

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 929

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, I will talk about a new kind of service. Let's begin.

Nowadays, many people are interested in having a pet. However, when pets become sick or get hurt, the cost of medical treatment can be high. To deal with this, it is a good idea for pet owners to get insurance that covers pets' medical costs. Some companies offer such insurance, and by doing so, they try to meet the needs of pet owners.

That's all for today. See you soon!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 929

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR1.

Today I will tell you the story about pictograms. Let's take a listen.

Have you heard of pictograms? You can find them everywhere in Tokyo and around the world. You may see and use them a lot in your daily life. Thanks to pictograms, it is easy for us to find the place we want to go to, such as airports, train stations, or hotels. A pictogram is a symbol which expresses objects, concepts, events, or directions. In other words, ideas and information are shown through drawings. Pictograms are so simple that they can be easily understood, even by foreign tourists. Even if it is hard for them to speak or understand Japanese, they would find pictograms very helpful.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 929

Gobble gobble! Welcome back to PR 2. In case you didn't know, "gobble gobble" is the English onomatopoeia for turkeys.

As promised, today we are learning about the Native Americans' perspective on Thanksgiving. Without further ado, let's begin!

When we learned about Thanksgiving in the U.S., we were taught that the Pilgrims and Native Americans had friendly interactions with each other. However, the peace was short lived. After landing in present-day Massachusetts, Pilgrims often stormed through the indigenous towns to kidnap Native people for the slavery trade. Moreover, the rapid spread of European diseases wiped out 90% of the indigenous population.

Further, when the Pilgrims arrived, the first things that they did was to rob Wampanoag grave sites and steal as much of their winter provisions of corn and beans as they were able to carry. They must have been starving, but hunger will never justify their wrongful actions.

For a brief moment in history though, the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags were allies. The Pilgrims offered European weaponry in exchange for food from the Wamapanoags. The Pilgrims were hungry and the Wampanoags were desperate to fight off a neighboring tribe called the Narragansetts. It was a beneficial relationship that led to the first Thanksgiving festival by the Pilgrims that we know today.

Despite the brief moment of peace, we must not forget the acts of violence committed by the colonizers. I hope that was educational; that is all for today. See you next time!