DIJINUARY 2023 GAZETTE Hollywood & Westwood

#### PEACE FOR THE WORLD

Today, I'm going to talk about goals for 2023. First, I hope the coronavirus goes away. We've been plagued by coronavirus for almost 3 years. We had to wear masks, could't go abroad, and couldn't see family and friends. Our lives have changed drastically.

Recently, many countries have allowed people to go abroad. I hope I am allowed to go abroad and travel. I want war to disappear. Russia and Ukraine are fighting now. It's terrible that people are dying. I want this war to end. May the world be peaceful soon.



By Riko





## HOLIDAY TRADITION «

Every year before the new year, we have the best time of year - Christmas. Every country celebrates it differently - the traditions around the holidays to be more precise. Here in America, everything is decorated very "Christmassy" in anticipation of Christmas.

In Germany, we count the days from December 1st to 24th with an advent calendar. There are small gifts inside that you can unwrap every day until the 24th. The gifts could be anything like chocolate, little toys, or other things. You have the option to buy one or you can create one by yourself for someone.

We also celebrate the first, second, third, and fourth advent. It is a religious tradition for Catholics. Advent encompasses the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of Jesus' birth on Christmas. We celebrate Advent by putting up an Advent Wreath and light one of four candles every Sunday.

The last thing is St. Nicholas Day on December 6th. He was a Greek Christian bishop. Many children put a boot called *Nikolaus-Stiefel* (Nicholas boot) outside their front door on the night of the 5th of December. St. Nicholas fills the boot with gifts and sweets overnight, and at the same time checks up on the children to see if they were good, polite, and helpful the previous year. He is similar to Santa Claus but they are not the same person. The 24th is Christmas Eve, but it is mostly celebrated the same way and the other 2 Christmas Days are too!

By Oliver



# MLI

### **ANGELS FALLS**

Angels Falls in Canaima, Venezuela, is the highest waterfall in the world. The original name, given by the indigenous people, was Churun Meru. Experts do not know for sure what this name means, but they say it might mean "dragon" or "monster" waterfalls.

A long time ago, because of the magnificence of the landscape, the government declared the area surrounding the waterfalls a national park. Angels Falls is a very popular destination for tourists. It has even inspired artists because of its beautiful landscapes. For example, "Up," the film by Pixar, uses references to Angels Falls in the background.

Unfortunately, it's expensive to go there and it's hard to access the park. Most people that go have to get training and experience in hiking and get used to the harsh weather conditions. It rains a lot and it's humid there. People can get lost too.





It's necessary for first-timers to go with a pemon, a local who is a kind of tour guide. This not only helps tourists enjoy the experience- it also helps the local economy.

Angels Falls is a great destination for people that love adventure and want to get out of their comfort zone. It's a national park that everyone can benefit from. Tourists gain great experiences and the locals can keep their culture and help a lot of people know about it.

By Sarah

#### **JANUARY 2023**

#### CONVENIENT LIFE IN MOSCOW

MLI

Moscow is known as a city that never sleeps. You can find restaurants, fitness clubs, classes, shops, and supermarkets that stay open 24 hours, or go for a walk in the city center. It has the best service in the world. You can go to a restaurant anytime and even have breakfast anytime - even at 5 pm if you want.

There are almost no homeless people on the streets. Many Russian people not only have apartments in the city, but also a house outside the city where they like to live in the summer or during the holidays. Moscow is surrounded by forests.

Public transport is well-developed. At the same time, there is a lot of traffic. I love that there is everything that I need anytime.





By Elena





# ADVICE FOR 2023

At the end of 2022, I would like to offer some advice for 2023.

Start the new year with positive energy and look for the best for yourself. Set your own goals, write them down, start doing them one by one, and think about how you can do them. Think about tomorrow and learn from yesterday's mistakes. Enjoy all moments and trust yourself. I hope the best for all of you in 2023.



#### TO REACH MY GOAL

Nowadays, most people are using English. I'd like to speak English more and I want to make friends all over the world. Therefore, I have to speak English very well. I've been in LA since February 2022. I think I speak English better than when I was in Japan.

MILI

First, I often speak to my Japanese friends in Japanese. That's why my listening skills are sluggish. Second, I don't review much of what I learn at school because I have so much dancing practice. I study for tests but I'm not able to have conversations with people who speak English. Therefore, I cannot use any of the vocabulary that I learn at school. In conclusion, my goal is to speak English very well in 2023. I'll use new vocabulary more when I speak English. I'll go back to Japan soon, so I need to improve my speaking skills. I'll do everything I can to reach my goal and I won't give up until I go back to Japan.

By Sari



