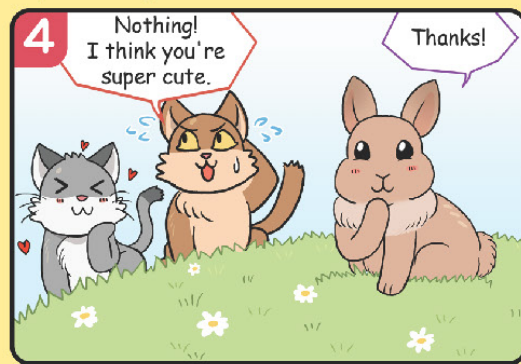
噢，快看，好可愛喔！  
哇！真是隻超可愛的小兔子！



天啊，實在太萌了！  
呃，太誇張了吧，沒那麼可愛呀。



你 · 再 · 講 · 一 · 次？



沒有！我是說您實在可愛得太誇張了！  
過獎了啦！

## The Rest is History

## 噴發 8 日寒冷 3 年

## 火山坦博拉禍延全球

英文 / Andrew Edmunds 圖 / 123RF

On the fifth of April 1815, Mount Tambora in Indonesia erupted, killing tens of thousands of people in the initial event. It was the most powerful volcano eruption in human history. For three years after, particles from the volcano spread around the globe causing planetary cooling and famine.

1815 年 4 月 5 日，印尼坦博拉火山噴發，爆發初期便造成數萬人死亡，堪稱有史以來最猛烈的火山爆發事件。於火山爆發後 3 年，坦博拉噴出的火山微粒擴散至全球，導致氣候變冷與嚴重飢荒。