

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 421

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Yukana, may I ask you something?

Of course.

What city do you want to visit?

I want to visit Kyoto. There are many old temples there and I have always wanted to see them.

What about you?

I want to visit Kyoto, too. I really want to go to Vienna. I think the buildings are very beautiful, and that the coffee is delicious.

I love coffee. I should go there someday, too. That's all for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 421

Hey, guys! How's it going?

So last time, the dragon accidentally set a basket on fire and flew away! Let's see what happens next...

With his little wings buzzing, the cooling dragon was circling the town to find a red-hot place. He felt the blast of heat from Eli the Baker's oven and dived straight down the chimney.

"He's at Eli's!" shouted Jones. "Come on, run!"

Eli the Baker opened his oven door and pulled out a line of hot loaves. He blinked curiously at the last one.

"That's some strange bread!"

"That's not bread, that's our dragon!" shouted Jones, bursting through the door.

"Oh, I'm cold!" wailed the dragon.

Quick as a flash, Eli opened the furnace and said, "In you get!"

"Oh, thank you!" said the dragon, as he settled on the hot coal.

Oh! So, that's nice! But I don't think the dragon can stay there very long. Let's see what happens next time. Bye, guys!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 421

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I will be telling you a little bit more about the Olmecs and the Cascajal Block. Let's begin.

One of the researchers on the team believes the stone was probably a form of blackboard as the symbols were on the concave side of the block. The repeated writing and erasing would have caused it to become this shape over time. The actual tools used appear to be of two kinds – one sharp and one wider and blunt. Regrettably, the team of archaeologists has yet to decipher the symbols' meaning. In most ancient writing systems discovered in Mexico, the writing goes from the top down, in columns, not rows. The symbols on the Cascajal Block appear to be in rows from left to right and this is keeping the researchers from solving the code. As a result, some scientists have argued that due to this discrepancy, the tablet may not actually be a true form of writing. However, the initial team is confident that other evidence will eventually be uncovered at the site. If the equivalent of the Rosetta Stone – a tablet that helped explain the meaning of Egyptian hieroglyphics – could be found, there would surely be no doubt as to the authenticity and significance of the Cascajal Block. One can only hope that it would put a stop to this dispute and end this mystery.

Alright, that is all for the Olmecs and the Cascajal Block. What did you guys think? Please tell me in class. Thank you very much for watching, and see you next time. Bye-bye!