

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 448

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is part seventeen of the story about the fieldtrip. Let's begin!

The children saw a small cave. They ran to see it. "I wonder if it has treasure in it," called Will.

"Maybe it's a secret tunnel," said Nick. "Maybe it leads to a secret computer base."

But when they got to the cave, they found something else. In the cave were some drums.

That is all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 448

Hey, guys! How's it going?

So last time, the lady from the Historical Society started asking Jones questions about the dragon. He was worried that he would tell her everything. Let's see how he does...

"I hear that you have sighted a dragon," said Mrs. Griffiths.

"Sighted?" said Jones. "Ivor hatched it from an egg! And he fried fish and chips for us at Mrs. Thomas's. Sixteen cod and chips!"

"Sixteen?"

"That's right! And he sang like an angel right out of Ivor's funnel! Didn't he, Ivor?"

Ivor did not answer.

"Oh, come on, Ivor!"

Ivor remained silent.

"I am very sorry," said Jones. "Ivor isn't usually so rude."

"Well, never mind, never mind," said Mrs. Griffiths. "I'm sure everything is alright, really."

"Everything is not alright!" said Jones, beginning to feel a little angry. "We've lost our dragon!"

So, I guess he couldn't keep it secret! Okay, join me next time, guys!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 448

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I will be telling you more about the future of work. Let's begin:

Much like the present situation, there are also some past cases in which increased automation did not lead to lowered employment. In the 1970s, many experts thought the introduction of ATMs would eliminate the need for bank tellers. On the contrary, ATMs reduced operating costs and banks opened more branches and hired more tellers. The total number of tellers in the U.S. increased by 50,000 between 1980 and 2010. Importantly, however, much more was required of tellers; they provided services that the ATMs could not. In other words, automation resulted in a greater number of workers becoming more skilled and more valuable.

The view that automation may lead the workforce to seek higher learning and expertise* is shared by Boston University economist James Bessen. According to him, AI is coming in and it's going to make accountants and financial advisors much better, so we're going to be using more of their services at least for the next ten or twenty years. When looking at the American census of 1950, Bessen noticed that only one job description, elevator operator, disappeared due to automation. Bessen believes that people should be less concerned about the disappearance of their occupations, and turn their attention instead to encouraging lifelong learning and making sure they have the necessary skills for the automated era.

Okay, that is it for today. Thank you for watching, and see you next time. Bye-bye!

* pronounced: "ex-per-teece"