

111 學年度青埔國中英語朗讀比賽題目 1

Tickling Tigers

Hannibal was a very fine mouse. He was big and strong and brave and clever. He had only one fault. He boasted of how he could slip like a shadow through jungles full of snakes, dance on the backs of crocodiles, and even, he said, without turning a whisker, tickle tigers.

“Go on,” the other mice said, “show us.”

“All right then, I will!” said Hannibal.

Hannibal saw a tiger sleeping in the jungle. He tickled the tiger with a tiny stick until the tiger woke up. The big tiger roared a roar so terrible that the whole jungle shook.

Two other tigers came up to see what happened. “This creature woke me up, and now I’m going to eat him!” the first tiger said.

“What a good idea,” said the other two tigers.

“Help!” screamed Hannibal and took off. He ran very fast. The three tigers chased after him. They chased him through a jungle full of snakes, across a river on the backs of crocodiles. And finally, they caught up with him.

The three tigers argued about who could eat the little mouse. “He is very small,” said the first tiger. “Not enough for three tigers,” said the second. “He is mine!” said the third. And while they quarreled, Hannibal crept among their paws and made his way home.

It would be nice to say that after his adventure, Hannibal had learned his lesson and never boasted again, but that would not be so true. He told his story happily every day.

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Crictor

Once upon a time in a little French town, lived an old lady, Madame Louise. She had a son who was in Africa studying reptiles.

One morning the mailman brought her a round box. Madame Louise shouted out when she opened the box. It was a snake! Her son sent it to her for her birthday.

To make sure it was not a poisonous snake, Madame Louise went to the zoo. She knew it was a boa constrictor. So, she called her little animal, Crictor.

Madame Louise fed her new pet with bottles of milk. She bought several palm trees, so Crictor felt at home. Crictor grew longer and longer and stronger and stronger. When Crictor was happy, he wagged his tail just like dogs. Madame Louise knitted a long woolen sweater for her pet to wear on cold days. And the boa, wearing the beautiful sweater, followed his mistress when she went shopping. Crictor also had a warm, comfortable bed. There he would dream happily, under his palm trees.

Madame Louise taught at the public school. One day she decided to take Crictor to her classes. Soon Crictor learned to shape the alphabet in his own way. He could count from one to ten in math class. The boa played with little boys and little girls as well. He helped the boy scouts learn knots. He made a slide for girls and made fun of himself with jumping ropes.

All the school children and their parents liked Crictor, just like Madame Louise did.

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Ram and the Coyote

On a farm, there lived a little lamb. His master called him Ram. Ram was cute and smart.

One day Ram was eating grass when a coyote came along. The coyote said, "Grrr! Ram, I'm going to eat you." Ram bleated, "Baa-a-a-a! Mr. Coyote, I am too thin. When I have eaten all the grass, I should be fat. You may eat me then." Coyote looked at the skinny lamb and said, "Ok, when you are fat, I shall come back."

After many days the coyote returned and said, "Grrr! Ram, you are fat. I'm going to eat you now." Ram bleated, "Baa-a-a-a! Mr. Coyote, I know something that tastes better than lamb."

"What?" asked Coyote.

"Cheese!" cried Ram. "My master keeps a round of cheese on his table."

The coyote had never heard of cheese, and he was curious about it. "How can I get this cheese?" he asked. Ram said, "There is a pond at the end of the pasture. Tonight, when the moon is high, meet me there. I will show you how to get some cheese."

That night, when the full moon was straight up in the sky, Ram and Coyote met. There, in the middle of the pond, a big, round, yellow thing looked like a big, round cheese. "Did you see it?" cried Ram. "Swim out and get it."

Coyote jumped into the water. But the cheese stayed just so far ahead. Coyote drank so much water. Finally, he knew that Ram was very smart, and never bothered him again.