

**Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 485**

Hello, everyone!

Today, I will be talking about Sam's music lesson. This is part four of the story. Let's start.

Mrs. Wendy sang first. "La la laaa," she sang.

The cats on the mat began to sing – all except Sam.

"Now you try, Sam," said Mrs. Wendy. Sam opened his mouth. Nothing came out.

"You can do it, Sam!" said his teacher.

Sam tried hard, but all that came out was a little squeak.

That is it for today. See you!

**Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 485**

Hi! Welcome to PR1.

There was once a man who made his living by taking people and things across a river. But his boat was so small that he could take only one person or one thing at a time. One day, the man was given three things to take across the river: a wolf, a goat, and a big basket of cabbages. Because he could take only one thing at a time, he had to leave two things behind and come back for them. And that meant trouble! "If I take the cabbages and leave the wolf and goat behind, the wolf will eat the goat!" he thought. "And if I take the wolf and leave the goat with the cabbages, the goat will eat the cabbages!"

See you later!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 485

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

Now, I'm sure a lot of you use some form of social media, and I'm sure – or I hope – that a lot of you know about the dangers or downsides of using social media. I think the negative effects are shared across all the various SNS platforms, but the one that I think most people would agree to be the most controversial is TikTok. And I think I have an example of that right here, so take a listen:

The Japanese operator of popular Chinese video-sharing app TikTok said January 24<sup>th</sup> it has paid social media influencers to spread certain videos on Twitter without informing viewers about the payments. The Japanese office of Byte Dance Limited is believed to have spread TikTok videos hand-picked by the company through the influencers to raise recognition levels of the app in a strategy that could be considered as stealth marketing. It is believed viewers could have mistaken those videos as ordinary posts by general social media users.

Ah, yes, this is quite serious. Usually when an influencer is paid to promote a certain product or brand or event, they have to very, very clearly disclose the details of that deal or paid partnership. That's why you'll hear YouTubers say "I'm not sponsored or anything" when they mention a product that they don't have that kind of deal with. The legal details are quite complicated, but the basic reason is to make sure that everything is fair and transparent, and not covert and potentially sketchy. So, I think this is quite a serious issue, but let me know what you think, okay?

Alright, guys, well, until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.