

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 299

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to Inter-Tomas!

Today, I am going to talk to you about skinny stick insects.

Stick insects look amazing. They are long and thin just like sticks! Stick insects are the longest insects. A stick insect's leg can fall off, but sometimes it can grow a new one.

This is all for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 299

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, I have a text about a mountain in America that looks like an animal. Take a listen:

Camelback Mountain is a small mountain in Arizona, USA. It is called Cameback because it looks like the back of a camel. Camels are tall, brown animals that live in deserts. People ride camels like horses in deserts and dry areas. This is interesting because Camelback Mountain is also in the desert. The highest point is about 2,700 feet. There is no grass on the mountain, but there are some trees and lots of small rocks. People often climb up the mountain or go hiking there because they like to see the sunrise or the view of Phoenix, Arizona's capital.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 298

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I have a text called "Operation Poetry". Take a listen:

One of the things that Switzerland is famous for is, ever since the Congress of Vienna in 1815. Of course, such intuitive methods were hardly [conclusive]; many earlier identifications are now doubted. In addition, sometimes such experts were closely linked to people dealing in paintings and there were some cases of actual fraud, where customers were taken in by crooked experts. In order to facilitate more objective judgements people turned to modern technology to help them discriminate more accurately between genuine and fake works.

Most experts place great emphasis on the provenance of paintings, a documentary record of previous owners. Yet, such evidence itself can be faked and so by itself it is rarely decisive or compelling. Rather, the most an expert can do is to coordinate various pieces of evidence so as to make a credible case for the genuineness of the painting. Even so, a consensus of opinion about any particular painting is hard to obtain. Some people will always feel dubious and there are persistent rumors of deception by art dealers who cater to wealthy customers. As long as paintings by famous painters continue to be worth enormous amounts of money, it seems unlikely that disputes over the identity of paintings will ever completely disappear.

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