

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 971

Hey, guys! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, you are going to listen to a story about modern tea.

Today, people enjoy tea in many other ways. Tea is often used in food dishes. In Japan, some types of noodles such as soba and udon may have green tea mixed in them. Different teas are also used in desserts, for example, cookies or ice cream. Some people eat the tea leaf itself because they believe it is good for their health.

That is all for today, bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 971

Hi, everyone! This is PR1. Are you ready? Let's start.

Many people are sitting in the reception room at the Ace Employment Service. They are all looking for work, and they are hoping they can find jobs today.

Natalie is looking for a job as a secretary. She can type, she can file, and she can use business software on the computer.

William is looking for a job as a building superintendent. He can paint walls, he can repair locks, and he can fix stoves and refrigerators.

Sandra is looking for a job as a construction worker. She can use tools, she can operate equipment, and she can build things.

Nick is looking for a job as a salesperson. He can talk to customers, he can use a cash register, and he can take inventory.

Stephanie and Tiffany are looking for jobs as actresses. They can sing, they can dance, and they can act.

Good luck, everybody! We hope you find the jobs you are looking for.

That's all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 971

Hello, everyone. Welcome to PR 2.

Today's topic is about [the] history of vacuum cleaners. Let's begin.

In 1898, an aspiring young inventor, H. Cecil Booth, attended an exhibition at London's Empire Music Hall, where an American was demonstrating a new "dust-removing" machine. A metal box topped with a bag of compressed air, the device forced air down into a carpet, causing dirt and dust to billow up into the box. Booth was unimpressed. A lot of dust missed the box and resettled on the carpet. Questioning the inventor about the possibility of sucking up dust instead, Booth was told that many people had tried but none had succeeded. Booth thought about suction for several days. Then, as he later wrote of his own invention, "I tried the experiment of sucking with my mouth against the back of a velvet seat in a restaurant on Victoria Street." He choked violently on dust but was inspired. The secret, Booth realized, would be to find the right kind of filtering bag to pass air and trap dust. At home, he lay on the floor and, with various kinds of fabrics over his lips, experimented. Dust seemed to be collected nicely by a tightly woven cloth handkerchief. He patented his suction cleaner in 1901. That first commercial vacuum cleaner was huge, the size of a modern refrigerator. With a pump, a dust-collecting chamber*, and the power unit, it had to be transported on a cart, pulled along London streets from an office to a theater to a private home.

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

* pronounced "chaym-ber"