

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 583

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is part sixteen of the story about the Litter King. Let's begin!

The magic took Charlie to the Litter King's palace. It was a horrible place. There was litter and junk everywhere. The Litter King was sitting on his throne. He had two giant rats by his side.

"I knew this was going to be a bad adventure," thought Charlie.

That is all for today. Come back next time to hear the rest of the story! See you then!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 583

Hello everyone! Welcome back to PR 1.

Today, I have a news article about McDonald's leaving Russia. Take a listen:

McDonald's first restaurant in Russia opened in the Middle of Moscow more than three decades ago, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

It was a powerful symbol of easing Cold War tensions between the US and Soviet Union, which collapsed in 1991.

McDonald's has decided to leave Russia after more than 30 years. In February, Russia attacked Ukraine, and as a result, McDonald's closed its 850 restaurants in Russia. This cost the company \$55 million every month. Now, the company decided to sell its restaurants to Alexander Gavor. Gavor owns a McDonald's license, and he runs 25 restaurants in Siberia. He agreed to run the restaurants under a different name.

That's all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 583

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

I have another news story here yet again relating to the prehistoric world, and I hope you'll find it as interesting as I did – because if there's one thing that's still around in the modern natural world that's almost as cool as dinosaurs, it's sharks. Take a listen to this:

An examination of the zinc content of teeth from sharks both living and extinct is providing clues about the demise of the largest known shark, indicating the mighty megalodon may have been outcompeted by the great white shark in ancient seas. Megalodon, whose scientific name is *Otodus megalodon*, appeared about 15 million years ago and went extinct about 3.6 million years ago. It was one of the largest predators in Earth's history, reaching at least 15 metres and possibly 20 metres in length, while feeding on marine mammals including whales. The great white shark, *Charcharodon carcharias*, reaches at least six metres long and may have been the more agile of the two.

Hm. So, it doesn't actually go into detail about how the great white shark might have led to the megalodon's demise, but unless great white sharks used to hunt in packs and take down much larger predators as a unit, I'm guessing it has something to do with great white sharks being more efficient when it came to hunting other animals. Perhaps they outperformed the poor Megalodon and had a hand in depleting some shared food source. Alright, guys, well, until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.