

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 203

Hello, guys! How are you?

Now, let's read *Stink*.

Stink raised his hand. "Is that a true story?"

The teacher laughed. "I'm afraid not," she said. "It's fantasy."

"Fantasy's my favourite," said Sophie of the Elves. "Especially hobbits and elves."

"Are you sure it's fantasy?" asked Stink. "Because that kid is a lot like me! Because I'm... I'm..."

Stink could not make himself say, 'shrinking.'

Alright, guys, take care! See you next time.

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 203

Hey, guys! How's it going?

So last time, Obi-Wan Kenobi chased after the suspicious bounty hunter Jango Fett. Let's see what our other Jedi hero Anakin is up to...

Meanwhile, Anakin and Padme travel to the planet Tatooine. Anakin wants to visit his mother, who he left behind years ago when he became a Jedi. But he soon learns that she has been captured by vicious Sand People. The young Jedi races into the desert to rescue his mother, but he is too late. He finds her just in time to say good-bye. Anakin feels rage and hate growing inside him, and that is not the way of the Jedi.

Ah, yes. As Yoda says, rage and hate leads to suffering – and the dark side.

Join me next time, okay, guys? See you.

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 203

Hello, guys! I hope you're all having a great day.

Now, let's continue reading about gorillas and apes in general from the Tokyo Medical and Dental University entrance exam. Are you ready?

In observations at the Prague Zoo, Khalil Baalbaki watched gorillas turn empty crates into a series of household objects: tables, chairs, stepping stools to extend their reach, trays to carry their food, and as weapons to be thrown in a fight. One young female gorilla extracted wood stuffing from a crate to fashion a pair of slippers, padding her feet with the fibers before venturing onto the snow. According to meta-analyses of intelligence studies, the average ape has the cognitive, quantitative, and spatial skills of a two-and-a-half- to four-year-old human child. Yet Tetsuro Matsuzawa's laboratory in Japan showed that an exceptionally sharp-witted chimpanzee named Ayumu was twice as good as any university student at recalling numbers flashed on a screen.

The great apes also exhibit basic temperamental differences. David Watts, a primatologist at Yale University who has studied chimpanzees and gorillas in the wild, found that while chimpanzees generally don't like people or show much interest in their affairs, gorillas were deeply curious.

So, there seems to be big differences even within the apes.

Alright, guys, that's it for today – and I'll see you next time. Take care!