

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 993

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior!

Today I will talk about “otaku”. Let’s begin!

Have you ever heard the word “otaku”? An otaku is a person who likes animes and comics very much and collects many character items. Some of them even make simple animation movies and give their own ideas to animation companies. People used to think otakus are strange, but now they are playing a very important role in our culture.

That’s all for today! See you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 993

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR1.

Today I will tell you the story about [the] Tokyo Olympic[s]. Let’s take a listen.

For the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, the metropolitan expressway network played [a] key role in the transportation of athletes and staff. Similarly, the metropolitan expressways in and around the capital are expected to be the main roads for thousands of cars and buses carrying athletes and staff in the 2020 games. The problem is that the usual traffic jams of the metropolitan expressway may become twice as serious with the addition of thousands more cars and buses for the games if no steps are taken to reduce the traffic. The traffic control tests started on Wednesday, and tried to cut the number of cars and buses coming into the metropolitan expressway.

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

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 993

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Tea, a beloved and revered* beverage, has a history that spans centuries and a cultural significance that transcends borders. The word "tea" itself has a fascinating origin, stemming from various languages such as "cha" in Chinese, "chai" in Hindi, and "te" in Japanese, all referring to the same soothing infusion. Tea is not just a drink; it's an integral part of our global heritage, steeped in tradition and innovation.

The origins of tea can be traced back to ancient China, where it was first discovered over 4,000 years ago. Legend has it that Emperor Shen Nong accidentally stumbled upon tea when tea leaves blew into his boiling water, creating a delightful infusion. From there, tea culture blossomed in China, with the art of tea preparation becoming a revered* practice.

Tea's journey continued as it spread along the Silk Road, capturing the hearts of people in neighboring countries like Japan and Korea. During the British colonial era, tea found its way to the West and became a symbol of elegance and refinement. The Boston Tea Party in 1773 even played a pivotal role in American history.

Today, tea has evolved into a global phenomenon, with a vast array of flavors, types, and preparation methods. Whether it's the matcha tea ceremonies in Japan, the afternoon tea rituals in England, or the bold flavors of Indian chai, tea remains a versatile and cherished beverage that brings people together, reflecting the rich tapestry of our shared human experience.

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

* Pronounced "re-veerd"