

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 887

Hi, hello, everyone!

It is a hot, humid day today, so I hope you are staying cool.

Let's talk about ice cream! It is a popular snack during the summer.

Many people like vanilla, chocolate, or strawberry-flavored ice cream.

For me, lemon shaved ice is my favorite! The sour flavor cools me down every time, but I have to be real careful bringing it home because it melts so quickly!

How about you? What is your favorite ice cream? Let me know next time!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 887

Hi, everyone! Welcome to PR1.

Today we'll be discussing the aging population in various countries. Let's begin.

The elderly population is increasing in developed countries in North America, Western Europe, and parts of Asia like Japan and Korea. Aging comes with many challenges. Because the elderly typically no longer hold jobs, there may be many people who have to live on a small amount of money. Many had planned to spend their later years without worrying about money. However, they are now afraid of the cost of the years ahead of them. Governments of developed countries are facing common aging problems, including a lower working-age population and higher health care costs.

Wow, this is some serious stuff. I wonder what we can do to solve this problem.

Think about it for a while. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 886

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR 2!

Today I will talk about the fourth and the last part of the text on the history of potatoes!

Let's begin!

A century of farmer selection produced a variety that set tubers earlier in the summer, and the potato took the mantle it would carry for centuries: the staple crop of peasants. Villagers prized potatoes because they provided an unmatched nutritional yield per hectare. In Ireland in particular, tenants rented the land they tilled, so as lords increased their fees, they were forced to produce as much food as possible in the smallest possible area. "No crop produced more food per acre, demanded less cultivation, and stored as easily as the potato," wrote sociologist James Lang in his book *Notes of a Potato Watcher*. Potatoes contain nearly every important vitamin and nutrient, except vitamins A and D, making their life-supporting properties unrivalled by any other single crop. Keep their skin and add some dairy, which provides the two missing vitamins, and you have a healthy human diet staple. You even have 2 grams of protein for every 100 grams of potato; eat 5.5 kilos per adult per day, if one's to believe some estimates of consumption in mid-1600s Ireland, and you have a good supply.

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