

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 532

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR Junior.

Today, I will be telling you a story about Mark and his aunt. This is part five of the story. Let's begin.

Mark set to work. It felt good to be needed. Lucky for Mark, the aunts needed him quite a bit. They needed him to bring their books and find their glasses. They needed him to turn on their lamps. They needed him to run their baths.

This is it for today. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 532

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today I'm going to continue with the second part of the story about the disastrous trip our family experienced. Let's go!

Then, suddenly, my brother's oar dropped into the water!

"If I were you, I'd hold on very tight!" my dad told us.

Down and down we raced, with the boat rocking dangerously from side to side. Then, just as soon as it had started, the rain stopped, the sun appeared, and the river became calm again.

With my dad's one oar, we somehow managed to row to the nearby end of our route.

"If we ever do this again, we'll check the weather forecast before we leave!" my mum said, laughing. I would never want to go on a river trip again.

That's all for today! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 532

Hello, Everyone! Welcome back to PR 2.

Today, I have more on rethinking the future. Take a listen.

For one thing, history is full of technological marvels that were abandoned for reasons that were only reassessed much later. To most people in the late 19th century, when fleets of electric taxis operated in London and Manhattan, the electric car was clearly going to win out over the dirty petrol-driven alternative. But then large stocks of oil were discovered in America, and the future went into reverse. In the late 20th century, global warming and advances in battery technology made electric cars seem like a good idea again. Similarly, analogue music records have enjoyed a major revival in the age of downloaded digital music: not necessarily because they are an objectively better sound format, but because it turned out that people like owning their culture as physical objects. Just as we revive ideas from the past, we also have the power to bury ideas in the present – whether for business reasons, like Airbus, or for the wider public good. Technology isn't just something that happens to us, it's something we can decide to build and/or use, or not. Should we, for example, allow anyone [to] make changes in the DNA of humans?

What do you think? We'll discover the gene-editing method, Crispr, in the next video.

I'll see you soon. Bye-bye!