

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 262

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Let's find out where Jen decides to go.

Jen wanted to see her grandma and grandpa, who died a long time ago. She made a wish.

"I want to go back 35 years in time," Jen said. She opened the door and walked in. Tim the cat and the giant followed her.

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

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 262

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Today, I have a short passage about someone introducing where they were born. Let's begin:

I was born in a small town in rural Hiroshima. It has a population of about two thousand people. But every year it's getting less. Young people don't want to live there and there's not much work, so people move to other places. I like my hometown, though. The scenery is very beautiful and there are nice places for fishing. Now, I'm living in a big city, but I sometimes go back to my hometown. It's nice to be back home. Sometime(s) I'd like to move back there.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 262

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

I have another news story here surrounding the ever-magical world of Disney, but one that doesn't relate to the coronavirus pandemic. So, take a listen to this:

Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo Disney Sea have stopped referring to visitors as "ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls" in their English announcements, opting instead to use gender-neutral terms, operator Oriental Land Company said March 26th. Since March 18th, the two parks have been greeting guests via their in-park announcements with "Hello, everyone" to be more inclusive. Announcements on some of the park attractions have also been changed to become gender neutral, with eventual plans to adopt the phrasing across all rides. The change was made in order for "all guests to continue enjoying their time" at the parks, an Oriental Land spokesperson said.

Ah, well that's interesting. Hmm, "ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls" has been a traditional greeting or announcement opener for a very long time, but as awareness for non-binary gender identification grows, I think it's good and important to make this very simple but effective change.

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