

Dictation Contest (PR Jr, 初級) No. 752

Hi, everyone. Welcome back to PR Junior.

It was a rainy day and Jessica was coming back from school. She saw her friend Sally playing in the puddle. So Jessica also jumped into the puddle and [they] played together. Sally and Jessica's shoes got wet and mud over [them]. They had to get rid of the mud before going into the house. Jessica used the raindrop to wash off the mud on her shoes. Sally did the same. Their shoes were clean again.

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

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 752

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR 1.

Today, we'll talk about Beethoven and Coffee Beans. Let's begin!

Beethoven was a huge coffee lover. He was also very particular about his food. He limited the food he ate and he drank only wine, mineral water, and coffee. He said to his servants, "You must make my coffee with exactly sixty coffee beans." Then, he counted the beans one by one. I hear that the only thing he had for breakfast every day was his cup of coffee. I wonder if Beethoven's bitter expression was due to his coffee habit.

Do you like coffee? Well, I do, but not as much as Beethoven [did].

Well, that's all for today. See you next time, bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 752

Hi, everyone, and welcome back to another fun episode of PR2!

It's almost the end of the academic year for many of you, so hang in tight, spring break is almost coming!

Today we will learn about flowers:

Have any of you wondered how flowers know when to bloom? They don't have eyes, ears, nor a recognizable brain... but they are still capable of detecting the right season to bloom.

There are, in fact, many stimulants for blooming, including temperature, weather, and most importantly, day length. Let's talk about day length. Plant cells are always equipped with photoreceptors – which are molecules that receive light signals. They can detect different lights of different wavelengths, such as red, far-red, and blue.

When enough daylight is detected by the photoreceptors, proteins travel to the tips of shoots, where molecular changes are underwent. This is the key to flowering.

It must also be noted that different species flower at different optimal day lengths. For instance, rice usually flowers late in the year. Some biotechnologists are attempting to maximize this characteristic, so that they can harvest more. Such genetically altered organisms, as you may know, are called Genetically Modified Organisms.

I hope I've explained the process of flowering in an understandable way. To me, it is fascinating how plants can control certain timings of certain functions to raise their chances of survival.

Anyways, that's a wrap for today – stay warm, happy, and active, and I'll see you again! Bye!