

國小組 A 組 (3~4 年級)英語朗讀比賽題目 比賽時，參賽員必須從主辦單位提供之以下三篇文章中抽出一篇準備上台朗誦，抽題時間為比賽前一分鐘。

The Monkey and the Whale

A Greek ship is wrecked off the coast. There are some friendly whales. The whales take the shipwrecked people on their backs and swim with them to shore.

Now the Greeks take their pet monkeys and dogs with them. When one of the whales sees a monkey struggling in the water, he thinks it is a man, and makes the monkey climb up on his back. Then, the whale swims with the monkey towards the shore.

"You are a citizen of Athens, are you not?" asks the whale politely.

"Yes," answers the monkey, proudly. "My family is one of the noblest in the city." "Indeed," says the whale. "Do you often visit Piraeus?"

"Yes, yes," replies the monkey. "Indeed, I do. I am with him constantly. Piraeus is my very best friend."

This answer takes the whale by surprise, and the whale turns his head to see what is on his back. He dives and leaves the foolish monkey, and swims off in search of some human beings to save.

The Dog, the Chicken, and the Fox

A dog and a chicken are best friends. They wish to see the world, so they decide to leave their farmyard.

The chicken is looking for a place to rest, so he finds a hollow tree. He thinks it would do very nicely for a night's lodging. The dog could creep inside and the chicken could fly up on one of the branches.

The Chicken wakes up. For a moment he forgets where he is. He thinks he is still in the farmyard, so he is standing on his tip-toes. Instead of awakening the farmer, he wakes a fox not far off in the woods. The fox immediately has visions of a very delicious breakfast. Hurrying to the tree where the chicken is roosting, the fox says very politely:

"Welcome to our woods, sir. I cannot tell you how glad I am to see you here. I am quite sure we shall become the closest of friends."

"I feel highly flattered, kind sir," replies the chicken slyly. "If you will go around to the door of my house at the foot of the tree, my porter will let you in." The fox goes around the tree, and in a flash the dog seizes him.

The Two Pots

There were two pots. One of them was a brass pot and the other was an earthen pot. One day the brass pot proposed to the earthen pot to go out into the world together. But the earthen pot declined. He said that it would be wiser for him to stay in the corner by the fire.

"It would take so little to break me," he said. "You know how fragile I am. The smallest shock is sure to shatter me!"

"Don't stay at home," urged the brass pot. "I shall take very good care of you. If we should happen to meet anything hard, I will step in between and save you."

The earthen pot at last consented, and the two pots set out side by side, rocking along on three stubby legs, first to this side, then to that, and bumping into each other at every step.

The earthen pot could not survive the friendship very long. They had not gone ten paces before the earthen pot cracked, and at the next step he flew into a thousand pieces.