

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 248

Hello, guys!

Today, we start a new story about Marley and a fireman.

One sunny day, Marley and his family went for a walk. They went past the firehouse.

“Hello there,” said the fire chief. “Today is our open house. Would you like a tour?”

“We’d love a tour,” said Mommy. “You stay here, Marley!”

“And don’t get into trouble!” said Daddy.

That’s it for now! See you next time.

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 248

Hi, guys! How’s it goin’?

Welcome to PR1 dictation challenge.

Today, I have a story about a boy who went to see a newborn baby. Let’s take a listen to this:

My aunt had a baby a few months ago. So, I have a new cousin. My uncle named him Thomas.

I met Thomas for the first time last week. He was so cute! At first, I didn’t want to hold him because I was sure he would cry. After a while, my aunt put him in my arms. He smiled at me and then he fell asleep. I was so happy! That’s when I started to cry...

Okay, so that is all for today! Bye, guys!

NB: “goin’” = going (said in a more casual way)

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 248

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

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

Today, I have a text about termites. Let's have a listen:

Africa's grasslands, known as savannas, support many magnificent creatures, such as lions, elephants and giraffes. These large animals are commonly thought to play the most important roles in the savanna ecosystem. Recent research, though, suggests an animal's size does not always indicate its ecological impact. Scientists have found strong evidence that it is actually the termite – an insect similar to an ant – that has the most influence.

The scientists became aware of this while studying the population distribution of lizards in the savanna of central Kenya. They noticed unusually large numbers of lizards living near termite mounds – the huge nests built by termites. Many other animals and plants are also at their highest density near the mounds. According to the scientists, termites enrich the soil by converting dead wood and vegetation into nutrients. Their activity also loosens the soil, improving its ability to absorb water. This creates a particularly suitable environment for wildlife and plants to thrive.

Furthermore, satellite photographs show their mounds are spread evenly across the grassland like squares on a chessboard. The scientists believe this layout brings the ecosystem to [its] maximum possible productivity.

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