

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 784

Hi, guys! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Let's look at a self-introduction of John on his first day of school.

Good morning everyone. I am John from Brazil. I am turning 15 next month. In my free time, I like to play soccer and badminton. If anyone interested in either of those, please feel free to join me. My favorite food is all kinds of vegetable[s]. However, I am allergic to seafood. I would be grateful if you could tell me when there are seafood products in the dish. Thank you!

That's all for today. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 784

Hello again! This is PR1, and today I want to share some ways to keep cool in hot weather. It is the end of April but the temperature today is 27 degrees Celsius! Coming to InterTOMAS was a lot more tiring than normal. Okay, here we go!

First, try to avoid the sun as much as possible. If you really need to go outside during the hottest time of the day, you can wear some sunscreen and a hat. Make sure to bring a water bottle and to wear light-colored clothes, because darker colors absorb too much heat!

Next, do not be afraid to use air conditioning to keep the house cool. Keeping the curtains and the shutters closed is another effective way to maintain a comfortable space.

Okay – that is all for today. Stay cool, and see you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 784

Hi, everyone! Welcome to PR2.

Today we'll be talking about human psychology. Take a listen:

The social psychologist and writer Daniel Gilbert suggests that human beings are “works in progress that mistakenly think they're finished.” And he claims, “The person you are right now doesn't remain as it is. It is as temporary as all the people you've ever been. The one constant in our lives is change.” Time is a powerful force, he says, and one that perpetually revises our values, personalities, and preferences in everything from music and the places we would like to go to friendship.

Researchers at the University of Edinburgh, who conducted the longest-ever study of the stability of human character, have come to a similar conclusion, finding that those qualities that seemed to mark us as teenagers could be almost gone in our later lives. Characteristics might appear stable over short periods of time but change over decades. The researchers used data taken from a part of the 1947 Scottish Mental Survey, which tracked development in a pool of 70,805 children. They used a smaller sample of 1,208 fourteen-year-olds to study personality stability in the kids as they went from being adolescents to adults. The survey had identified six particular characteristics: self-confidence, determination, mood stability, sincerity, originality, and the desire to learn. In 2012, an attempt was made to track down that same pool of participants and, of those found, 174 agreed to take part in the continued research.

Okay, that's all for now. See you again next time, bye!