

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 379

Hey guys! How are you doing?

Last time, I talked about my favourite western animated TV shows, or “cartoons”. But I also like plenty of Japanese animated TV shows, which we call “anime”. Some of my favourites include “Attack on Titans”, “Full Metal Alchemist”, “Cowboy Bebop”, and of course “One Piece”. Two of those shows have a different title in English, so do you know which anime shows I’m talking about?

Let me know, okay? Alright guys, see you next time.

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 379

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR 1.

Today, we will be talking a little bit more about Japanese animes. Let’s begin.

Otaku culture is spreading abroad now. Japanese anime and comics are translated all over the world. Not only children but also adults enjoy them. Animation characters are printed on T-shirts and many other items. In California, there was a party recently. In the party, everyone was dressed like animation characters and they sang animation theme songs. A lot of foreign tourists visit Akihabara, Tokyo, where they can meet many *otakus* and can buy many character items. There you sometimes see people in animation costumes on the street. Some people still say anime and *otakus* are not a good part of our culture, but we should be more proud of Japanese animes and the *otakus* who support it.

Okay, that is all for today. Thank you very much for watching and see you next time. Bye-bye.

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 379

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I have a text about Prisoner Restaurants. Take a listen.

Recently, a new luxury restaurant opened in Cardiff in Britain. But there is something different about this restaurant – its staff is almost entirely composed of personnel chosen from among prisoners in a nearby jail. A further 15 prisoners work on a prison farm growing food for the restaurant. The motive for establishing the restaurant was to provide vocational training for the prisoners to help them integrate into society when they are released. Most prisoners leave prison unfit for work and some even fall back into a life of crime. By giving them a chance to earn qualifications and experience, the prisoners are able to make it by themselves when they are subsequently return to mainstream society.

Not everybody agrees with the restaurant, though. Right to Work, a group that campaigns on behalf of jobless young people in the UK, has strongly criticized the use of prisoners as cheap labour. They argue that in a time of recession, it is not right to replace ordinary workers with prisoners. Moreover, the wages paid to the prisoners are so low that the group fears that other businesses will begin to outsource work to prisons. The result would be that even more young people would find themselves out of work.

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