

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 617

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today I'm going to tell you a story about The Three Little Pigs. Let's begin!

Once upon a time there was an old mother pig who had three little pigs. The first little pig was very lazy. He didn't want to work at all and he built his house out of straw. The second little pig worked a little bit harder, but he was lazy too and he built his house out of sticks. The third little pig worked hard all day and built his house with bricks.

That's all for today!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 617

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1!

Today, you are going to listen to a text about the Bridge of Tomorrow. Let's begin!

The Bering Strait is the sea that separates Alaska from Siberia. The strait is narrow – it is only about 85 kilometers wide. Winters in the strait are long and dark, with the temperature going down as low as minus 50 degrees Celsius.

In the middle of the strait are two islands known as the Diomede Islands. The International Date Line runs between the Diomede Islands. This means that from “today” on Little Diomedede you can look across at “tomorrow” on Big Diomedede. This is also the line that separates the Americas from Asia. Thousands of years ago, these two continents were connected. Lower sea levels during the Ice Age showed a huge land that joined them. People then crossed over from Asia to live all over the Americas.

That was all for today! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 617

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today I am going to read the first half of a university entrance exam level article. It is about a term called “emotional intelligence.” Take a listen:

Daniel Goleman is discussing his famous “impulse control” test at a San Francisco lecture and has the entire audience’s attention. Goleman is the author of *Emotional Intelligence*, a fascinating book about discoveries in brain research that prove emotional stability is more important than IQ in determining an individual’s success.

One of the highlights is a test administered more than 40 years ago that Goleman calls “The Marshmallow Challenge.” In this experiment, four-year-old children were individually called into a room at Stanford University during the 1960s. There, a kind man gave a marshmallow to each of them and said they could eat the marshmallow right away, or wait for him to come back from the errand, at which point they would get two marshmallows. Some of the preschoolers covered their eyes or rested their heads on their arms so they wouldn’t have to look at the marshmallow, and waited for the promised double prize. Others – about a third of the group – simply watched the man leave and ate the marshmallow within seconds. What is surprising about this test is its diagnostic power: A dozen years later the same children were tracked down as adolescents and tested again. The emotional and social difference between the grab-the-marshmallow preschoolers and their gratification-delaying peers was dramatic.

That’s all for today! Let’s meet again in the next video!