

**Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 286**

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, I have two friends who are talking going to the movies. Let's Begin:

Hi, Amy! Would you like to go to the movies next Saturday?

Well, I'm sorry, but I can't. I'll go shopping with Meghan. How about next Sunday?

Okay, let's go on Sunday! What time and where will we meet?

How about 3 o'clock at the station?

Sure! I'll see you on Sunday.

See you then!

Well that's all for today and we'll see you in class. Bye-bye!

**Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 286**

Hey, guys! How's it going?

Now, I know a lot of you like to read novels or storybooks, so are any of you reading a novel at the moment? I don't read as much as I'd like to, but I recently started reading this science fiction novel called *Children of Time*. I'm not sure about the plot yet, but the story seems to be about a distant future where the last surviving members of the human race are looking for a new home. Right from the beginning, there's lots of exciting action and mystery and it changes between character perspectives in quite an interesting way. So, it already seems pretty good. Do you know any other good sci-fi novels I should read? Let me know, okay?

Alright, guys, see you next time!

## Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 286

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I have a text about America's obsession with thinness. Take a listen:

America's models and actresses seem to get thinner every year, and so naturally their female fans also yearn to be thin. Despite the criticisms of many people, the fashion industry continues to dictate an unrealistic criterion of beauty. Thus, many women continue to be dissatisfied with their own shape and to experience an irresistible urge to lose weight. Yet until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a plump body, far from being a source of disgrace, was seen as wholesome and attractive. So what made American women begin to aspire to being impossibly thin?

According to Sarah Lohman, a historian, Americans were originally much stouter than Europeans. This was because they were able to feast on the abundant food produced on their extensive territory. Then, the ideal of beauty began to change, and a prejudice against plump people developed. Furthermore, the growth of food science created a greater awareness of the importance of fitness and moderation in eating. By the 1920s, the modern obsession with dieting had begun, and with it the misery of countless women trying to become thinner than nature intended them to be.

Well, that's all for today and I'll see you in class. Bye-bye!