

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 969

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR Junior.

Today I am going to tell you about the reason why he is Drippy. Let's start.

All of Drippy's brothers and sisters and his cousins stayed on their blades of grass. But Drippy kept dripping down to the ground. That is why his mother, Mrs. Dewdrop, named him Drippy. It waved in the breeze, blown back and forth by the [wind].

That's all for today, see you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 969

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, I will talk about moving mountains. Let's begin.

Have you ever heard of The Ring of Fire? It might sound like something straight out of science fiction, but it is a real place. The Ring of Fire is the name used by scientists to describe an area where frequent volcanic eruptions and earthquakes take place. In fact, about 75% of the world's 1,900 active and dormant – or inactive – volcanoes are located there. In some parts of the world, giant pieces of Earth's crust called plates are constantly in motion. They collide and slowly slide over, under, and past one another. The Ring of Fire is located at the juncture of the Pacific Plate, with several other plates.

So, that all for today. See ya!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 969

Happy New Year, everyone! Did you have an enjoyable winter vacation?

We all know that in Japan, the first three days of January are meant for family and friends to gather and eat celebratory meals while relaxing and watching television. However, not everyone got to experience this; I'm sure you heard about the 7.6-magnitude earthquake that struck the Noto Peninsula on January 1st, so let's see how Reuters reported this in English!

A powerful earthquake struck central Japan on Monday, killing at least one person, destroying buildings, knocking out power to tens of thousands of homes and [prompting] residents in some coastal areas to flee to higher ground.

The quake with a preliminary magnitude of 7.6 triggered waves of about one meter along Japan's west coast and neighboring South Korea.

The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) initially issued a major tsunami warning – its first since the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that struck northeast Japan killing nearly 20,000 people – for Ishikawa prefecture. It later downgraded that and eventually cut it to an advisory.

It was the strongest quake in the region in more than four decades, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Houses were destroyed, fires broke out and army personnel were dispatched to help with rescue operations, government spokesperson Yoshimasa Hayashi told reporters.

You must've also heard about the Japan Coast Guard plane accident on the following day. We'll cover this another time. That's it for today – see you next time!