國小高年級組英語朗讀比賽文章

**The Brave Monkey Pirate (350)**

One day, the brave monkey pirate Modi was out with his mom. They shopped for groceries and ate peas at Modi’s favorite restaurant.

Then the pirate Modi's mom said, "We need to stop off at the doctor's office. You need a quick checkup."

The doctor checked Modi's heart, his blood pressure, and his knees. Then he explained that Modi needed to come back the next day and get a shot to protect him from scurvy or some other bad thing.

The pirate Modi did not like shots. That evening his father came home and Modi told him all about the visit to the doctor.

Modi's father said, "Modi, I know of something that can help you. Take this map and my fastest pirate ship and find this special thing. Also, if you stay very still for the doctor you can have some ice cream after."

So Modi followed the map through the wildest seas, and climbed up volcanoes filled with fiery lava, and sneaked past creatures so terrible that they will not be described in this story, until he reached a castle at the top of the mountains. Inside, he found a great crab wizard on a crab wizard throne.

The crab wizard spoke these words, "Pirate Modi, because you have braved many obstacles to get here, I will give you this rock. When you get a shot, you must squeeze the rock very tightly, and count to three. You will be magically taken into the future where the shot will be finished. Also, you can have some ice cream after."

The monkey pirate thanked him and sailed back home to get some sleep.

The next morning, Modi took the rock with him to the doctor's office.

The doctor hummed a little song and filled up the pirate's shot.

Modi closed his eyes very tightly, squeezed the rock as hard as he could, and counted 1, 2, 3!

The crab wizard was right! The shot was finished.

The Brave Monkey Pirate was now immune to scurvy and other stuff. And, he got to have ice cream on the way home.

國小高年級組英語朗讀比賽文章

**The Princess and the Pea (382)**

Once upon a time there was a prince who wanted to marry a princess, but she had to be a real princess. He travelled all over the world to find one, but nowhere could he get what he wanted. There were princesses enough, but it was difficult to find out whether they were real ones. There was always something about them that was not as it should be. So he came home again and was sad, for he would have liked very much to have married a real princess.

     One evening a terrible storm came on; there was thunder and lightning, and the rain poured down in torrents. Suddenly a knocking was heard at the castle gate, and the old king went to open it.

  A princess was standing there, in front of the gate. But, good gracious! What a sight the rain and the wind had made her look. The water ran down from her hair and clothes; it ran down into the toes of her shoes and out again at the heels. And yet, she told the king and queen that she was a real princess.

     “Well, we'll soon find that out,” thought the old queen. But she said nothing, went into the bedroom, took all the bedding off the bedstead, and laid a pea on the bottom; then she took twenty mattresses and laid them on the pea, and then twenty eider-down beds on top of the mattresses.

     On this the princess had to lie all night. In the morning she was asked how she had slept.

     "Oh, very badly!" said she. "I have scarcely closed my eyes all night. Heaven only knows what was in the bed, but I was lying on something hard, so that I am black and blue all over my body. It was horrible!"

     Now they knew that she was a real princess because she had felt the pea right through the twenty mattresses and the twenty eider-down beds. Nobody but a real princess could be as sensitive as that.

So the prince took her for his wife, for now he knew that he had a real princess; and the pea was put in the museum, where it may still be seen, if no one has stolen it.

There, that is a true story.

國小高年級組英語朗讀比賽文章

**Emily, the Rat Who Could Not Read (298)**

Once upon a time, there was a lady rat called Emily who could not read. She lived in a small town and every morning used to put on her glasses to read the local newspaper, but she wasn’t able to read it.

“My glasses might be dirty,” thought Emily.

She met a squirrel one day and asked her, “Do you read every day?”

“Of course,” said the squirrel.

“I can’t because my glasses are too old and dirty,” replied Emily

“You have to go to school to learn to read,” said the squirrel before leaving.

This didn’t convince the lady rat, and she continued walking until she saw a rabbit.

“Can you read?” asked Emily.

“Of course. I’m coming from school and have my bag full of books,” said the rabbit.

“I can’t. My glasses are too old,” said Emily, and left the place sad.

She kept walking and when she saw a dog she asked him, too.

“Have you read the newspaper today?”

“Yes, I do every day.”

“Do you wear glasses?”

“No, I go to school.”

Emily stood there thinking and decided to act, so the next day she bought pencils, a book bag and a notebook, and started school.

After a few weeks she was so proud of what she had learned that when she saw a hen walking past one day, she ran to ask her, “Can you read?”

“Of course. I read every day,” said the hen.

Emily was very happy and could finally say, “Me too! I’m learning at school.”

She was so happy that she had a party and invited all her friends, just to announce that she was able to read and was reading a book every night, and advised those who couldn’t read to go to school to learn.

國小高年級組英語朗讀比賽文章

**The Giving Tree (373)**

Once, there was a tree. She loved a little boy. Every day the boy would

come and play. He would climb up her trunk and swing from her

branches and eat apples. They would play hide-and-go-seek. When he

was tired, he would sleep in her shade. The boy loved the tree very

much and the tree was happy.

But time went by, and the boy grew older. The tree was often alone.

One day, the boy came to the tree and the tree shook with joy.

She said, “Boy, come and climb up my trunk, and swing from my

branches, and eat apples, and play in my shade, and be happy.”

“I am too busy to climb trees,” said the boy. “I want a house to keep

my family warm,” he said. “Can you give me a house?”

“I have no house,” said the tree. “The forest is my house,” said the

tree. “But you may cut off my branches and build a house. Then you will

be happy.”

So the boy cut off her branches and carried them away to build his

house. The tree was happy.

But the boy stayed away for a long time… and when he came back, the

tree was so happy she could hardly speak.

“Come, Boy,” she whispered, “come and play.”

“I am too old and sad to play,” said the boy. “I want a boat that will

take me away from here. Can you give me a boat?”

“Cut down my trunk and make a boat,” said the tree. “Then you can

sail away… and be happy.”

So the boy cut down her trunk and made a boat and sailed away. The

tree was happy… but not really.

After a long time, the boy came back again.

“I am sorry,” sighed the tree. “I wish that I could give you

something… but I have nothing left. I am just an old stump. I am sorry…”

“I don’t need very much now,” said the boy. “Just a quiet place to sit

and rest. I am very tired.”

 “Well,” said the tree, “an old stump is good for sitting and resting.

Come, Boy, sit down… Sit down and rest.”

The boy did, and the tree was happy.

~~A Shel Silverstein