

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 574

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, I want to talk about Ken's house. Take a listen:

Ken's house is white and he thinks white is too boring. So, he goes to the paint store. He looks at the different colors. He sees the blue bucket. Blue is too sad. He sees the yellow bucket. Yellow is too bright. He sees the green bucket. Green is perfect!

That's it for today, see you later!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 574

Hello everyone! Welcome back to PR 1.

Today, I have a news article about new sanctions the EU has placed on Russia. Take a listen:

EU leaders agree on more sanctions against Russia. They hope that the sanctions will make Russia stop the Ukraine war.

Russia needs money for the war. Russia sells oil to the EU. The EU will not buy oil from Russia, except for the oil in the pipes. The EU wants to ban 90% of Russian oil by the end of this year. The EU will not let the biggest Russian bank in the global bank system. Also, they won't let other countries do business with Russian companies. Another important sanction is [that] the EU blocked three Russian state media companies.

That's all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 574

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

I have a story here that I saw circulating the UK news sites not so long ago, so take a listen to this:

The BBC has apologized to viewers after the headline, "Manchester United are rubbish" appeared on its ticker during a television news broadcast on May 24th. The headline appeared on the bottom of the screen during a report on the French Open tennis championship. BBC presenter Anita McVeigh later issued the apology on air and explained that the headline was written when someone was learning how to use the ticker. "Some of you may have noticed a pretty unusual comment about Manchester United... so, apologies if you saw that and you were offended and you're a fan of Manchester United. But certainly, that was a mistake and wasn't meant to appear on the screen."

Okay, now this is amusing for a few reasons. First of all, the word *rubbish* is a very mild way to express that something isn't very good and a very light-hearted, non-aggressive insult, and so shouldn't be taken too seriously. And also, though they're maybe not doing too well these days, compared to how they've always done historically, world-famous Manchester United are clearly not a rubbish team, and so this definitely resembles some sort of silly, friendly banter. Hopefully, no Manchester United fans were actually insulted by this!

Alright, guys, well, until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.