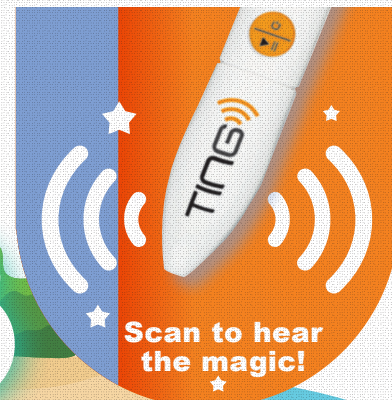
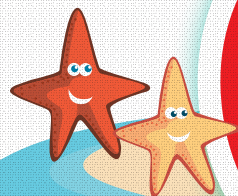


MONDAY

9
December
2019



<http://www.student.thestandard.com.hk>
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Under construction... for 137 years



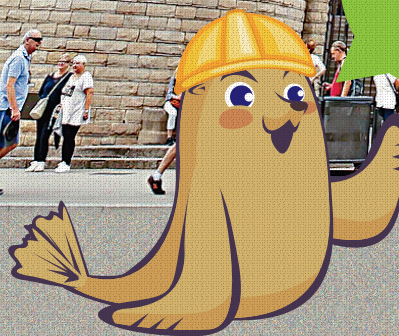
THERE are many churches, cathedrals and basilicas in Europe (歐洲). In Spain's Barcelona (西班牙巴塞隆那), the Roman Catholic Church began building a large church, the Sagrada Familia, 137 years ago. It is still unfinished, but many tourists visit it every year. Recently, the people in charge of the church discovered that the building never got its permit and applied for one. And finally in June, the permit was granted.

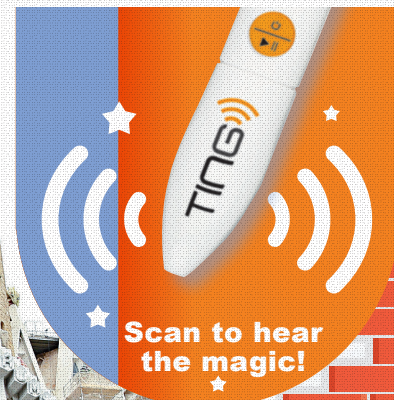


What did the builders do while waiting for the permit?



Probably had a long tea break!





The strange story of an unfinished building

THE Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família got a building permit 137 years after the project started. Will it take another 137 years to finish building it?



Chosen by the Pope

THE Sagrada Familia is a basilica, which is a large church specially picked by a pope. It was **dubbed** a minor basilica in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI. It was mainly designed by the architect Antonio Gaudi, and it was named a Unesco world heritage site in 2005. About 4.5 million people visit it every year.



Progress delayed

IN 1882, its basic design was made by Francisco de Paula del Villar, and the church began construction in that year. But in the next year, Villar **resigned** and Gaudi took over. He could not get building permits but the building work continued even after Gaudi's death. The building's progress was stopped by the Spanish Civil War, but slowly **resumed** afterwards.

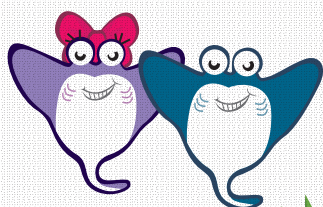


The end is near

WITH the help of computer-aided design programs, Gaudi's design became much clearer and the church became easier to build. But there are still difficulties. For example, 10 more **spires** need to be built. Now that the church has an official permit, the current **overseers** think that church can be finished by 2026, the 100th anniversary of Gaudi's death.



Children, you'll be all grown up by the time this church is finished!



When might the church be finished?

A. 1882 B. 2019 C. 2026



Answers on P12

permit (n)
許可證

dub (v)
把...稱為

resign (v)
辭職

Vocabulary
Challenge ★★★★★

resume (v)
恢復

spire (n)
尖頂

overseer (n)
監督者