

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 978

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

This is the eighth part of a story called *French Adventure*. Let's begin!

The children helped the man pull the cart into the hall.

The man pulled a sheet off the cart. "This is my model," he said.

"What is it?" asked Nadia.

"It is a torch," said the man. "It will be taller than all the houses in Paris."

That was all for today. I hope you liked the story. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 978

Hey, guys! Welcome back to PR1.

We talk about time every day. We measure it by the second, minute, hour, day, week, month and year. But what is time? No one can say exactly what it is. It is one of the greatest mysteries of our lives. It makes our way of life possible. All the members of a group have to measure time in the same way. Time lets us put things in a definite order. Time enables us to organize our lives. The earliest people saw changes around them. They saw day and night, the changes of the moon, and the seasons. They started measuring their lives [by] these change[s]. Then people started inventing clocks. It is said the Chinese invented a water clock in the eleventh century BC.

That is all for today! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 978

Hello, my PR2 friends!

Today is Saturday, January 20th. Last night, JAXA announced that its robotic explorer successfully landed on the moon. This is a breaking point in Japanese space exploration, as the country becomes just the fifth country to land a craft on the moon, after the U.S., Russia, China and India.

As much as we want to celebrate the news, the spacecraft is already facing critical challenges. Sources explain that the craft's solar panels are not generating energy. Currently, the craft is operating on its limited battery power, and as a result, the mission may end prematurely. JAXA officials suspect that the spacecraft is not pointing towards the right angle.

There is hope that as the solar angle changes on the moon, the solar cell may be able to charge again, but that may take some time and will depend on whether SLIM, the spacecraft, can survive the frigid lunar night, according to the team during a news conference.

Despite the challenges, the agency believes the mission has met the criteria to declare [it] a "minimum success," because the spacecraft achieved a precise and soft lunar landing using optical navigation. On landing, SLIM successfully deployed two mini-probes that would have taken pictures of the spacecraft and were slowly sending them to the earth, JAXA said. Tech giant Sony Group and several Japanese universities jointly developed the robots.

That's all from me! See you next time!