

### Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 232

Hello, everyone! How are you doing today?

Today, my friend Max is here with me. Max wants to tell you about his day at school.

Today, Max had English, maths\*, and PE classes. In English, Max had a test. He thinks he did well on it. In maths, Max learnt\*\* his times tables. He thinks they are very hard. In PE, Max had swimming lessons. Max loves swimming. He is the fastest swimmer in his class! That's all for today, and we'll see you next time. Bye-bye!

### Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 232

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

I hope you're all staying safe and sound in this pandemic. Today, I have a text about where zippers came from. Let's have a listen.

Gideon Sundback was a Swedish engineer. He moved to the U.S. after he finished studying in Germany. He worked for a company to make fasteners. In 1914, he invented a new and better fastener. The big difference was the shape of the parts. This made them easier and faster to use. In 1923, the B. F. Goodrich Company used these fasteners on boots and called them zippers. Later, Sundback had his own zipper factory. Zippers became cheaper and he became richer. He died in 1954. Today, the number one maker of zippers in the world is from Japan.

Did you know that? Because I sure didn't!

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

\* "maths" is the British English (and Australian English, New Zealand English, etc.) version of "math".

\*\* The past tense of *learn* can be *learned* or *learnt*. *Learnt* is more common in British English.

**Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 232**

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Today, I have a text about the discovery of some fossils. Let's have a listen.

Recently, a group of scientists working in South Africa announced the discovery of the fossilized remains of a new hominid species. Hominids are the name given to the predecessors and close relatives of human beings who lived millions of years ago but later became extinct. Fossils of hominids are scant and so this discovery is quite important for scientists trying to retrace the evolutionary sequence that led to human beings. The new species has an anatomy quite different from that of other remains that have been found, and it is, in the estimation of most specialists, a major advance in recovering the history of hominid evolution.

The first fossil was discovered accidentally. Dr. Lee R. Berger, an American paleontologist, was engaged in the exploration of caves in an area of South Africa known as the Cradle of Humankind. His son, Matthew, was playing nearby and fell over a log and discovered some fossilized bones. His father immediately saw their importance. Further exploration of the adjacent area [revealed] the intact skull of a child and the remains of three other individuals. The site was also crammed with fossils of other animals, which may have plunged to their deaths down a shaft in the ground after being lured into a cave by the smell of the other corpses. After piling into the hole, all the creatures were probably enveloped by a mixture of lime and sand, which preserved their remains.

Well, that's all for today, and I'll see you next time. Bye-bye!