

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 1086

Hi there! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Take a listen to *The Scarecrows*.

Biff and Chip had a little garden. They planted seeds and they put in plants.

The birds liked the garden and they ate the seeds and pecked the plants. Biff was angry.

"Look at the birds" she said. "Go away! Go away!"

Biff and Chip had an idea. "Let's make a scarecrow," they said.

"What a good idea," said Mom.

That's all for part one. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 1086

Hello my PR1 friends.

Before coming to InterTOMAS today, I took some time to clean my air conditioner. It was extremely hot yesterday, so it was perfect timing to begin preparing for the summer.

Did you know that cleaning your air conditioner regularly is important for your health? You could be breathing in bacteria and mold without knowing it. Also, according to the News, having a clean air conditioner uses less electricity. They say that it takes less energy to cool down the room when there is less dirt on the surfaces. I used some very simple tools from the a 100 yen shop, and my air conditioner became super clean!

I hope that also inspired you to clean.

That is all that I have today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 1086

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

The topic of the last PR2 video I did related to language, specifically the English skills of Japanese students, and this time I have another topic that relates to language – but in a pretty different way. Take a listen to this:

Sperm whales, the largest of the toothed whales, communicate using bursts of clicking noises called codas, sounding a bit like Morse code. A new analysis of years of vocalisations by sperm whales in the eastern Caribbean has found that their system of communication is more sophisticated than previously known, exhibiting a complex internal structure replete with a “phonetic alphabet”. The researchers identified similarities to aspects of other animal and human communication systems. Like all marine mammals, sperm whales are very social animals, with their calls an integral part of this. The new study has provided a fuller understanding of how these whales communicate.

Ah, well there you go! I think most of us have always known that whales and dolphins have one of the most advanced communication systems within the animal kingdom, but I would never have thought that that system would actually have a phonetic alphabet like it mentions here. There was a recent story about scientists being able to communicate with whales in their own language, and so yeah – if they do have a phonetic alphabet, then in theory, we can just learn it and be able to speak whale!

Alright, guys, well, until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.