

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 793

Hi, everyone! Welcome to PR Junior.

Today I'll be reading a story about a girl and her pony.

Meg showed her how to scrape the mud out of Cracker's foot. That was hard work, too, but Ella wanted to have a go. Ella couldn't wait to ride Cracker. She helped to put on his bridle* and saddle. She did up the girth under his tummy. Cracker was ready to ride! Ella put on a hard hat. She was ready to ride!

That's it for now. Bye, everyone!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 793

Hello, everyone. Welcome back to PR1.

Did you know that the word "spaghetti" comes from the Italian word "spago," which means "string"? It is no wonder, since spaghetti is a type of pasta that is made of long, thin, cylindrical strands of dough. Another fun fact is that spaghetti was not always the popular dish it is today. In fact, it was once considered a food for the wealthy and was only enjoyed by the upper classes in Italy. It wasn't until the late 19th and early 20th centuries that spaghetti became more widely available and popularized, thanks in part to Italian immigrants who brought the dish with them to America. Today, spaghetti is enjoyed all over the world and in many households. It can be served with a variety of sauces and toppings, making it a versatile and delicious meal option.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 793

Hello, everyone! This is another PR2 movie and today I am going to be reading the first half of a text about the history of parachutes. Listen closely to learn about how they came to be!

Scientists who study archeology say that there may be some evidence of prehistoric parachutes. But the first written history of the device comes from China about 2,100 years ago. Scientists cite an ancient book that describes parachutes. However, there is no archeological evidence that proves that an actual parachute was ever made. Later, people from northern Africa and Italy also had ideas about a similar invention. In fact, a Leonardo Da Vinci drawing corresponds closely with the modern parachute design!

In 1783, French scientist Sebastian Lenormand invented the first modern parachute. Sebastian brainstormed with other scientists to come up with a way to help people jump safely out of burning buildings. He thought the solution was to give people an object to restrict their speed while they traveled toward the ground. Many people thought that he was up to some kind of fraud, but Sebastian had a lot of integrity. His budget was limited, so he first tested his theory by using two umbrellas.

That was all for today! Come back next time to find out more about how parachutes came to be. Take care and I will see you then! Bye-bye!