

Hey Smart Scoopers

Hope you had a great week!

This time, we've scooped up five stories that travel from a major political shift next door, into the science of memory and how to outsmart it, and all the way to humanity's next giant leap toward the Moon. Along the way, there's a small little mystery to wrap things up.

Here are your fresh picks for the week:

Scoop 1: Nepal's New Prime Minister: A big change next door

Scoop 2: The forgetting curve: How to stop your slipping memory(I)

Scoop 3: The forgetting curve: How to stop your slipping memory(II)

Scoop 4: The Artemis II launch: We're going back to the moon

Scoop 5: Puzzle of the Week: Who ate the cake?

Dig in and enjoy!

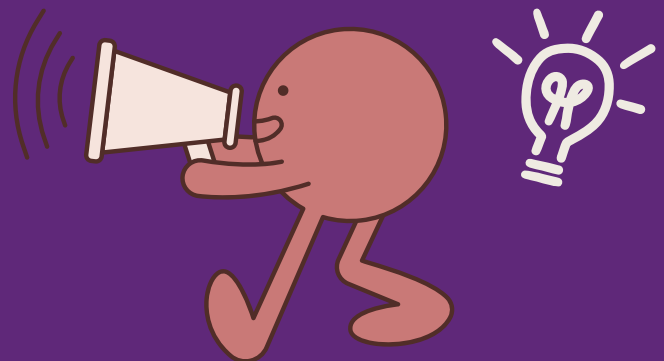
Happy Reading,
The SmartScoop Team

Our mascot, Blurt
will follow us
along the way.

Blurt /blurt/

noun:

A loud, round, super-curious character who just can't keep a fact in.



A BIG CHANGE NEXT DOOR

Nepal's new Prime Minister is Balendra Shah, a 35-year-old former rapper and engineer took office on 27 March 2026. He came to power after his party won a landslide election victory following youth-led protests against corruption and instability. His leadership represents a major shift, with young voters pushing for change and better governance in Nepal. Now, he faces big challenges like improving the economy, creating jobs, and meeting high public expectations.



If you've been keeping up with SmartScoop, you already know what went down in Nepal last year. If not, no stress, we'll bring you up to speed.



Nepal has been ruled by the same group of older politicians for a long time. Last year, in September 2025, things reached a breaking point.

The Gen Z Protests: Thousands of students and young people took to the streets. They were angry about high unemployment (many young Nepalis have to move to other countries just to find work) and a government ban on social media apps.

In the elections held on March 5, 2026, Balen's party, the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), won a massive victory. Balen even defeated a former four-time Prime Minister in his own home district!



Balendra Shah, Nepal's New PM

Who is Balen Shah?

Rapping: He was a huge star in Nepal's underground rap scene. His songs weren't just about catchy beats; they were about corruption, messy streets, and why young people felt ignored by the government

Engineering: He is a trained structural engineer. This helped him gain a reputation as someone who understands how to actually build and fix things

Mayor: In 2022, he shocked everyone by winning the election for Mayor of Kathmandu (Nepal's capital) as an independent candidate, beating out politicians who had been in power for decades.

Before becoming "Mr. Prime Minister," Balen was known for very different things!



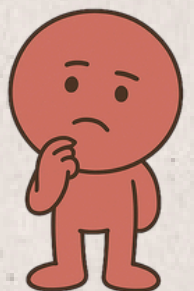
What's Next for Nepal?

Balen has a huge "To-Do List" on his desk. His main goals are:

Creating Jobs: He wants to create 1.2 million jobs so young people don't have to leave Nepal to work

Cleaning up Corruption: He's promised to make the government transparent—meaning everyday citizens can see exactly how money is being spent.

Modernizing: Using his engineering background, he wants to fix the country's infrastructure and boost the economy.



The Forgetting Curve

HOW TO STOP YOUR SLIPPING MEMORY

Have you ever studied something really well... only to forget most of it in the next few days? It can feel like your brain has a tiny hole in it, slowly letting information drip away. But don't worry, this is completely normal. In fact, scientists have a name for it: the **Forgetting Curve**. The Forgetting Curve is an idea discovered by a German scientist named Hermann Ebbinghaus. He studied how people remember things and found something surprising:



Hermann Ebbinghaus

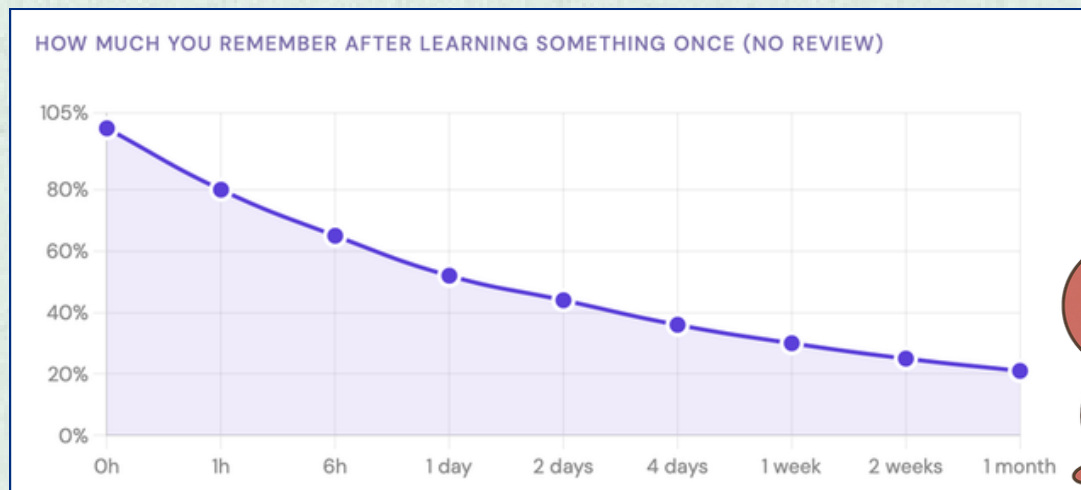


We forget information very quickly after learning it, especially in the first few hours or days.

Imagine you learn something today. Tomorrow, you might remember only part of it. A week later, even less. If you don't review it at all, most of it might vanish like chalk in the rain.

What is the Forgetting Curve?

Ebbinghaus discovered that after you learn something new, you don't forget it gradually and evenly. Instead, you forget it fast at first, then slower. He plotted this on a graph, and it became one of the most famous diagrams in psychology.



Notice how steeply the line drops in the first few hours?

Without any review....

- In the first hour itself many **forget 20%** of the information learned.
- Most people forget **roughly 50%** of new information learned within a day
- After a week? If you haven't looked at it again, you might forget **upto to 70%** of what you learned.

Your brain simply doesn't hold on to things it hasn't used again.



The Forgetting Curve

HOW TO STOP YOUR SLIPPING MEMORY



Huh... I just finished studying and my brain treats all new information like spam, within hours it starts moving information learnt to trash.

Why Does This Happen?

Think of your brain like a **forest path**. The first time you learn a new fact, you're walking through tall grass. You leave a tiny trail, but if you don't walk it again soon (meaning if you don't revise it soon), the grass grows back and the path disappears. To make a permanent trail, you have to walk over it (revise it) multiple times.

huh..where are the new facts I learned...

where did it go?



How to "Hack" Your Brain (and Beat the Curve)

The good news is that you can actually stop the "leak." You don't need a photographic memory; you just need a strategy called **Spaced Repetition**.

Instead of "cramming" for five hours the night before a test (which is the least effective way to learn), you should review the info in short bursts over several days.

- **First Review:** 24 hours after you first learnt it. (This bumps your memory back up to 100%).
- **Second Review:** 3 days later.
- **Third Review:** 1 week later.

Each time you review, the curve gets flatter. This means the information stays in your head longer and longer until it moves from your short-term memory into your "hard drive" (long-term memory).

1

Don't just re-read, Do active

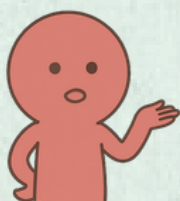
Recall: Highlighting your textbook feels productive, but it's actually "passive." Instead, quiz yourself. Cover the page and try to explain the concept out loud.

2

The "Sleep Sandwich": Study a little bit before bed. Your brain processes and organizes information while you sleep, which helps "glue" the memories in place.

3

Teach it to a pet: (Or a wall, or a younger sibling). If you can explain the Forgetting Curve to your dog, you probably understand it well enough to never forget it!



The forgetting curve isn't your enemy, it's just how brain works. Now that you know how it works, you can outsmart it. A little bit of review, spread out over time, is worth far more than hours of last-minute cramming.

WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE MOON



On 1st April, 2026 NASA's Artemis II rocket has taken off in a historic launch on Florida's Space Coast, sending humans back to the moon for the first time in more than 50 years. NASA's Artemis program is one of the most ambitious space mission.



Artemis II historic rocket launch at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

MISSION FACTS

Name: Artemis II

Rocket: Space Launch System(SLS)

Lunar Landing: No, Free-return trajectory

Mission duration: 10 days

The Crew:

Reid Wiseman – commander

Victor Glover – pilot

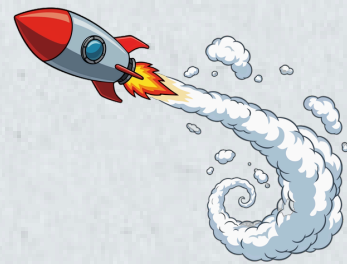
Christina Koch – specialist

Jeremy Hansen – specialist

Next: Artemis III/Artemis IV (landing, 2028)

Why Is This Program Called Artemis?

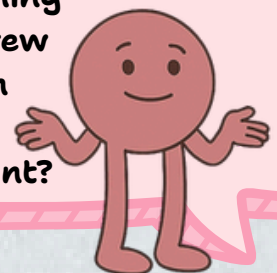
The first astronauts landed on the Moon in 1969. The mission was called Apollo. The Apollo program was named after the Greek god. In Greek mythology, Apollo has a twin sister named Artemis. Artemis is the Greek goddess of the Moon.



What Spacecraft Will Be Used for the Artemis Program?

NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) is the world's most powerful rocket and will launch the Orion spacecraft, which can carry up to four astronauts. Orion will travel to the Moon and dock with the lunar station called the Lunar Gateway, where astronauts will live in orbit. From Gateway, crews will use landers to visit the Moon's surface and then return to the station. After completing their mission, they will head back to Earth aboard Orion.

But here's something surprising: the crew is NOT landing on the Moon. So what's the point?



So When Will Artemis Go to the Moon?

The Artemis program is like a video game with increasingly difficult levels. We are currently in the middle of the most exciting part!

Artemis 1 (Completed: Nov. 16, 2022.): This was like a test drive. Completed a test flight of the SLS rocket with the Orion spacecraft with no crew on it.

Artemis 2 (Happening Now: April 2026): will be the first crewed launch of Orion and the SLS rocket. The Orion spacecraft will carry a crew of four astronauts past the Moon, then circle it and return to Earth.

Artemis 3 (The Future: 2027-2028): Will send a crew with the next astronauts to land on the Moon.

**Artemis II is currently in progress. The crew is expected to return to Earth and splash down in the ocean after completing their 10-day journey.*

WHO ATE THE CAKE?

Who ate the last piece of cake?

Lambie was saving the last piece of cake for dessert tonight, but he just discovered it had been eaten! He asks his friends about it.

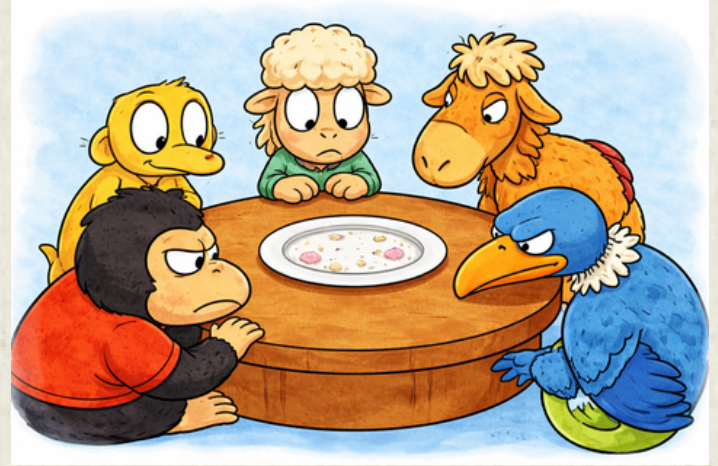
Meerkat says, "Vulture ate it!"

Camel says, "Meerkat is telling the truth!"

Gorilla says, "If Meerkat is lying, Camel is lying."

Vulture says, "It wasn't Camel."

Platypus saw who ate and says, "Only one of those animals is telling the truth." Can you help Lambie use the clues to figure out who ate the last piece of cake?



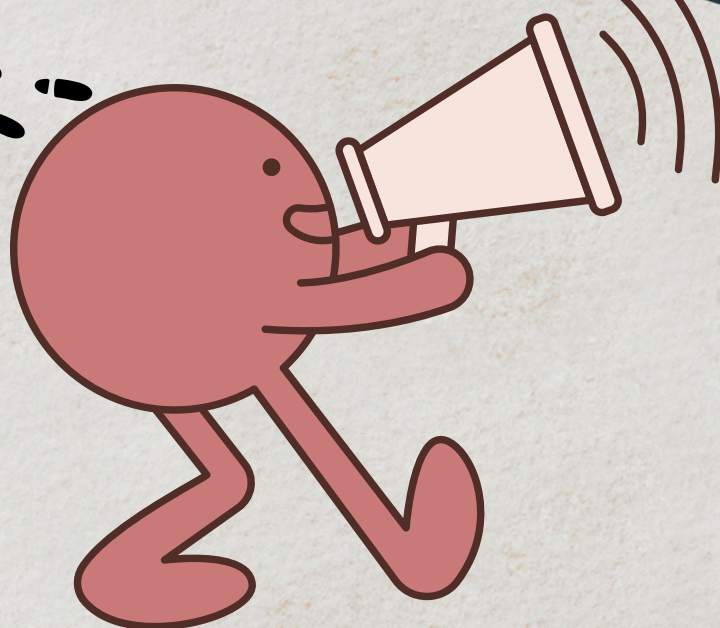
SOLUTION

Camel ate the last piece of cake.

Smart
Scoop

Blurt's
Did you know...?

The first living creatures to travel to the Moon (on a lunar mission) were not a monkey or dog but three tortoises, along with wine flies and mealworms, aboard the Soviet Zond 5 spacecraft in September 1968.



That's all for this week folks! Until next time, keep your brain gears turning!

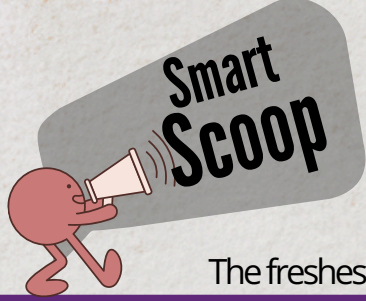


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Write to us here:

smartscoopteam@gmail.com

We'd love to hear from you! Mostly Blurt tbh..



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