

Dictation Contest (PRjr, 初級) No. 259

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to Tomas!

Today, I am going to talk to you about my new mask.

Do you like it? Actually I bought three new masks. They are all black and they match my outfit. How about you? Do you have a mask?

I see! You do have! What colour is your mask?

I see! I look forward to seeing you wear it at Tomas!

So, this is all for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 259

Hello, everybody! How are you?

Welcome to PR1! Today, I have an article about a girl whose brother is a sailor. A sailor is a person who operates or works on a boat or ship, or a person in the navy who is not an officer. Please take a listen to this:

Kana's brother, Thomas, has been away from home for more than eight months. He is a sailor and was on a long voyage to the Middle East. Next Saturday, Kana and her parents will go to a ceremony onboard his ship to welcome Thomas back home. When Kana sees her brother wearing his uniform, she is very proud of him. During his vacation at home, they plan to go surfing together at the beach near their home.

I will see you next time. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 259

Hey, guys! How are you doing?

Hope you're all still staying healthy and safe.

I have another science news story for you here that, like last time, relates to a prehistoric Earth, so take a listen to this:

Scientists have discovered a new species of ancient winged shark that fed on plankton eons before the emergence of giant manta rays, according to new research published March 18th. The species, *Aquilolamna milarcae*, which lived around 93 million years ago, was discovered in the northeast of Mexico. The specimen in question measured around 1.65 meters in length and has a fin span of 1.9 meters. The species, nicknamed “eagle shark”, had extremely long pectoral fins reminiscent of wings. Authors of the study, published in the journal *Science*, said the “bizarre” creature probably swam very slowly and was unlikely to have been able to hunt for food.

Ah. Now, when I first read this headline, “Scientists find fossil of winged shark”, I thought, “oh, man, flying sharks?!” and excitedly imagined some cool but terrifying creature straight out of a fantasy or sci-fi world... but no. In reality, it probably resembles something halfway between a shark and a ray, which is a little less awesome, but it's still a cool discovery, nonetheless!

Alright, guys, well until next time – and as always – study hard, stay safe, and I'll see you soon.