Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 591

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Hi, Faland! Which do you like better – staying at home or playing outside? I really like staying at home. I love reading books and watching TV. How about you? I like playing outside more than staying at home. I play tag and hide-and-seek every day! Really? Can I play with you next time, too? Of course!

That is all for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 591

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR 1.

Today, I have a news article about some IKEA pictures in a museum. Take a listen:

Dutch YouTube pranksters placed cheap pictures from IKEA in a museum of modern art in the Netherlands. They said that the art was by a famous Swedish artist called 'Ike Andrews'. The pranksters asked art lovers for what they think about them.

Apparently, nearly all of the 20 people interviewed could not tell that the pictures were cheap IKEA pictures. They thought they were some great works of art. They talked about modernity, symbolism, emotion...

The pranksters told the people that they were IKEA pictures in the end. Most of them saw the funny side. Some were not so happy about it.

Well, that's all for today and I'll see you in class. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2, 上級) No. 591

Hello, everyone!

Today, we're going to continue with our talk on emotions and facial expressions. Let's begin!

Your best 'disgusted' face, for example, might show that you're not happy with the way the conversation is going—and that you want it to take a different course. While it may seem sensible, this theory has been a long time coming. The idea that emotions are fundamental, instinctive, and expressed in our faces is deeply fixed in Western culture. But this viewpoint has always been criticized. New research is challenging two of the main basic points of basic emotion theory. First is the idea that some emotions are universally shared and recognized. Second is the belief that facial expressions are reliable reflections of those emotions.

That new research includes recent work by Crivelli. He has spent months living with the Trobrianders of Papua New Guinea as well as the Mwani of Mozambique. With both native groups, he found that study participants did not attribute emotions to faces in the same way Westerners do. It was not just the face of fear, either. Shown a smiling face, only a small percentage of Trobrianders declared that the face was happy. About half of those who were asked to describe it in their own words called it "laughing": a word that deals with action, not feeling. In other words, Crivelli found no evidence that what is behind a facial expression is universally understood.

Alright, that's all for today! See you next time. Bye-bye!