

### Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 1063

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior!

Today I will talk about working hours in the UK. Let's begin!

In the UK, men are working fewer hours, while women are working more.

Since the pandemic the average number of hours worked in the UK has dropped, especially [among] men.

At the same time, the number of [women] working full time has increased, possibly because of flexible working.

That's all for today! See you!

### Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 1063

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

In South Korea's capital, Seoul, commuters have been using the world's first driverless night bus. Self-driving taxis are becoming more common; however, autonomous public transport in city centers is rare. Nick Marsh from BBC News took a late-night ride on the Seoul autonomous bus, where advanced technology worth millions cruises the streets. The bus operates smoothly, with a driver present for emergencies. The creators see it as a solution to Seoul's transport issues, especially for late-night travelers.

Despite South Korea's investment in autonomous vehicles, challenges remain. The technology isn't perfect, and factors like unpredictable weather and road conditions bring troubles. Driverless public transport is still limited and costly but it signals a potential future of efficient urban transport.

That's all for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 106

Hello, everyone, welcome back to PR2.

I hope you are all relaxing during Golden Week. Today I'm going to share a story I saw on the news yesterday – about the 22 artifacts from Okinawa that were discovered in an attic in Massachusetts.

As you all may know, the Battle of Okinawa during World War II was a violent, bloody battle which resulted in 150,000 casualties. During this battle, important documents and treasures of the Ryukyu Kingdom were stolen. Fast forward to January 2023. The FBI received a complaint from a family that found some very unique items while sorting through their deceased father's belongings. Their father was a WWII veteran but never served in the Pacific Theater. In total, the FBI recovered 22 artifacts: six painted scrolls from the 18th-19th centuries, a hand-drawn map of Okinawa from the 19th century, and various pieces of pottery and ceramics.

In case you didn't know, Okinawa was an independent kingdom until 1606 when Satsuma forces invaded the land, so much of its culture is unique. The art crime coordinator for this case, Special Agent Geoffrey J. Kelly, explained that these artifacts were especially important because they depict Okinawan royalty and serve as pieces of cultural identity.

I hope you found this story as interesting as I did!

That is all from me today! See you again next time!