

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 707

Hello! Today we will listen to the last part of *A New Instrument*. Let's begin.

"I really want to learn the drums. Don't worry, Dad. I'll study the drums and the piano."

The next week, Peter's mother said, "I found a drum teacher. You can have a lesson every Monday."

After one year, Peter and his friends had a concert at his school festival, and he played the drums well.

That is all for today. See you next time! Goodbye!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 707

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, let me share [with] you all about my imaginary niece. So now, take a listen:

My oldest brother's wife had a new baby. They named her Sachi. Sachi means happiness. Her parents are very happy to have their first child. She is small and so cute. She sleeps well when her mother sings. Sachi often cries but I think crying is one of her ways to speak to us. Everyone in my family likes to hold her in their arms. We hope she will be happy. I believe all parents in the world have this hope for their children. A few days ago, I watched a news [story] about children in other parts of the world. It made me sad. The children were hungry and sick and their lives were very hard. All children have the right to be happy. Don't you think?

Okay, that's it for today. I'll see you guys next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2, 上級) No. 707

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR2.

Today we will be talking about skin-whitening. I'm Seung, and this is Kay. Let's begin:

Toning. Lightening. Brightening. Whitening. While the marketing slogans promoting skin enhancement in Africa might be varied, the underlying effects are pretty identical. Although I do not use skin lightening products, I live in Nigeria where millions of women do.

On offer in my local shops are a wide variety of products designed to make dark skin lighter: Kojic acid soaps, fade creams, hydroquinone creams, whitening shower gels made from goat milk, and, for the more determined, skin lightening injections.

So when last month Vera Sidika, a popular Kenyan model, publicly admitted to spending tons of money bleaching her skin, she added fuel to an already smoking hot fire. Just one admission was enough to re-ignite the fierce debate about Africans' perception of beauty. Sidika says she is proud of the way she looks and thinks African societies are hypocritical on this problematic issue. But her honesty roused the anger of many social media users across the continent. Passions inevitably run high among Africans whenever someone brings into play racial issues. On the topic of skin whitening, emotionally charged slogans such as "black is beautiful" are often employed in an attempt to make women like Sidika feel as if they are somehow betraying their race. Such women are then accused of having inferiority complexes towards white people.

Okay, that is all for now. We'll see you all in class. Bye!