

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 414

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, I brought you part three of the story about a pumpkin. Let's begin.

The next day, Daddy snipped the pumpkin from the vine. Mommy helped Daddy throw the pumpkin to the truck. Lily batted at the pumpkin. "That's not a ball, Lily," said Mommy.

"That's our blue ribbon pumpkin." Daddy tied Lily up.

"Sorry Lily," he said. "But we can't let you mess up our blue ribbon pumpkin."

Okay that's it for today. See you next time!

Dictation Contest (PR1, 中級) No. 414

Hi everyone! Welcome back to PR1.

Today I'm going to tell you about two more big cities of the world. Let's begin!

Shanghai is the largest city in China, with a population of over 14 million people. It was founded in 1553 and is on the east coast. Shanghai is known for its spectacular skyline, the famous Nanjing Road shopping area, and its busy port.

Rio de Janeiro, with a population of around 11 million people, is one of the biggest cities in Brazil. It was founded in 1565 and is famous for its carnival, beaches, and a large statue on a mountain looking over the city.

I would love to go there one day! Would you?

That is all for today. See you next time! Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 414

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR2.

Today, I have the second half of the text called, 'Changing Places'. Take a listen.

Back in the 1860s the Republican Party eagerly embraced a policy of massive federal spending which was used to help build the transcontinental railroad, to establish state universities, and to settle the West. They also stressed a need for fairness, and passed laws, for example, that protected African Americans from discrimination. At this time, the Democrats dominated the South and they opposed all these measures. On the other hand, the Republicans were very happy for the federal government to foot the bill for expensive policies. So what caused the two parties to modify their perspectives so dramatically?

The transformation was first heralded by a shift in Democratic policies around the start of the 20th century. After the Civil War, all politicians wished to win the support of poor settlers in the West, and both parties supported government spending. The Republicans, however, mainly represented big business interests who had benefited from the boom caused by building the railroads. These businesses wanted to curb both taxation and public spending. As a result, the two parties diverged, and the Republicans became aggressive critics of federal spending, who urged the need to cut back on federal programs.

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