

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 805

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is the tenth part of a story called *The Magic Key*. Let's begin!

The bird flew to a tree.

"Look in its nest," said Charlie.

Nathan climbed the tree.

"Be careful," called Bill.

Nathan looked in the bird's nest. It was full of shiny things. Nathan gasped.

"What beautiful things!" he said.

That was all for today. I hope you liked it and I'll see you next time! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 805

Hi, everyone, and welcome to PR1.

The winter has passed and spring is coming so I am worried that you might be suffering from hay fever. Let's look at how to cope with hay fever together today. Take a listen!

People may have an image of getting hay fever in spring, but in fact, this can happen during summer and fall, too. Hay fever triggers include tree pollen, which is common in early spring, grass pollen in late spring and summer, and ragweed pollen in fall. Moreover, dust mites and dander from pets can trigger this too. Unfortunately, there's no way to avoid getting hay fever. If you have hay fever, the best thing to do is to lessen your exposure to the allergens that cause your symptoms. Take allergy medications before you're exposed to allergens, as directed by your health care provider.

That's all for today. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 805

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today we are going to talk about the fall of two mega banks, Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) and Credit Suisse. Let's take a look at the different challenges that led to their failures.

SVB, a bank that specializes in serving technology startups, faced several issues related to its lending practices. In 2019, it was reported that SVB had been overextending loans to startups, resulting in a higher-than-average default rate. This, coupled with concerns over the bank's ability to manage risk, led to increased regulatory scrutiny and a decline in investor confidence. As a result, the bank's stock price fell significantly, and it had to make changes to its lending practices and leadership team.

Credit Suisse, on the other hand, faced a different set of challenges related to its investment banking practices. In 2021, the bank was embroiled in the collapse of Archegos Capital Management, a hedge fund that had taken on large positions in several companies using highly leveraged trades. When these positions soured, Credit Suisse was left with significant losses, leading to a decline in its stock price and reputational damage. This followed similar issues that the bank faced with the collapse of Greensill Capital, a supply-chain finance firm that it had provided funding to.

Both banks have faced significant challenges in recent years, highlighting the importance of sound risk management and [governance] practices in the financial industry.

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