

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 734

Hello, everyone! And welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, we will talk about money in Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe is a country in southern Africa.

Zimbabwe has two types of money. One is the US dollar. The other is the Zimbabwean dollar. Some people fix old notes, because some of the money [is] torn. "Torn" is when they are in several parts. They are taken to a bank. Banks must change these notes for newer ones.

Okay, that is it for today! Have an amazing day!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 734

Hello! Welcome back to PR1!

Today, you are going to listen to the history of soccer. Let's begin!

Soccer is a three-thousand-year-old sport. Long ago, people in Japan played a kicking game with balls. Their game was similar to soccer that is played today. Later, the Romans also played a game like soccer.

People first played real soccer in England. In the beginning, only rich people and students played soccer in England. Soon, poor people played soccer too. Then, English sailors learned soccer.

They taught soccer to people in other countries. Today, many people play soccer. Soccer has many names. The English call it "football". Can you say soccer in another language?

That's all for today! I hope you have learned interesting facts about soccer. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 734

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2!

A radiation alert was issued in Australia on Saturday over a missing radioactive capsule. The warning was from authorities in Western Australia. State officials there warned residents of a "radioactive substance risk" in several regions, including the state capital Perth. The search is now on for the tiny capsule, which contains the harmful and radioactive substance Caesium-137*. The capsule is just 8 millimeters high and 6 millimeters wide. However, it contains a sufficient amount of radioactive material to "cause serious health consequences". The capsule went missing as it was being transported from the mining town of Newman to a northeast suburb of Perth. Officials believe it fell through a hole in the truck transporting it.

Caesium-137 is used by the mining industry in Australia. The chief health officer for Western Australia, Andrew Robertson, urged caution to anyone finding the capsule. He warned: "Exposure to this substance could cause radiation burns or severe illness. If people see the capsule or something that looks similar, stay away from it and keep others away from it, too." He added: "If you are very close to the material or touch it, the radiation risk increases immensely and could cause serious damage to your health, including causing radiation burns to the skin." Even being within a metre of the capsule could [expose] someone to radiation levels that are the equivalent of ten X-rays.

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

* Pronounced "see-zee-um"