

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 225

Hi, guys!

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

After a while, Emma went out in the garden to get Marley. "Oh, no!" she cried. "Marley is gone! Why did he run away?" asked Emma. "Doesn't he know we love him?" Mommy hugged Emma. "Don't worry, we will find him," she said. "We will tell him we love him."

Okay, let's stop there. I hope they find him soon! See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 225

Hello, everyone!

I hope you're all being responsible and staying safe during this pandemic. Today, I'll be reading a text using Eiken level three vocabulary. Let's have a listen.

It takes two or three sets to win a tennis match. When a tennis player wins every point in a set, it is called a "golden set". This is quite difficult to do in professional tennis. The first person to do this was Bill Scanlin in 1983. He is still the only man that has ever done this. On June 30, 2012, Yaroslava Shvedova from Kazakhstan became the first woman to win a golden set. She beat the Italian Sara Errani 6 to 0 and 6 to 4. Shvedova won points one after another without making a mistake for a whole set. The story was in the newspapers the next day.

Well, I wonder if we can see the next "golden set" in the Olympics this year.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 225

Hello, everyone!

Today, I'll be reading the last part of the passage about religious symbols in art. Let's begin.

It was not only the ancient Christians in Rome who used the art of other religions to hide their true beliefs. Early Christians in Japan also used this technique to protect themselves from persecution during the Edo period. These Japanese Christians worshipped in secret rooms of their private homes. They used the Buddha to hide their images of Christ, and a female bodhisattva, known as *Maria-Kannon* in Japanese, to represent Mary holding baby Jesus.

Images contain many meanings, not just the obvious ones on the surface. Upon closer inspection, one might be able to see the people who made these images long ago and understand what they were thinking at [that] time. They left messages for people in the future about their hopes, dreams, and beliefs. These images open windows into the past that let us see their struggles and triumphs. In the same way that early Christians used symbols embedded in art to protect their beliefs in order to pass them on to future generations, art can be used to inspire conversations with civilizations that are now gone, but whose heritage we hope to preserve.

That's all for today, and I'll see you later. Bye-bye!