

Mr. Kaor

- 1 This morning I read the best article I have read all year. A bizarre and fascinating story. It is a story about a hotel in the Netherlands that has been receiving identical handwritten letters, on a daily basis, for over forty years! All letters are from a mysterious Mr. Kaor. The piles of handwritten letters have the same content and are all addressed to “The most artful hotel of the Netherlands” (Art Hotel Spaander) in the Dutch town of Volendam. The hotel staff has been ignoring the letters from Mr. Kaor for years now. They’ve got used to them and just throw them away unopened.
- 2 A journalist from the Dutch newspaper ‘Het Parool’ heard about the letters and decided to investigate the story. He found out that Mr. Kaor lives in the Japanese countryside and decided to travel to Japan to meet him. The journalist believed that he would finally find some answers! But he got disappointed, because Mr. Kaor did not have any answers. Well, he did, but they made no sense at all. There is no real reason why he has been writing the letters all those years. He has never been to the Netherlands and does not know the hotel. Mr. Kaor explained that he was born in the ‘Year of the Mouse’. The Japanese word for mouse is ‘Nezumi’ and when pronounced in Japanese it kind of sounds like ‘the Netherlands’. Also, Mr. Kaor was born on the 22nd. And the 22nd letter of the alphabet is ‘V’. ‘He decided to write letters to the hotel in Volendam, because it starts with a ‘V’. The journalist was left with even more questions than before.
- 3 Why do I find this story so fascinating? Well, because it is funny and strange. But also because I think that Mr. Kaor’s extreme focus and dedication has paid off. The previously unknown farmer in the Japanese countryside has become a little bit famous. After all those years of writing the strange letters they could no longer be ignored and somebody had to investigate them. Thanks to this, a large part of the Netherlands has now learned about Mr. Kaor.

bewerking van *trainyourfocus.com*, 2018

- 2p **13** Geef bij elke bewering over de brieven aan of die juist of onjuist is volgens alinea 1.
Omcirkel 'juist' of 'onjuist' in je uitwerkbijlage.
- 1 Elke brief heeft dezelfde inhoud.
 - 2 Elke brief is met de hand geschreven.
 - 3 Elke brief is afkomstig van meneer Kaor.
 - 4 Elke brief wordt door het personeel gelezen.
- 1p **14** Wat vertelt meneer Kaor aan de journalist van *Het Parool*? (alinea 2)
- A dat hij lang geleden in Hotel Spaander is geweest
 - B dat hij Volendam heeft gekozen vanwege zijn geboortedag
 - C dat hij zichzelf de Nederlandse taal heeft geleerd
- 1p **15** Wat maakt alinea 3 duidelijk over meneer Kaor?
- A dat hij een grap wilde uithalen
 - B dat hij een volhouder is
 - C dat hij zich vaak verveelde