

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 1013

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Let's learn about Bergen city today.

Bergen is a city in Norway. Its weather is cold, and perfect for skiing. The seven mountains around the city are covered in thick snow. It is known for Bergen Port. Over 300 cruise ships make a stop every year. You can sail past mountains, waterfalls, and fields. Norwegians really love the outdoors. Norwegians like eating fish and seafood, especially salmon, shrimps, and lobster. They also enjoy fresh bread and smoked salmon for lunch.

That's it. See you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 1013

Hello, everyone! Welcome to PR1.

I will talk about environmental problems.

There is a lot of food to eat in Japan. We can enjoy many different kinds of food such as Japanese food, Chinese food, and American food. It is easy for Japanese people to get it. There are many good places to eat at, even in small towns. These days more and more people show a lot of interest in food, and TV shows about food are also very popular. But do you know that there are many problems with our food? Take shrimp, for example. Today we eat a lot of shrimp. In 1960, only 625 tons of shrimp came from abroad, but about 300,000 tons of shrimp ~~that~~ came from abroad last year.

That was the first half of the story. Let's continue next time, bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 1013

Greetings, everyone! Welcome back to another PR2 video!

We're almost seeing an end to this year's college entrance exam season – and for those of you taking entrance exams, I hope you're staying warm and well-nourished. In the U.S. we have a slightly different exam culture compared to Japan.

I entered my current college through the American method, which consists of 2 essays and scores from standardized tests such as TOEFL and the ACT. I also needed 2 recommendation letters from my teachers. Instead of academic excellence as valued in many Japanese universities, many American colleges and universities emphasize volunteer work, extracurricular activities, and the uniqueness of the applicant. It is also criticized that American universities openly show their favoritism towards wealthy donors, full-[pay] applicants, and those with political connections, by increasing their chances of being accepted. It is evident that biases exist in the American college admissions system, but also in Japanese universities, as some medical schools have discriminated female applicants in the past.

Sorry, that was a depressing topic and probably not the best story to share during this season. Getting back on topic though, I believe that the American admissions system helped me realize my strengths and weaknesses, and allowed me to express them in a tangible way through my personal statement.

Anyways, let's wrap up here for today. Eat well, sleep well, and I'll see you next time!