

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 247

Hi, guys!

Let's jump right back and finish our story.

"Wait, Daddy," Emma said. "Marley's got a great idea!"

Soon, Emma had made a new solar system using Marley's fetch-balls.

"This one is even better! Thanks for your help, Marley," she said. "My world will always revolve around you."

And that's it! What did you think of the story?

See you next time with more adventures!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 247

Hi, guys! Welcome to PR1

Please take a listen to today's story:

One day, Thomas was walking to the bus stop next to the post office. As usual, he carried a backpack and walked alone. On the way to the bus stop, he saw a grey cat. The cat came to Thomas and looked at him. Thomas thought that was unusual because cats are usually shy. He decided to play with the cat for a while. Thomas was two blocks away from his stop when the bus left. He missed the bus, so he walked five kilometers to get to school. He was late and the teacher got angry.

I'll see you next time! Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 247

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

I hope you're all staying safe and sound during this pandemic.

Today, I have the latter part of the text about bees. Let's begin:

When a number of different plants and trees exist, there are of course myriad possible routes that can be taken. It is crucial for bees to find the shortest one in order not to exhaust their limited energy before returning to the hive. The existence of this ability was proved by an experiment carried out at the University of London. They arranged six artificial flowers in a pattern for the bees to visit. They carefully complicated the pattern so that the best route was not simply to cruise in a straightforward way from one flower to the next. Altogether 720 different routes were possible, but the bees were able to pinpoint and remember the roundabout but most efficient route after only 80 trips.

Exactly how the bees do this remains a subject for ongoing research. The most likely explanation is that at first they fly in a random way. Then, on each subsequent trip, they measure the route against the earlier ones, and if it is shorter they adopt it. In this way, they refine and abbreviate the route through a process of continuous amendment. In doing so, they are able to progressively cut back on energy use. Human beings, on the other hand, map out a route beforehand using a chart or some other blueprint. But in cases where routes continually change, such as in communication networks or busy transport networks, utilizing a skill like that of the bees could be an attractive option.

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