

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 880

Hello! How is everyone doing?

Since it is a beautiful summer day today, let's learn about summer birds!

One popular example is the swallow. They travel from Southeast [Asian countries] like Vietnam and the Philippines to Japan in the springtime. This is about 2,000 to 5,000 kilometers. Wow!

They come to Japan to lay eggs, and return to Southeast Asia in the fall.

That's all, see you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 880

Hey, guys! How's it going?

Over the past few weeks, I've been talking a lot with students about summer vacation. And I have been asked many times, "Do you have plans for summer vacation?" – which means I've had to say many times that I don't have a summer vacation. I'm not a student so I don't get any designated time off at certain times of year. I can take a vacation in the summer season if I choose to, but like most working adults, I generally work all year round.

So usually, when adults are talking about their summer plans, we ask each other, "Do you have any plans for summer?" – not "summer vacation".

In England, many people like to go on holiday during the summer, but we have to request that time off from our boss first. So, now you know!

See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 880

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today we'll be discussing how our memories tend to get shaped by internal influences.

Let's begin.

When we think back on emotional events from the past, our memories tend to be distorted by internal influences. One way this can happen is through sharing our memories with others, something that most of us are likely to do after important life events—whether it's calling our family to tell them some exciting news, reporting back to our boss about a big problem at work, or even giving a statement to police. In these kinds of situations we are transferring information that was originally received visually into verbal information. We are turning inputs from our five senses into words. But this process is imperfect: every time we take images, sounds, or smells and verbalize them, we potentially alter or lose information. There is a limit to the amount of detail we are able to communicate through language, so we have to cut corners. We simplify. This is a process known as “verbal overshadowing,” a term invented by psychologist Jonathan Schooler. Schooler, a researcher at the University of Pittsburg, published the first set of studies on verbal overshadowing in 1990 with his colleague Tonya Engstler-Schooler. Their main study involved participants watching a video of a bank robbery for 30 seconds.

Alright, that's it for now! See you in class, bye!