

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 518

Hi! Welcome back to PR Junior!

This is part seven of the birthday party story!

At supper time, Grandma filled her plate so full that some food fell onto the floor. She ate two bowls of chocolate ice cream. Mom put a beautiful birthday cake on the table and the lights were turned off. There were so many candles that people's faces were glowing in the dark.

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

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 518

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1!

Today, I'm going to read the second part of the text about magicians and their magic tricks. Let's begin!

Vanishing is a kind of magic trick in which things disappear. After putting a bird in a cage and then covering the cage with cloth, the magician waves his wand and pulls away the cloth. The bird has vanished.

Let's say a rope is cut in half with a knife. The magician does something special and suddenly the rope is one complete piece again. Or after tearing a newspaper into pieces, the magician rubs the pieces together and the newspaper becomes whole again. These tricks restore things to the way they were before. Restoration is another common type of magic trick.

That is all for today! Thank you very much for listening and I will see you in the next video! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 518

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

In a recent PR2 dictation video, I read about the world's current views on single-use plastics, and I contemplated Japan's position on the issue, referencing the persisting abundance of single-use plastics here. Well, I found an article that might partially answer some of those questions. So, take a listen to this:

Convenience store operator FamilyMart said March 9th that it will ban the use of plastic forks and sporks, as a new ordinance is set to be implemented in April to urge businesses to reduce plastic usage. The convenience store chain said it will introduce the measure at ten outlets in Tokyo for about a month on a trial basis from March 10th. FamilyMart said it will consider expanding the ban to around 16,000 stores nationwide after examining the response of customers. It will instead sell bamboo-made forks, spoons, and chopsticks. The operator estimates that it can reduce about 260 tons of plastic usage a year once the measure is taken at all its domestic stores.

Huh! Well, there you go! That's certainly a good first step. But, until we decide to get rid of those plastic sheaths for umbrellas at the front of stores and start charging less for paper bags than we do for plastic bags at the checkout, I don't think Japan's plastic problem is going to improve anytime soon. 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.