

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 359

Hi! This is PR Junior.

Today I will read a riddle for you. Listen to this carefully:

You can find this thing in the countryside. It is usually very big. If you are on it, you can see very far and hear the sound of birds. You can feel the wind on your face. You can often smell trees and flowers. But near the top, you may feel very cold. Can you guess the answer?

Yes, it's "mountain."

See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 359

Hey, guys! How's it going?

Now, for a lot of you, the summer vacation will soon be coming to an end. As I've mentioned before, usually when asked what I did during the summer vacation, I don't get a summer vacation because I'm a working adult. Of course, I can take time off during the summer months if I choose to, but I haven't had an allocated summer break since I was at university. When I was in secondary school, my summer vacation – or "summer holidays" – was six weeks! And I spend most of that time just relaxing at home and hanging out with my friends because I had no homework or club activities or anything else to do. I think I really miss that time.

But hey, let me know what you got up to in your summer vacations, okay?

Alright, guys, see you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 359

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I will be telling you about the danger that the retail industry is facing. Let's begin.

As e-commerce digs into the retail market share, traditional businesses are facing a dim future. Many large retailers are planning to close stores in the hopes of improving corporate health, but it seems unlikely that closings will be enough. In fact, if a retailer attempts to downsize under these circumstances, it faces the risk of going into a death spiral, causing a drop in worker [morale] and quality, which will further decrease the performance of the business. Rather than shutter stores, retailers need to address the underlying problems. One of these is the need for increasing investment in store maintenance. Many stores are run-down and in need of renovation. Customers also often complain about the lack of service and cashiers at stores.

Employees in the industry naturally worry about their futures. However, retail requires proficiency in sales, communication, and other various fields. People with these skills are not just qualified to do retail jobs but also other service-oriented businesses, such as healthcare or food service. Therefore, the collapse of retail may not be the disaster employees fear, though the competition may increase for the remaining jobs.

All right! That was part one of today's topic, and I will be telling you about the remaining parts in the next video. Thank you very much for watching, and see you next time. Bye!