

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 24

**Hana:** Hey, Tim! How are you?

**Tim:** Not bad. But I have a bit of a sore throat.

**Hana:** Yeah, your voice sounds a little husky. You should drink some water.

**Tim:** Yeah, that's a good idea.

**Hana:** Hmm. You should also stop talking because I think you talk too much.

**Tim:** ...OK.

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 24

**Hana:** Hey, Tim! How's it going?

**Tim:** Oh hey, Hana.

**Hana:** Oh, what's up with your voice? It sounds terrible! Are you OK?

**Tim:** I think I'm losing my voice.

**Hana:** Well, it definitely sounds like it. You know, it's probably because you talk too much. I mean, you're always talking and you never stop talking. This is the quietest you've been in a very long time, and it's quite a rare thing. Hmm. That's probably the reason. Either way, you probably shouldn't talk for the rest of the day. Or week. Right?

**Tim:** ...

**Hana:** Don't you think so?

**Tim:** Well, I--

**Hana:** Oh, oh! You should save your voice. Take care. See you!

## Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 24

Hey, everyone!

I have another article to read for you, which might not be particularly fun, but I think it's quite important to hear. OK, so listen to this:

Japan's northern island of Hokkaido offers a grim lesson in the next phase of the battle against COVID-19. It acted quickly and contained an early outbreak of the coronavirus with a 3-week lockdown. But, when the governor lifted restrictions, a second wave of infections hit even harder. Twenty-six days later, the island was forced back into lockdown. A doctor who helped coordinate the government response says he wishes they'd done things differently. "Now I regret it, we should not have lifted the first state of emergency," Dr. Kiyoshi Nagase, chairman of the Hokkaido Medical Association, tells TIME. Hokkaido's story is a sobering reality check for leaders across the world as they consider easing coronavirus lockdowns: Experts say restrictions were lifted too quickly and too soon because of pressure from local businesses, coupled with a false sense of security in its declining infection rate.

Hmm. So, that's quite serious, isn't it? But the thing to remember is that even if things are starting to look positive, it's still very important to be careful and keep your distance. OK? Alright, stay safe, guys. See you soon!