

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 992

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Last time, we talked about snow in Tokyo, and how it usually only snows on one or two days a year. But of course it snows much more often in other parts of Japan.

Have you visited any snowy places this season?

In the past, I have seen lots of snow in Nagano, and a little in Sapporo, but this year I went to a different snowy place for the first time. That place was Ginzan Onsen! Have you been there before?

Let's talk about it next time! Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 992

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, I am going to talk about The CANUSA Games. Let's begin.

The CANUSA Games is similar to the Olympics Games. It is an international sports event that is held every year. The two cities of Flint, Michigan, and Hamilton, Ontario, compete in many sports such as basketball and soccer. The name "CANUSA" comes from the two host countries' names: "Canada" and "USA". It started in 1958 in Flint. The next year, it was in Hamilton. Hundreds of athletes from the two countries do homestays with host families. At the beginning of the event, there is a parade and festival. At the end, there is an award ceremony. The CANUSA Games is an excellent experience for young people.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 992

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

The topic for today is the present situation of coral reefs. Let's begin!

Around the world, scientists are working on methods to help coral reefs recover faster [and] on a larger scale than before. But as coral faces existential threats, including a steady increase in the intensity and duration of marine heat waves, experts warn that these solutions need to go hand in hand with action on global warming if they are to bring lasting improvements. The ocean absorbs 90% of the heat caused by human-driven climate change. Warming oceans are a huge problem for coral reefs as they require temperatures to stay within the range of 26.1 to 28.8 [degrees] Celsius to remain healthy, grow, and reproduce. Current predictions estimate that 99% of coral could succumb to marine heatwaves by the 2030s if global temperatures continue to rise at the current rate. This would have dramatic consequences not just for corals, but for the wider reef ecosystems. Although coral reefs only occupy 0.1% of the seafloor, 25% of all named marine species live in reef systems and an estimated one billion people benefit directly or indirectly from coral reefs. Coral ecosystems face a host of threats ranging from increasing ocean acidification to a rise in coral diseases but the steady and alarming increase in ocean surface temperatures poses the most ubiquitous and ominous problem.

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