

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 261

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Today, I have a story about Jen, Tim the cat, and the giant again. Let's begin:

Jen and Tim the cat lived in the country. One day, they went to see their friend the giant in the forest. His house was very special. It had a magic door. You could go anywhere you wished.

I wonder where they will go! Well, I'll see you next time. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 261

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Today, I have a text about the blue whale. Let's begin:

The blue whale is a marine mammal. It is 37 meters long and it weighs about 200 tons. It is said to be the largest animal in the world. The blue whale is blue or grey in colour and it has a long, slim body. It eats krill, a small animal like a fish. A hundred years ago, there were many blue whales in the oceans of the world. Many whales were hunted, but they started being protected in 1966. Now, the number of whales is growing. Scientists think there are about 5,000* (blue) whales in the world today.

Well, I'll see you next time. Bye-bye!

* Current numbers are closer to 25,000

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 261

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

I thought I'd mix it up a little bit and give you some entertainment news this time, specifically relating to movies, which I think is a topic all of us are at least a little bit interested in. So, take a listen:

It looks like Daniel Craig has a new movie franchise after ending his role as James Bond. Craig is to star in two sequels to the 2019 *Knives Out* crime caper, with both to stream on Netflix. Netflix said April 1st it had bought the rights to two follow-up films that will reunite Craig with director Rian Johnson. *Knives Out*, an Agatha Christie-style murder mystery, starred Craig as debonair private detective Benoit Blanc, along with a star cast including Jamie Lee Curtis, Chris Evans, Don Johnson, Ana de Armas and Christopher Plummer. Craig, 53, will make the last of five outings as British secret agent Bond in *No Time To Die*, which is scheduled to arrive in movie theatres in October.

Ah, yes. The much-talked-about, much-delayed new James Bond film. I hope it's good after all this buildup, and I hope these two *Knives Out* sequels are good, too, because I really enjoyed the first one. Have any of you seen it? Like the article says, it's like a classic murder mystery, but a totally original story and, I think, a really cool idea, so I definitely recommend giving it a watch if you get the chance.

Alright, guys, well until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.