

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 936

Good afternoon, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Do you know what Thanksgiving is? It is a very special day in the U.S., because many people eat a feast of turkey, stuffing, pumpkin pie, and more. Thanksgiving is a holiday to remember the kindness of Native Americans who taught Europeans how to find food in the New World. I always eat way too much during Thanksgiving, but it is a great event for gathering with family members!

Anyways, that is all for today. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 936

Hi! Welcome back to PR1. Today, we will be talking about the Super Bowl. Let's begin.

Many Americans love watching sports such as baseball, basketball, and soccer. But the most popular sport to watch is American football. Every year, there is a special American football game called the Super Bowl. The two best professional football teams play in this game. The first Super Bowl game was in 1967. A team called the Green Bay Packers won that game. Two teams have won the Super Bowl many times. There are the Pittsburgh Steelers and the New England Patriots at the top. Both teams have won it six times. Many different teams have played in the Super Bowl.

That's all for today. Hopefully you can watch a real American football game someday. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 936

Hi, everyone! This is PR 2.

Are you ready? Let's start!

What is the best way to help kids who struggle in school? As education becomes ever more important in today's high-tech world, both parents and educators are facing this difficult issue. One common approach taken by parents is to seek help outside the classroom by paying for private tutoring. To study the effectiveness of this, educational scientist Hans-Ulrich Grunder of the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland compared the grades of Swiss schoolchildren who were privately tutored with those of schoolchildren who only attended regular classes. The study showed that private tutoring seldom improves children's grades. Grunder's team surveyed more than 10,000 schoolchildren, recording their scores at three-month intervals. Although some schoolchildren who received private tutoring reported that their confidence in the subject increased, it was rare for tutoring to boost their test scores significantly.

A more effective solution may be for schools to change the classroom environment. In a study by a team from the University of Salford in the United Kingdom, researchers spent three years collecting performance statistics from 3,766 schoolchildren in 153 classrooms from schools around England. They found that providing a pleasant educational setting can improve children's progress in reading, writing, and math by up to 16 percent in a year. Factors such as amount of daylight, temperature, and indoor air quality were found to have the greatest effect, followed by features such as room layout and wall colour. Based on this, the researchers urge schools to consider simple yet cost-effective factors in classroom design when working to improve schoolchildren's performance.

That's all for today. Bye-bye!