

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 486

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is part nine of the story about Daisy and Ted's day. Let's get started.

Ted wanted to look out of the bathroom window.

"Be careful, Ted," said Joey. "It isn't safe to lean out of windows."

"I know," said Ted. Ted ran out of the bathroom and held the door shut.

"Let us out, Ted," shouted Joey. "It's dangerous to play with doors. Someone's fingers could get trapped."

That's it for today. Bye-bye.

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 486

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today we are going to talk about chess. Let's begin!

Chess is one of the oldest and most popular board games in the world. It is played with small figures on a board with black and white squares, in eight rows and eight columns. Two players, playing "black" or "white", take turns moving the pieces around the board. The objective of the game is to capture the other player's "king".

The Chinese also have a game very similar to chess. It has a board that is nine lines wide and 10 lines long, and with a "river" in the middle. One player has red or white pieces, while the other has black, blue, or green pieces.

That is all for today! See you next time! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 486

Hi, guys! Welcome to PR2!

Today's text is about whale and dolphin watching.

Whale and dolphin watching has grown in popularity in recent decades, with the number of people joining such tours each year rising from 4 million in 1991 to 13 million in 2008. This is generally considered a positive development, as the activity is thought to increase appreciation for the animals and encourage support for conservation efforts. However, concern among scientists is growing regarding the risks involved. For one thing, the increasing number of tourist boats has made collisions with whales and dolphins more common. What is more, the animals' behavior is changing. Marine biologist David Lusseau observed minke whales in Iceland reacting to the boats as they do to killer whales and other dangerous animals: they changed course quickly and swam rapidly away, tiring themselves out in the process.

While Lusseau believes there has been no impact on the population size of minke whales in Iceland, he found that the large number of dolphin-watching trips in New Zealand has caused the local population of dolphins to decrease from 67 to 56 over an eighty-year span. Lusseau says the dolphins' efforts to avoid boats have led to lost feeding opportunities, and that this has had a negative effect on young dolphins' survival rates. Biologists say authorities should take measures to address the problem.

What kind of measures do you think authorities should take to solve this problem?

This is it for today. See you next time! Bye!