Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 620

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Recently, it started raining a lot again. And I'm not so happy about it.

I've said before that Japan's rainy season seems to be very long with gaps in the middle – or Japan just has many rainy seasons throughout the year. It's good that the temperature has cooled down a little, but I really wanted to enjoy more sunny days before the end of summer! Ah, well. Maybe next year...

See you guys!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 620

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, I am going to give you 10 sentences at the level of Eiken 3. Please try to write them down. Let's begin!

Number one: I'm afraid I can't go.

Number two: Why don't you ask him?

Number three: I'll wash all the dishes later.

Number four: Eating too much pie made me sick.

Number five: Mika's native language is Japanese.

Number six: How do you like living in this town?

Number seven: Where was the first traffic light built?

Number eight: Yuji decided to go to the museum by bus.

Number nine: It is difficult to remember the classmates' names.

Number ten: The police officers worked all day to control the traffic.

That's all for today! Did you do better than last time? See you in the next video!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 620

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR2!

Today we will talk about How the Dinosaurs Really Died.

Many scientists and intellectuals think that dinosaurs died when an asteroid smashed into the Earth millions of years ago. However, recently, there has been some controversy over this theory. Some scientists think that it isn't accurate. They think that a tiny insect may have been the biggest factor in the death of these huge creatures. That insect was the mosquito.

These scientists do think that an asteroid hit the Earth in the time of the dinosaurs. But that wasn't what killed all of them. At that time, insects, including the mosquito, were beginning to evolve. Today, we can regulate the number of mosquitoes with pesticides. But that was impossible millions of years ago. The mosquitoes multiplied quickly. And they were certainly not idle*. Since there were so many mosquitoes, it was easy for them to bite many of the dinosaurs. When they bit another living thing, the mosquitoes passed along a deadly disease. So the dinosaurs were stricken** with the disease. A vast majority of them, from the vegetarians*** to the meat eaters, died.

To reinforce this idea, scientists stress how gradually the dinosaurs died. If an asteroid killed them, they would have died very quickly. But the number of dinosaurs decreased slowly. In addition, scientists have found genetic material of mosquitoes in fossils. This material proves that mosquitoes existed back then. [Although] there may have been other factors, the dinosaurs died mainly because of disease, the scientists say.

That's all for today! See you next time!

^{*} pronounced "eye-dull"

^{**} pronounced "strick-un"

^{***} usually "herbivores" is used for animals