

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 584

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, I have a story about a donkey. Take a listen.

Once upon a time, a man and his son were taking their Donkey to the market. As they were walking along, a countryman passed them and said: "You fools, what is a Donkey for but to ride on?"

So, the Man put his boy on the Donkey. But soon they passed another man, who said: "What a lazy boy. He lets his father walk while he rides."

Well, that's all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 584

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR1!

Today, you are going to hear a comparison of Earth and Mars. Let's begin!

Problems on our planet Earth make a lot of people think that we may need to find a new planet to live on. Of the planets in the solar system, Mars is the most popular choice.

The Martian and Earth days are almost the same – a day on Mars is about 24 hours. Mars and Earth have about the same land surface area. Both have an atmosphere and water. Mars also has seasons, just like Earth.

However, the differences between Mars and Earth make living on Mars challenging. There are 687 days in each Martian year and each season would be nearly twice as long as an Earth season. Even though Mars has an atmosphere, it is very thin and is mainly carbon dioxide – there is not enough oxygen for humans to breathe.

That's all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 584

Hello! Welcome back!

Today's movie is part two of the text about stress. Let's begin!

Many of us, likewise, put off dealing with our problems until the deadline approaches. Every year I resolve that I will write all my Christmas cards and letters ahead of time, and every year I find that once again I have left it too late for me to finish comfortably. Only when tension increases do I start working seriously to get the job done.

In other fields too, when satisfaction enters in, creativity and curiosity go out of the window. What has been called divine discontent – a creative dissatisfaction with the present situation, whatever it is – produces progress. And that dissatisfaction is one type of stress.

Thus, it seemed to me, a certain degree of stress is necessary for human progress. Those of us who are employed by a demanding company are to be sympathized with, since too much stress is counterproductive. Those of us who are self-employed can choose their own best level of stress. In either case, we need some preparation before the period of stress in order to be able to succeed.

So, like the potted plant in question, if we are watered sufficiently to begin with, and then left to struggle for a while on our own, we too may produce more and better flowers than one who, over-protected, has never had to try.

Alright, that's all for today! See you next time. Bye-bye!