

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 311

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to Inter-Tomas!

Today, I am going to talk more about Eric.

They arrived home four weeks later. Everyone is really happy to see them. Eric's got a new tunic. His mum used plants to make it blue. Here's a fact: Viking didn't have bathrooms or toilets inside their houses.

This is all for today. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 311

Hey, guys!

Do you guys remember the news about Donald Trump's Twitter account being banned?

Well, this time it's his Facebook account. Have a listen:

Facebook stopped Donald Trump's account for two years because he broke Facebook's rules. Trump said that the decision was an insult to those who voted for him in 2020 and that Facebook shouldn't be allowed to do such things. In response, Facebook said that Trump's account will reopen if Trump behaves well on social media. The two-year ban means that Trump will be able to use his Facebook and Instagram accounts before the next presidential election in 2024. Therefore, he will be able to campaign online once more.

What do you guys think? Will he behave?

'Til next time! See you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 311

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I have a text that talks about where smiling came from. Let's begin:

When a human being smiles, it can signify many emotions, from mockery and ridicule to resignation and regret. One of the chief meanings of a smile, though, is to express warmth and friendliness to others. When a dog or a monkey, however, shows its teeth and flattens its ears, the meaning is usually very different. The expression may look like a smile to human beings, but it is actually indicative of a willingness to fight. Among humans, smiling occurs universally as a spontaneous physical response, and so must have an evolutionary basis, yet its meaning seems to be the opposite of that which we find in lower animals. How has it come to take on such a different meaning among people?

Janice [Porteous], a specialist in the study of humour, has come up with an imaginative hypothesis to explain this shift. She explains that scientists have noted in certain higher primates, such as the rhesus monkeys, the smile actually comes to mean a willingness to step down or to retreat from a fight with a dominant member of the group. It thus helps a group to cope with conflicts between members. Thus a sign of aggression became one of a reluctance to fight a more formidable opponent and therefore a plea for peace. In other monkeys, such as chimpanzees, the sign started to be used even between equals as a sign of affection. In this way, the human smile was born.

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