

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 417

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Last time, I told you about Bonfire Night, which is a special day that is celebrated in England but not in America. A special day that is celebrated in America but not in England is Thanksgiving. This is also a tradition that comes from an “event” in American history, and people celebrate by gathering with their families, eating lots of delicious food, and talking about what they are thankful for – which sounds pretty similar to Christmas!

Okay, guys, see you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 417

Hi, everyone! This is PR1.

The last article was about language. I'll read the next part of it.

In another country people buy from some countries and sell to other countries. So they believe it is important for them to learn English. Students must learn two languages – English and their own language – and in a lot of schools almost all the lessons are given in English.

Scientists often meet to talk about things they're studying. They come from different countries but most of them can read and write in English so English is very often used as a common language. English is now the language of many of the world's people. There are different ways of speaking and pronouncing English in different parts of the world.

Sometimes even Americans cannot understand British people. English is different from place to place and changes little by little. If you think about your own language, you can understand this.

See you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 417

Hello, everyone. Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I will be telling you about the Olmecs, an ancient Mesoamerican civilization.

Let's begin.

Choose almost any civilization throughout history and behind it will be some form of writing system. One such example is the Olmec people, who lived in Mexico, and are believed to be the first civilization in Mesoamerica, which includes much of Mexico and Central America. Recently, a team of international archaeologists has revealed a stone slab which appears to be more than 2,900 years old – more than 400 years older than any form of writing discovered previously in the Western hemisphere. The oldest previous samples of writing were dated to be [from] about 500 BC.

The actual discovery of the over-2,900-year-old slab, named the “Cascajal black,” was made in 1999 by road workers in a nearby gravel quarry. Along with the seemingly definitive evidence of a writing system, other finds in the debris include ceramic pieces, clay figures, and other artifacts. The block itself is made of a soft mineral and in all there are 62 signs carved onto the block, some of which are repeated as many as four times.

All right. That is all for today. Thank you very much for watching, and I will see you guys in the next video. Bye-bye!