

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 957

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Last time we talked a bit about the Christmas season in Japan and the U.K.

But one thing that is popular in both countries is the Christmas market.

In the U.K, the Christmas or European markets are a nice atmospheric place where you can buy all kinds of traditional foods, crafts, and hot drinks. In Japan, the Christmas markets are a little more basic but still nice. However, they've become so popular that it is difficult to visit these days. Have you ever been?

See you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 957

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR.1

Have you ever been to Uruguay? Today, let me tell you about this country.

The country of Uruguay in South America is a fun place to be during the months of February and March. During that time, there is a festival called "Carnival".

Carnival is held in many countries around the world. But in Uruguay, Carnival has its own special musical performance.

At that time of the year, it is summer in Uruguay. Everybody goes into the streets, from old people to children. There are people dancing, singing, and playing a special kind of music. The kind of dance and music is called "Murga".

It is very interesting, isn't it?

This is all for today. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 957

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

[In the] last few videos, we learnt about the dynamic behind sales. Now, let's talk about how to spend your money more effectively! Let's begin.

It's really hard to always approach sales rationally — even experts struggle. Barraza says during the last holiday season, he almost bought a video-game system simply because it was on sale. Deals and sales certainly can be good and useful. And Barraza underscores that prices are subjective, so a discount may be unattractive to one person but appealing to another. One buying strategy experts recommend is to make a shopping list in advance and then, stick to it. Another is to research items — beforehand or on the spot, checking online — to weigh whether the sale really is a good deal. The main thing is give yourself time to cool off from your instant reaction. The ability to think can override the emotional state. "The more you spend time thinking and bring your cognitive processes to bear, the more you have a shot at basically saying, 'No, I think I'm going to pass,' even though that wasn't your first inclination." In fact, this is what stopped Barraza from buying that gaming system: Standing behind about 20 people in line to check out, he had time to ponder whether he actually wanted the thing or was simply swept up in the excitement of a sale. "I was saved by that line," he says. "A little bit of time can go a long way."

Remember: we feel first and think later. Your internal accountant just needs a moment.

That's all! Bye-bye!