

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 537

Hello! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is part two of the story *Baby Whale's Mistake*. Let's begin!

One day, when Baby Whale was by himself trying all kinds of dives and jumps, he had an accident. He tried to do an enormous jump, but he swam too fast to the top and hit something. Bang! Baby Whale had forgotten to look around before he jumped up.

Let's stop here for today. I'll see you in the next movie! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 537

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1!

Today, I'm going to continue with the second part of the old news article. Let's begin!

Now, airlines have to make changes to their flights to avoid the clouds of volcanic ash. According to KLM, one of Europe's biggest airlines, flight rules mean that their airplanes cannot go under the cloud or over it. Going through the cloud can result in ash getting stuck in the airplane's engines, causing the airplane to crash.

The eruption has also caused problems for animals in Iceland. The volcano left ash and sharp, glass-like rocks all over the countryside. Farmers are keeping their animals inside to stop them from eating ash-covered grass or the sharp objects.

That is all for today! Come back next time to listen to more interesting news articles like this one. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 537

Hello, Everyone! Welcome back to PR 2.

Today, I want to talk about the gene-editing method, Crispr. Take a listen.

Should we allow anyone to make changes in the DNA of humans? One of the inventors of the modern-gene editing method, Crispr, Jennifer Doudna, thinks not. She has called for a temporary prohibition of such “germline” editing, because of the potentially disastrous consequences. Many thinkers on machine intelligence, meanwhile – led by the philosopher Nick Bostrom – suggest the supposedly science-fictional scenario of a conscious AI escaping its box and taking over the world represents such an enormous threat to human existence that we ought to be taking steps right now to prevent it happening.

Not much less alarming, and far closer, is the moment when “deep fakes” – computer generated pictures and video – become indistinguishable from the real thing. The scenario might be a computer generated video of a real politician who is well known as a fluent speaker with plenty of confidence breaking down in tears and admitting he doesn’t understand half of the long words he uses, and this would be impossible to tell from a real TV broadcast. Satisfying as it would be to shame some individuals this way, the wider result would be a total loss of confidence, not only in the news media but the documentary evidence of many kinds.

That’s all for today. I’ll see you in class. Bye-bye!