

**Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 271**

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Today, I have the story of Barbie. Let's begin:

Barbara is a little girl. Barbara doesn't want baby dolls or animal toys. She wants a grown-up doll. Barbara's mum and dad want to buy her a grown-up doll. The problem is there are no grown-up dolls. So, her mum and dad make a grown-up doll for Barbara. The doll has a name. It is a Barbie doll.

Well, that's all for today. Bye-bye.

**Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 271**

Hey, guys! How's it going?

Today, I have a story from my high school days.

Once, in physics class, we heard a cat outside the window. Some of my classmates were pointing and whispering. My teacher noticed and said, "Uh, please ignore the cat and focus on me." But more and more students started looking and talking. So, my teacher said, "Yes, yes, the cat is very cute, but please pay attention to me!" But everybody was already too distracted. So, my teacher went to the window and he said to the cat, "What is it? What do you want? Do you want to come in? If you want to come in, just come in! Let yourself in! If you want to come in, just open the window and come inside!" And the cat said, "Meow?"

## Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 271

Hello, everyone! How are you doing?

Let's begin today's PR2.

In 2009, a team of European scientists made an important discovery. The scientists were studying a genetic defect called "vitiligo". This is a problem which results in some patches of skin becoming devoid of colour. The patients suffering from this condition were found to have high levels of hydrogen peroxide, a chemical that suppresses the production of melanin. The scientists decided to look at hair cells to see if the same analysis was applicable. When they did so, they found that these do also produce hydrogen peroxide. One theory is that when this ingredient of hair cells reaches a certain level, it induces the process of greying by blocking the production of melanin.

Although greying may be unavoidable, other research suggests we should not worry too much about trying to avert it. A study of 20,000 people in Denmark found that there was no correspondence between obvious signs of aging, such as going grey, becoming bald, or having wrinkles, and heart disease. Of course, the relationship between genetics and environment [in] greying still remains debatable. But although the influence of environmental factors, such as stress, cannot be excluded completely, the fact that grey hair does not dispose people to heart disease suggests the connection is small.

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