

# 宜蘭縣 109 學年度國小英語朗讀比賽篇章

1100108 公告

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備註：

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## 01\_ Dick Whittington

Once upon a time, there was a poor orphan boy called Dick Whittington. The people in his village believed that the streets of London were paved with gold. So Dick decided to travel there and become a rich man.

Dick walked for many days, but when he arrived in London there were no streets of gold! Tired and hungry, he fell asleep on the steps of a great house.

The house belonged to a rich businessman who found Dick and gave him a job cleaning the kitchen. Dick worked very hard and was happy. He had enough to eat and at night he could sleep by the fire. There was a problem though! At night, rats ran around the kitchen and kept him awake.

So Dick went out and found the fastest rat-catching cat in London! The cat caught all the rats that came into the house and Dick could sleep at night.

The businessman heard about the amazing cat and asked Dick if he could take it on his ship to catch rats on his next journey. Dick agreed, but was very sad to see the cat go.

While the businessman was away, the other servants were very mean to Dick, so Dick decided to run away. But as he was leaving, one of the great church bells rang. It seemed to say, 'Turn back, Dick Whittington, Mayor of London!'

So Dick came back to the house and soon the businessman returned. He was very happy because Dick's cat had caught all the rats on the ship. He gave Dick a reward and promoted him to his assistant.

Dick worked hard for the businessman and learned everything he could. Eventually he married the businessman's daughter and started a very successful business of his own. And, yes, he did become Mayor of London.

## 02\_Robin Hood

People have told stories about Robin Hood for more than 700 years. Nobody knows if he was a real person or an invented character. In the legends, Robin was extremely intelligent and had a playful sense of humour. He loved playing tricks on people.

‘Pick a card, any card!’

The stories say that Robin Hood was a skilled archer and he always carried a bow and arrow.

‘Ha ha, too easy!’

He wore green clothes and a hat with a green feather. He lived in Sherwood Forest with a group of outlaws, or criminals, known as his ‘Merry Men’. The group included Friar Tuck, ‘Mmm, yummy!’, Little John, who was unusually tall, ‘Little is just my nickname!’, and Robin’s true love, Maid Marian. ‘Take that!’

Sherwood Forest was a royal hunting forest near Nottingham in England. Most people thought that forests were dangerous places to go. People travelling through the forests were often robbed by outlaws.

‘Your money, please, my Lord!’

‘Oh no, it’s Robin Hood!’

The stories say that Robin Hood only took money from rich people so that he could give it to people who needed it. So he became famous for ‘robbing from the rich and giving to the poor’.

‘Here you are, my dear.’

‘Oh, thank you, Robin!’

The Sheriff of Nottingham was Robin’s arch-enemy. It was the sheriff’s job to keep the woods safe and to make sure that nobody stole the king’s deer.

‘What’s that? Is that Robin Hood?’

The Sheriff of Nottingham tried to catch Robin Hood, but never succeeded.

‘Oh no, not again!’

Centuries ago people loved to tell each other stories of Robin Hood. Later he became a famous character in books, and nowadays Robin is still a well-loved hero in literature, theatre, TV and films.

## 03\_Nessie – the Loch Ness Monster

Have you heard of Nessie, the Loch Ness Monster? Loch Ness is a very large, deep lake in Scotland. Many people think a monster lives in it.

The first report of Nessie was back in the sixth century. A man called St. Columba reported seeing a monster in the water, but he told the monster to go back, and he was safe.

'Go back!'

'OK, if you insist.'

Then, in 1933, Nessie was seen again by George Spicer and his wife – she crossed the road in front of their car.

'What a beautiful day for a picnic.'

'Arghhh!'

The next year, a photo was taken of Nessie, which became very famous. It was taken by a doctor – but the photo turned out to be fake.

Since then, there have been several more sightings of Nessie. Some people have tried to take photos and videos, but Nessie is very shy and the pictures are not very clear.

'The paparazzi are everywhere!'

People have also tried exploring the lake, but it is very deep and very dark. Some people watched the lake, while other people used equipment like underwater cameras, microphones and sonar to scan the lake carefully.

People have even explored the lake in submersibles. No one has found anything definite.

There are lots of possible explanations for what people have seen in Loch Ness. Maybe the monster is just a giant eel, a large bird, a tree or a seal. A few people even think it could be a plesiosaur, which is a type of dinosaur.

'Or maybe I'm just unique!'

So, what do you think? Do you believe that Nessie, the Loch Ness Monster, really exists?

## 04\_ **George and the dragon**

Once upon a time there was a brave knight called George. George had lots of adventures as he travelled by horse across many lands.

One day he came to a small village and met a man who lived in a cave next to the village.

The hermit told the knight about the awful things that were happening there. A terrible dragon had come to live in the lake and attacked the village every day.

The villagers didn't know what to do. First, they gave the dragon all their food, but the dragon just took the food and still attacked the village.

So then the villagers gave the dragon all the animals from their farms. The dragon took all the animals, but continued to attack the villagers.

So then they gave the dragon all their gold and jewels. The dragon took all their money, but still was not satisfied.

The king sent his army to try and capture the dragon, but the dragon was too strong and the knights of the army were too scared and they ran away.

With nothing left to give, the king could only think of one thing to help protect his people. He sent his only daughter, the princess, to the lake to wait for the dragon.

When George heard this he rode as fast as he could to the lake. Just then the dragon jumped out from the lake and was going to eat the princess.

George attacked the dragon. He fought very bravely, won the fight and killed the dragon. George and the princess returned to the village and everyone was very pleased that they would have no more problems with the dragon.

Today, the story of George's bravery is remembered and George is known as the patron saint of many countries.

## 05\_ **Jack and the beanstalk**

Once upon a time there was a boy called Jack. He lived with his mother. They were very poor. All they had was a cow.

One morning, Jack's mother told Jack to take their cow to market and sell her. On the way, Jack met a man. He gave Jack some magic beans for the cow.

Jack took the beans and went back home. When Jack's mother saw the beans she was very angry.

She threw the beans out of the window.

The next morning, Jack looked out of the window. There was a giant beanstalk. He went outside and started to climb the beanstalk.

He climbed up to the sky through the clouds. Jack saw a beautiful castle. He went inside.

Jack heard a voice. 'Fee, fi, fo, fum!' Jack ran into a cupboard.

An enormous giant came into the room and sat down. On the table there was a hen and a golden harp.

'Lay!' said the giant. The hen laid an egg. It was made of gold. 'Sing!' said the giant. The harp began to sing. Soon the giant was asleep.

Jack jumped out of the cupboard. He took the hen and the harp. Suddenly, the harp sang, 'Help, master!' The giant woke up and shouted, 'Fee, fi, fo, fum!' Jack ran and started climbing down the beanstalk.

The giant came down after him.

Jack shouted, 'Mother! Help!' Jack's mother took an axe and chopped down the beanstalk. The giant fell and crashed to the ground. Nobody ever saw him again.

With the golden eggs and the magic harp, Jack and his mother lived happily ever after.

## 06\_Eric the engine

One day there was a big storm. Lightning struck a mountain and a huge rock rolled onto the train line.

Seagull saw what happened. He called his friends: Rabbit, Fox and Mouse.

'We must move it. The 10:15 London train will be here in one hour,' said Rabbit.

The animals tried to move it. They pushed and pushed but it would not move.

'I know,' said Fox. 'Let's get Eric the Engine. He's stronger than all of us.'

'There's no time,' said Mouse.

'I'll get him,' shouted Seagull. 'Help! There is a rock on the train line and the London train is coming very soon.'

Eric tooted his whistle and called his friends. All the engines gathered around. Eric was big and strong but not very fast. He asked the express trains to go ahead. 'You go first. Then you,' said Eric, and he sent his friends ahead. 'I'll follow you.'

The engines raced along, but the London train was getting closer.

The trains arrived. The two express trains pushed, but the rock wouldn't move. The London train was coming over the hill.

Two more engines arrived and they pushed too. The rock moved a little but the London train was coming round the corner.

'They can't do it!' said Mouse.

Then Eric arrived. He tooted his whistle and pushed with all his strength. He pushed the four engines and the four engines pushed the rock. Slowly the rock moved. Then it rolled faster and faster until it fell over the cliff.

The London train arrived. It raced past the engines and the animals, who were waiting on the other line. The train blew its horn, 'Thaaaaank yooooou!'