

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 452

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

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

"I don't like the look of this," said Mrs. West. "These drums have been dumped on Blue Island. They are full of toxic waste."

"Keep away from them, everyone," said Mrs. Benson.

"Why would anyone want to dump them here?" asked Bill.

That is all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 452

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, I have a news article about New Zealand's tobacco ban. Take a listen.

New Zealand's government introduced its plan to ban tobacco, and it wants to completely eliminate smoking in the future.

The plan says that it will not be possible to buy cigarettes in supermarkets or small businesses after the year 2027. The government hopes that young people will not smoke cigarettes at all. The Maori population also has problems. They smoke much more than the rest of the people in the country, and they have more health problems related to smoking cigarettes. Thirteen percent of adults in New Zealand smoke; about 30% of the Maori people smoke. They have more problems because of this.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 452

Hello, welcome to PR2.

This is the continuation of the text, "The Characteristics of Geniuses". Let's begin.

Frank Lawless, testing director for American Mensa, a high IQ society, believes that Einstein would have done poorly on the IQ test because genius really comes down to thinking outside the box, and you really can't test that. He is certain that when confronted with a simple problem, the genius mind looks at all the various potential answers and gets lost as a result. Others point to creativity as being a necessary trait behind genius, something that cannot be measured by a standard IQ tests. Scientific director Scott Berry Coffman of the Imagination Institute has been interviewing leaders in various fields to gather insights about how original ideas are generated. Coffman hesitates to call his subjects geniuses because he believes the word suggests societal judgement off the accomplishments of a chosen field. Instead of searching for genius, Coffman is looking for new ways to nurture genius in everyone. He has discovered that novel ideas normally arise after periods of contemplation. Information enters the human mind, is processed unconsciously, and then bursts out as an "aha!" moment at unexpected times. "Great ideas don't often come out when you're narrowly focusing on them," Coffman explains.

So, do you agree with Mr. Coffman? Have you ever had a great idea at an unexpected moment?

This is it for today. See you next time!