

### Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 628

Hi! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today we will look at some short daily conversations. Let's begin!

Kaho: Would you like to play tennis with me after school, Yerin?

Yerin: I'm sorry but I can't. I have to go home straight away.

Kaho: How about tomorrow then?

Yerin: That sounds good. We can go to the tennis court after school. How about that?

Kaho: Sounds good! See you tomorrow!

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

### Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 628

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR1.

Today, I will be reading about Lake Eyre, which is around Eiken level 3. Let's begin!

In the desert of central Australia, there is a special lake called Lake Eyre. When large amounts of rain fall in northern Australia, the water flows through the rivers and fills the lake. However, this only happens once every eight years. After the rain stops, the lake gets smaller and smaller. After a while, the lake becomes completely dry with no water; all that is left is a huge area of salt. When there is no water, few people visit and there are hardly any animals around. However, once the rain falls again, the scenery changes. Many different animals come to the area.

This is it for today! See you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 628

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

Now, from talking to a lot of students and other people, and just from generally being here and consuming media, it seems that a very popular animal in Japan is the penguin. So, for those of you who quite like those flightless little fellows, or anyone who's interested in biology and wildlife in general, I have a little news story for you. Take a listen to this:

Researchers back in July offered the most thorough examination to date of the history of penguins, dating back to their origins more than 60 million years ago, including identifying a suite of genes crucial in adaptations related to underwater vision, long dives, body temperature regulation, diet, and body size. The researchers said penguins evolved from a common ancestor shared with a group of seabirds that includes albatrosses and petrels. Penguins first evolved the ability to dive like a puffin and subsequently lost the ability to fly as they adapted to an aquatic realm, becoming excellent swimmers and divers.

Ah yes, I always enjoy reading about the origins and evolutionary lines of species, and especially when it comes to reptiles and birds because, as we know, those are the modern day dinosaurs!

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