

# WEEKLY ENGLISH PRACTICE

## The weirdest of the Guinness World Records

A lot of people have **made it into** the Guinness Book of World Records, but today we're looking at some of the most bizarre world records that have ever existed.



### 1. World's longest tongue.

Nick Stoeberl **aka** "The Lick" from California holds the record for longest tongue, measuring 10.10 cm. Woah!

### 2. World's stretchiest skin.

Due to a rare medical condition called Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, Garry Turner from Britain can **stretch** the skin of his stomach to 6.25 inches.

### 3. Longest fingernails in the world.

Lee Redmond from the United States started growing her nails way back in 1979. They are 28 **feet** and 4 **inches** long in total.

### 4. Longest moustache in the world.

Ram Singh Chauhan, from India, has the longest moustache at 14 feet. He hasn't cut his facial hair for over 37 years.

### 5. Heaviest weight lifted by a human beard.

In 2013, Antanas Kontrimas from Lithuania lifted 63.80 kg with his beard.

### 6. Largest hairy family.

This title is held by Victor "Larry" Gomez and three other members of a large family from Mexico who all **suffer from** a rare condition called congenital generalised hypertrichosis (excessive facial and torso hair).

### 7. Oldest male stripper.

Berne Barker from the USA got into stripping when he was 60 years old to **get in shape** after recovering from prostate cancer. He won the **award** in 2002, but sadly died just five years later.

### 8. Most **cans** opened by a parrot in one minute.

In 2012, a **macaw** named Zac **set** the world record by opening 35 canned drinks in one minute.

### 9. World's longest legs.

At just 17 years old, Maci Currin from the USA set a world record for having the world's longest legs (female), and the longest legs on a teenager. Her left leg measures 135.267cm, while her right leg measures 134.3cm. She is 205cm tall, her legs making up 60% of her total height!

### 10. **Spinning** a basketball on a toothbrush for the greatest duration.

Sandeep Singh Kaila from Canada did the weirdest thing you can imagine. He **spun** a basketball on a toothbrush for 1 minute, 8.15 seconds in January 2019 and established a new world record.



Adapted from [this article](#)

by ECP coach

**Ali Keable**

## Word list

- to make it into sth:** to succeed in entering sth
- aka / A.K.A.:** also known as
- to stretch sth:** to extend sth elastic
- foot / feet:** a measurement equivalent to 30.48cm
- inch(es):** a measurement equivalent to 2,54cm
- to suffer from sth:** to have an illness
- to get in shape:** to work to have good health
- award:** a prize given for an achievement
- can:** a sealed metal container for food or drink, usually cylindrical in shape
- macaw:** a brightly coloured parrot from Central and South America
- to set sth:** to determine or establish sth
- to spin sth (past: spun):** to rotate sth quickly

## Let's chat about that!

1. Which of these Guinness World Records is the weirdest, in your opinion?
2. Which would be the most difficult to achieve? Why?
3. If you were going to try and set a world record, what would it be and why?
4. Do you think the Guinness World Records are important, or simply a waste of time?
5. What motivates people to participate in this award?
6. What other unusual or memorable world records have you heard of?

## Vocabulary: comparative and superlative adjectives

If we want to compare two things, we use **comparative** adjectives. For example: my house is **bigger** than your house.

We use **superlative** adjectives to highlight something within a group. For example: My house is bigger than your house, but Jennifer's house is the **biggest**.

Make comparative adjectives. Then find the superlatives in the text on page 1:

long → *longer / longest*

old →

stretchy →

many (*irregular!*) →

heavy →

great →

large →

weird →

### Guidelines:

For monosyllabic adjectives, add **-er** or **-est**:

big → bigger / biggest

For an adjective containing 2 syllables:

- if it ends in 'y', first **change 'y' to 'i'**

and then add **-er** or **-est**:

happy → happier / happiest

- Otherwise, use **'more'** or **'most'**:

more open / the most open

For 3 or more syllable, use **'more'** or **'most'**:

more interesting / the most interesting

Exceptions include 'good' and 'bad'. Do you know how to make these into comparatives and superlatives?

It's a **good** book →

I had a **bad** day →