

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 900

Hi, children! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is Part Three of the story on a dragon and a knight. Listen carefully.

"I don't think so," said Amy. "It's a wooden door and dragons breathe fire!"

"Oh," said the man. "I didn't think of that."

"There haven't been any dragons here for years," explained another gatekeeper. "Usually they stay far off in the mountains."

Well, I hope I never come across a dragon in real-life. That's all for now. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 900

Hi, guys! Welcome back to PR1.

Let's read the story of the thirsty crow today.

One summer, there was no rain, and it was very hot. The crow was very thirsty, but he couldn't find any water.

Then he saw a farmhouse. There was a vase with some water at the bottom. He tried to drink, but his short beak couldn't reach the water inside.

He tried knocking over the vase, but it was too heavy. Then he tried breaking it, but he wasn't strong enough. Finally, he had a good idea. He began dropping stones into the vase. The water slowly rose to the top and the crow could drink at last.

Well, that's it for the story of the thirsty crow. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 900

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

One fascinating aspect of [the] human body during the space travel is the phenomenon known as "space adaptation syndrome," commonly referred to as space sickness. It is experienced by many astronauts when they first enter the microgravity environment of space. When astronauts leave Earth's gravity and enter space, their inner ear, which plays a crucial role in maintaining balance and orientation on Earth, becomes somewhat confused. On Earth, the inner ear senses gravity's pull, helping us stay upright and navigate our surroundings. However, in the weightlessness of space, the inner ear no longer receives [this] gravitational feedback, leading to a sensory mismatch. As a result, astronauts may experience symptoms like nausea, vomiting, and dizziness and disorientation. Interestingly, space sickness affects different people to varying degrees. Some astronauts adapt quickly and experience only mild symptoms, while others may struggle with more severe discomfort.

Scientists and space agencies have developed several strategies to help astronauts cope with space sickness. These include medications, special exercises, and gradually [acclimating] astronauts to the space environment before they engage in mission-critical activities. Space sickness is a reminder of how intricately the human body is adapted to life on Earth and how space travel challenges these adaptations. Over time, most astronauts adapt to the microgravity environment, and the symptoms of space sickness typically subside. Understanding and addressing these challenges are crucial for the success of long-duration space missions, such as those aimed at exploring Mars or establishing a permanent presence on the Moon.

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