

**Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 940**

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Last time, we talked about the changing of the seasons and how, according to the temperature, it seems we have skipped autumn and gone straight to winter! But the autumn colors are already appearing. Do you know any good spots in Tokyo for seeing the autumn leaves? I know Showa-Kinen Park is good, and Ginko Ave near Gaien-Mae is very beautiful, but if you know some other places where I can take nice photos, please let me know!

See you next time!

**Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 940**

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR 1!

Today, I would like to talk about the Rugby World Cup that took place in France this summer.

If you had been paying attention to the news, you probably know that South Africa won this time. They competed against New Zealand in the final round, winning by just one point! It was a rain-soaked night at Stade de France, and although New Zealand must have been devastated by the loss, coach Ian Foster expressed that he is "incredibly proud of the way the team fought." What great sportsmanship they have!

South Africa has a strong team that has never lost a final in their four appearances in rugby's biggest game.

Anyways, that is all that I have today. Thanks for listening and see you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 940

Hi! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, we will be talking about some evidences of evolution. Let's begin!

Most evidence of evolution was originally found in fossils. Fossils can preserve the structure of an organism in many ways, and they give us a really good idea of what certain organisms looked like throughout Earth's long history. However, [the] fossil record isn't complete. The conditions needed to preserve an organism as a fossil are rare, so there will always be gaps in the fossil record. But it is becoming more complete with each new discovery. One area of evidence for evolution is embryology, the study of embryos. Comparing the embryological development of multiple species helps us understand that many species share characteristics in their early development. All these vertebrates, for instance, have muscles arranged in groups or bundles, and a tail. Also, they each have hard, protective coverings over the brain. So, we're not so different after all.

Living species also give us clues about evolution. For example, many species today have homologous\* structures, or similar body structures. Some examples of homologous structures are human arms, bird wings, whale flippers, dog forearms, and frog forelimbs. The similarity between body structures gives us information about the origin of each species and about shared common ancestors. Vestigial structures, which are body structures that no longer have a function, provide more clues about evolution. A vestigial structure is a remnant from an ancestor species.

So, that's all for today. See you in the next video! Bye!

\* pronounced "huh-mol-o-gus"