

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 223

Hi, guys!

Welcome to PR Junior! Let's continue Marley's adventure.

"Run and get dressed so we can go to the playground," Mommy said to Emma.

Marley ran to the kids' room. She pulled all the clothes from all the drawers. She made a big mess.

"Bad dog, Marley!" yelled Emma.

Okay, that's it for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 223

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Today, I will be reading a text using Eiken level three vocabulary. Let's begin.

Not only Japan, but also the US has a cherry blossom festival. Since 1935, they have held it every year in Washington DC. Washington DC is the capital of the US. These cherry trees came from Japan in 1912. The city of Tokyo gave 3,020 cherry trees to Washington DC. Most of these trees were planted along the Potomac River. The idea came from an American woman, Eliza Scidmore. In 1909, she wrote to the president's wife about the beautiful trees. The festival is a celebration of the two countries' friendly relationship. Many people go on picnics in the parks to enjoy the blossoms.

Well, doesn't that just sound lovely? Actually, there are cherry blossom festivals all around the world.

Thank you for listening! And I'll see you next time. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 223

Hello, everyone!

Today, I'll be reading the second part of the passage about religious symbols in art.

Let's begin.

Some of these symbols were everyday objects such as food. Grapes, fish, and bread were common artistic motifs in many religions across the vast Roman Empire, but held entirely different meanings for the covert Christians. For instance, in art, wine from grapes was often a symbol for the blood of Christ, while bread represented his body, a tradition that continues with modern Christians today. The image of fish was frequently linked to Christ through various passages in the Bible such as the miracle of Christ distributing bread and fish to people, or references to Christ's disciples as "fishers of men."

Ancient Christians also borrowed religious images from other societies for their funerary art. Several motifs from Jewish texts were often found in their catacombs. Included amongst these is the story of Jonah, a man who was swallowed by a whale, but escaped three days later. Christians likened this image to Christ's death and resurrection after three days. Greek images of Orpheus, a shepherd holding a sheep, were also a common inclusion in funerary art at the time. This image was adopted by Christians as the "Christ the Good Shepherd," who would lead his people to salvation after death. In this way, Christians could worship with less fear of persecution.

That's all for today. I'll see you next time. Bye-bye!