Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 329

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is part two of the game, musical chairs.

The music stopped and everyone ran to sit down on a chair. One dancer was too slow. There wasn't a chair for him. He was out of the game. Dad took away another chair. Five children danced around to the music. There were only four chairs. Then, Dad stopped the music. Who was left out?

That is all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 329

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, I have the last part of the story called *The Dog's Bell*. Let's begin:

One day, John's dog strolled through the village and met some other dogs. He expected them to want a bell like his. But they laughed at his bell. They said the bell made people avoid him. John's dog shook his head.

"No, they look at me because they like the bell."

The other dog said, "You have the wrong idea of what makes you popular. Of course they like your bell – it tells them where you are so they can avoid you. You aren't able to bite them anymore. You see, being popular isn't something positive when it's for the wrong reason."

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 329

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I have a text about whether or not language is an innate human ability. Take a listen:

One issue which has caused many disputes in linguistics is the extent to which languages reflect an innate ability as opposed to being learnt by mimicking adult speakers in the child's environment. Recently, Susan Goldin-Meadow, a professor of psychology at the University of Chicago, published the results of an experimental study which she believes represent a breakthrough in resolving this question. According to her, she has discovered that young children can develop complex sentence structures without learning them from other people.

Golden-Meadow enlisted the help of two sets of deaf children, one living in Taiwan and the other in the United States. These children had not been taught a conventional sign language. Rather, they used a system of gestures that they had devised themselves. The really starling aspect of her findings was that the children in Taiwan spontaneously produced a gesture system that was very similar to that of their counterparts in the United States. The fact that two sets of children living in such completely unrelated verbal and cultural contexts produce similar patterns of gestures furnishes persuasive evidence of an innate ability to create structured languages.

Well, that's all for today, and come back next time for part two. Bye-bye!