

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 390

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

I can't believe it is already October! The weather is starting to get cooler, which means autumn has definitely come. That means the leaves will be changing color soon. It also means that Halloween is coming! Do you have any plans for Halloween this year? I think it's still not a great idea to have a big party, so I probably won't do anything. But let me know if you have any fun games or movie ideas!

See you next time, guys!

Dictation Contest (PR 1 , 中級) No. 390

Hello, everyone. Welcome back to PR1.

Today I have the second half of the story called, *The Starfish*. Let's begin.

Then I saw a little girl. She wanted to save all the starfish. She asked me if I could perhaps help her.

'To be frank, I don't think we can do anything,' I said.

She sat back against a rock and thought for a while. Finally, she got up, picked up a starfish and threw it into the water.

'What are you doing?' I asked her.

But she did not answer me. She just threw as many starfish back as she could.

'You can't save them all!' I yelled.

She stopped and looked at me before picking up another starfish.

'But I can save this one,' she replied as she threw it back into the ocean.

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

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Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 390

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today's topic is about the future of the English language. There will be four parts and this is part one. Let's begin!

As you read this sentence, you are one of approximately 1.6 billion people who will use English in some form today. Although English is the mother tongue of only 380 million people, it is the language of the lion's share of the world's books, academic papers, newspapers, and magazines. American radio, television, and blockbuster films export English-language pop culture worldwide. Whether we regard the spread of English as benign globalization or linguistic imperialism, its expansive reach is undeniable.

Yet professional linguists hesitate to predict far into the future and the further globalization of English. Historically, languages have risen and fallen with the military, economic, cultural, or religious powers that supported them. Beyond the ebb and flow of history, there are other reasons to suppose that the English language will eventually weigh in influence. For one, English actually reaches, and is then utilized by, only a small and atypically* fortunate minority. Furthermore, the kinds of interactions identified with globalization, from trade to communication, have also encouraged regionalization and with it the spread of regional languages. Finally, the spread of English and regional languages collectively have created pressure on small communities, producing pockets of local language revival [resistant] to global change.

That's it for part one. See you in part two!

* pronounced "AY-typical"