

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 1085

Hi, everyone! This is PR Junior.

Today, let's listen to [a] talk between two people.

A: Excuse me, is there a hospital nearby?

B: Yes. There is a hospital on Asahi Street.

A: On Asahi Street? Where is it?

B: It is between the library and station.

A: Thank you, can I ask one more question? Is there a supermarket nearby?

B: Yes, it is on Fujimi Street, around the corner from the police station.

A: Thank you very much!

That is all for today. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 1085

Hey, everyone!

Welcome back to the PR1 dictation challenge!

The Onin war was a war between two powerful families in Japan. They were fighting over which family gets to become part of the shogunate. The battles happened in Kyoto! There was a lot of damage to the city. This war was the first war of the sensou-jidai, or in English, the "Period of Warring States". I find this time in history to be very interesting. There are a lot of similarities with the War of the Roses. In history, it was very common to see people battle over power. A famous person that came from this event is Oda Nobunaga. Many of you may already know about him. He became the first person to unify all of Japan.

The sensou-jidai has so much interesting history and I recommend you to learn more.

Thank you!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 1085

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR2!

Today I will talk about how theaters in the U.S. have been evolving after the COVID-19 pandemic. Let's begin!

Since 2019, the number of total screens in the U.S. have decreased by around 3,000 to just under 40,000.

This consolidation was a direct result of the COVID pandemic, which shut down theaters for a time and triggered a surge in streaming subscriptions. A number of regional chains have [shuttered] for good, while others were left to reevaluate their financial footing. For many, that meant closing locations or selling off leases.

Theaters have been forced to innovate, even as Hollywood production returns to normal and studios offer more movies for release than they were able to during the earlier stages of the pandemic.

As the space contracts, cinema operators are investing in the basics, improving sounds, picture quality, and seating, as well as in bolstering its food and beverage offerings, events, and alternative programming. The aim is to improve the baseline experience for moviegoers regardless of the type of ticket they purchase.

"We do better when people get in the habit of seeing," said Larry Etter, senior vice president at family-owned regional chain Malco Theatres. "And I think that's what's going to happen. I think we're going to recreate the habitual effect that on Friday nights or Saturday nights or whatever it is, we're gonna go to the movies."

That's all for today! See you!