

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 721

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior!

Today you are going to listen to fun story about Tom the clown. Let's begin.

The children put on a circus. Tom was a clown. Max pulled his leg. Bob was a strong-man.

He made everyone laugh. Ginny and Ron did gymnastics. Everyone had a drink.

"What a good circus!" said Mum.

Paul was a stuntman. Tom was fed up. He wanted to be a stuntman.

"Look at me!" he said. Everyone looked at Tom.

Oh no!

"I'm a clown, after all," said Tom.

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

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 721

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1!

This is going to be the last part of the Inuit people's story about the sun and moon! Let's begin!

The girl returned to the party. She knew there was only a single person with a black hand.

When she saw that person, he was very familiar. It was her brother!

He ran into the woods. The girl ran after him. They both carried fire so they could see in the dark. The smoke went into the air. As they ran, they grew. They became huge. When the girl's fire went out, she hung into the sky. She became the moon, and her brother became the sun. And they have been chasing each other ever since.

That was all. What did you think of the story? Please do share in class! See you!

Dictation Contest (PR2, 上級) No. 721

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

This is Part Five of *How Praise Affects Children[']s Academic Performance*. Take a listen:

I once watched Charlotte with a four-year-old who was drawing. When he stopped and looked up at her—perhaps expecting praise—she smiled and said, ‘There is a lot of blue in your picture.’ He replied, ‘It’s the pond near my grandmother’s house—there is a bridge.’ He picked up a brown crayon, and said ‘I’ll show you.’ Unhurried, she talked to the child, but more importantly she observed, she listened. She was present.

Being present builds a child’s confidence because it lets the child know that she is worth thinking about. Without this, a child might come to believe that her activity is just a means to gain praise, rather than an end in itself. How can we expect a child to be attentive, if we’ve not been attentive to her? Being present, whether with children, with friends, or even with oneself, is always hard work. But isn’t this attentiveness—the feeling that someone is trying to think about us—something we want more than praise?

Alright, that will be all for our talk on praise and its effects on children. What did you think? Did you agree with the author? Personally, I think that showing a child that you are present is far more important than praising them.