

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 265

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

So last time, Jen, Tim, and the giant were invited [for] lunch. Let's see what happens.

'This tastes just like the spaghetti my mother makes,' Jen thought.

After lunch, they helped John and Mary. Jen took care of the baby. The giant dug a hole and planted an apple tree in the backyard. Tim chased the mice.

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

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 265

Hey, guys! How's it going?

For today's PR1 dictation video, I want to ask you about your plans for summer vacation.

Are any of you planning to take a trip somewhere? I really want to go on holiday this year, but I doubt I'll be able to. Hopefully, the coronavirus situation will be a little bit better by summer, but I still think it won't be very safe to travel. So, instead, I want to go outside as much as possible – to the park; maybe the beach. I really wanted to do that last year, too, but I couldn't – partly because of the pandemic, but also because of the terrible weather. I hope the weather is much better this year. Let me know what your plans for summer vacation are, okay?

Alright, guys, see you soon!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 265

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

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

Today, I have a text called 'Future Fingers'. Let's see what it's about.

One of the things that disabled people can find depressing about their condition is the loss of autonomy it involves. There is not only the inconvenience of being obliged to ask other people for assistance, but also doing so can make them feel awkward or even humiliated. For this reason, artificial limbs can play a very important role in helping disabled people to liberate themselves from dependence on others and lead to more independent lives. Artificial limbs, of course, have a very long history, but recent advancements in electronics and other forms of technology have been leading to dramatic improvements in their capabilities. These improvements promise to make a very big difference to the lives of many disabled people in the future.

One company that creates sophisticated artificial limbs is Touch Bionics of Scotland. The company's first product was a whole hand that could be electronically tightened so as to clutch objects. This appliance can be affixed to the wrist to replace a hand that has been lost, and so far it has been sold to about 1,200 patients worldwide. After the success of this product, the company decided to mobilize its highly specialized team of engineers to develop something much more complicated – a hand [comprised] of adjustable electronic fingers. The new hand takes advantage of [the] recent trend towards miniaturization of electrical components. Each of the five fingers is equipped with a motor and a gear box of tiny dimensions.

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