

Dictation Contest (PR Jr, 初級) No. 679

Hello! Welcome to PR Junior.

Let's listen to the next part from the email from Ken to Tom.

Hi Tom.

Saturday sounds great! This morning, I read about the meteor shower in the newspaper. My mom will be busy on Saturday, so let's make curry. My dad will help us with dinner, and then we can watch the Sky.

Bye!

That was the reply from Ken. Watching stars with your friend sounds interesting, don't you think so? And that's all for today. Goodbye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 679

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1. Today we will be reading a passage on the Hawaiian language. Let's begin.

The official languages of Hawaii are Hawaiian and English. The Hawaiian language belongs to the Polynesian language family. It started in the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific Ocean. King Kamehameha III set up the first Hawaiian-language constitution in 1839. The language used to be spoken by a large number of people. However, English has almost completely taken over and many native speakers have disappeared. The number of Hawaiian native speakers is less than 0.1% of the population. In 1978, it finally became the official language of the state, along with English. The Hawaiian language remains as street and place names, and locals are studying Hawaiian once again.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 679

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

Now, a lot of you know that I quite love cats and that I often get jealous of people who have pet cats because, although I'd really like to have my own little feline friend at home, my apartment doesn't allow pets. But this news story doesn't so much make me feel jealous, but more horrified. Take a listen to this:

Some 170 cats were found in filthy conditions in a house in Takasaki, Gunma Prefecture, this summer after being left without care following the hospitalization of their elderly owner, according to a local animal welfare organization. Many of the cats were emaciated, it said, adding the windows of the house were closed and that the smell of ammonia from excrement was overpowering when members entered the house in early September. According to the group, the owner, a man in his 60s, had been in poor health since early August.

Ah, yeah, so I may love the idea of having a pet cat – or cats – but I think 170 might be overkill. It said they were found in very poor conditions, but they probably weren't even in the best conditions when they were being looked after, so... everything is good in moderation, isn't it?

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