

**Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 487**

Hi! Welcome to PR Junior.

One morning, a fisherman was fishing. He saw something strange. There was a whale in the water, and it wasn't moving. Was the whale dead? The fisherman didn't think so. He moved his boat to look at it. The whale wasn't dead! It was caught in fishing nets and it couldn't move. It was a special whale – a humpback whale. There are only 6,000 humpback whale in the world. The fisherman called for help.

See you!

**Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 487**

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Do you remember the true story about the brave Spartan army that fought against the mighty Persian military? Well, today, I will be telling you the last part of the story about the Battle of Thermopylae. So, let's jump straight into it.

They fought for three days. Though they hardly slept at all, the chief and his men remained steady. But the enemy found a way to beat the Spartans. The chief and all of this men were killed. Even though they lost, the Battle of Thermopylae is one of the most famous battles in history.

That would be all for today. I hope you enjoyed the story. Excellent job today, and see you next time. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 487

Hello, everyone! This is PR2 and today we are going to be discussing a topic of utmost importance – overpopulation. Let's go!

Overpopulation is a big problem in the world today. Too many people are crammed into cities and towns around the globe. Earth's population is about [7.9] billion\* people. This number is growing every day. In just 50\*\* years, the population will be almost 9 billion. Many people worry that the Earth won't have enough resources to support so many people. One major reason for this is that wasting resources and polluting have become habitual behaviors. Industrial output results in polluting the air with dangerous fumes. Also, cars and machines waste a ton of important natural resources like oil and water. It's possible that the earth may become so damaged that it cannot support a large population of humans.

Another issue is the lack of useful land for cultivating crops. Even today, many people subsist on mere scraps of food and little water. In 50 years, many experts worry that huge numbers of people will starve to death. So what is being done to prepare for the future?

That is all for today's video. Come back next time to find out more about the different ways the world is trying to combat this problem.

Stay safe and I'll see you then! Bye-bye!

\* Earth's population hit 6.5 billion in 2005, over 17 years ago. Current estimates for 2022 are closer to 7.9 billion.

\*\* Earth's population is projected to reach 9 billion by 2037, which is only 15 years away, not 50. (In 50 years, the population growth will have slowed but is projected to reach 10.5 billion.)