

中學英語會話讀本

第三冊

**CONVERSATIONAL READERS**

**FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

**BOOK III**

## PREFACE

This series of Conversational Readers attempts to provide students of middle schools with a textbook of spoken English. The English readers used in secondary schools are for the most part written in literary style, quite unlike the language of everyday life, and thus afford the pupil little or no opportunity for natural and idiomatic conversation. Consequently the pupil is largely dependent on the teacher for practice in accurate spoken English. This series aims to meet this deficiency by supplementing the work of the teacher with an array of conversational forms as nearly natural as is possible on the printed page. Idioms are introduced gradually and naturally so that the lesson is a representation of the spoken language heard in actual life among English-speaking people. The method adopted is based on the latest and most scientific manner of instruction in foreign language, the student being taught to think in the tongue which he is to speak.

### DIRECTIONS FOR TEACHERS

As to the most advantageous way of using this series the following suggestions are offered:

1. The teacher should first pronounce the sentences with a natural voice, the pupils in concert repeating each sentence after him, imitating his intonation but not his voice.

2. Next, the teacher should ask each pupil in turn to translate a sentence into Chinese, each pupil translating the portion naturally spoken by one party to the dialogue, the process continuing until the whole lesson has been translated

and the whole class has taken part. Then the teacher should call for questions as to any idiom or sentence not yet understood.

3. Now let the teacher have the class take up the conversation in dialogue in a natural manner, each pupil reading or repeating the portion natural to one party to the dialogue until the whole class has participated. If the dialogue ends before all the class has taken part, ask the next pupil to begin at the beginning of the dialogue and let succeeding pupils continue the conversation to the end of the class, the teacher saying the portion of the last speaker in the dialogue.

4. At least an hour should be devoted to free conversation on the lesson, using the subjects and idioms therein set forth. The teacher should ask each pupil one question, and the latter in responding should show that he has mastered the use of the idiom used in the question. The teacher should encourage his pupils to ask him questions using the subjects and idioms of the lesson.

5. It will be noticed that only in the introductory lessons are the speakers in the dialogue definitely indicated; and after some practice the pupil must learn to know the speaker from the meaning of the language. By thus learning to distinguish the speaker for himself the pupil will make much better progress in his mastery of the spoken language. This self-examination is an important feature of the author's method in assisting the pupil toward quickness of ear and fluency of speech, and the teacher should, therefore, carefully impress on the mind of the pupil the importance of knowing when one speaker in the dialogue stops and the next one begins. If a pupil goes on with the dialogue till he asks and answers his own questions it is clear that he does not under-

stand what he is saying. Thus every lesson is a test of the pupil's progress in the language, the stage of his advancement being at once evident to both the teacher and the pupil himself.

The necessity for constant repetition and review cannot be too forcibly emphasized.

J. INGRAM BRYAN.

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# CONVERSATIONAL READERS

## FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS

### BOOK III

#### I

#### IN THE CLASSROOM

- A. Oh, the school bell is ringing.
- B. Yes, we must assemble and go in.
- A. I must get a drink first.
- B. No, you will not have time. Come on!
- A. All right. I will get a drink after class.
- B. Here we are in the classroom. This is my seat. You take yours.
- A. Stop talking! The teacher is waiting for silence.
- B. Yes, he is going to call our names.
- T. Now, boys, silence, please! I should not have to speak about it. William Jones!
- W. Present, sir.
- T. Charles Woodruff!
- C. Here, sir.
- T. John Jenkins!

J. Present, sir.

T. Edward Tapley !

A. Absent, sir.

T. Is Edward absent ?

A. Yes sir, he is.

T. Does any one know why he is absent ?

A. He has a cold, sir.

T. Oh, he has caught cold, has he ? I am  
sorry. Henry Winter !

H. Present, sir.

T. Henry, you must pay attention ! No talk-  
ing in the classroom ! George Smith !

G. Present, sir.

T. Our first lesson to-day is reading. Open  
your books to page 20. We begin  
at the top of the page. Tom, you  
read first, please. That is very good.  
Henry, you may read next. You have  
not been following the lesson. Don't  
you know where to begin ? Tell him  
where to begin, Charles.

C. He should begin at the second paragraph,  
sir.

T. That is right. Now go on, Henry. . . . Wait  
a moment ! You are reading too fast.  
Take your time and pronounce each  
word distinctly. Keep your voice up

at commas and lower your voice at semicolons and periods. . . . Yes, that is better, but your enunciation is not good. You must pay attention and try to improve your reading. Open your mouth wider and speak more slowly. Does every one understand what we have read? Have you no questions to ask me?

B. Yes, sir; I have a question. Please tell me the meaning of the sentence beginning on line 6, page 20. . . . Thank you, sir.

T. Are there any other questions?

A. Yes, sir; please explain the meaning of this phrase. Thanks. I quite understand it now.

T. If there are no further questions we will go on. . . .

That will do for to-day. Now we shall have some dictation. Put away your books and take out your exercise books.

## II

### I. SEEING MY UNCLE OFF

Can you come out to play ball now? No, I have to go to the station with my father. Is

your father taking the train to-day? No, but we are going to see my uncle off. Oh, where is he going? He is going to America. Is that so? When does he leave? He sails from Shanghai this evening. What steamer is he going by? He is sailing by the Dollar Line boat, President Jackson. I have two uncles, you know. One is a silk merchant in Hankow and the other is a banker in New York. Is that so? I suppose they are both quite well off. Yes, but not very rich, I think. They are quite prosperous. Does your uncle in Hankow come to see you often? No, not very often. When he visits Nanking he usually calls at our house. Sometimes he brings me a present. Oh, that is very nice. I suppose you are always glad to see him. Yes, of course, but not on account of the present. He is very kind to me. Then you are very fond of him, I guess. Yes, I like him very much.

## 2. MY COUSINS

Have you ever seen your uncle who is in New York? Yes, but not until this year. He went to America before I was born. This year he made a visit to China. He had not been back since he went away, until this year. We were all delighted to see him. Yes, I am sure you were.

Has he any children? Yes, he has a son and a daughter. The son's name is Tom and the name of the daughter is Bertha. Have you ever seen them? No, never. But I have their photographs. Have you? I should like to see them sometime. Yes, I shall be glad to show them to you. Do the New York cousins ever write to you? Yes, Tom writes to me now and then, but not very often. I write to him oftener than he does to me. I suppose he is busy at school. Yes, I suppose so. How old is Tom? He is about the same age as I am. Is that so? Is Bertha older than her brother? No, she is younger. She is about fourteen years old, and Tom is a little over fifteen. Are they tall for their age? Yes, quite tall, I think.

### 3. CONTEMPLATING A TRIP

My father is going to America next year, and he says he will take me with him to see my cousins. Oh, indeed! That will be a delightful trip for you. Yes, I am looking forward to it. When shall you go? My father is not quite sure yet. It may not be for two years yet. But perhaps it will be next summer. It will be very nice for you. You are a very fortunate fellow. Yes, I think I am. How will you go? We are

going by way of Siberia and Europe, and then across the Atlantic to New York. Oh, that will be an ideal trip. You will go all around the world. Yes, we shall come back across the Pacific Ocean; and then we shall have been around the world. Dear me, I envy you. Perhaps you will go some day. Yes, when I am a man I may go on business. Oh, what is that music that I hear? It is the military band. It is playing in the park. What are they playing? It is a military march. Listen! Oh, they are now playing the national anthem. Yes, so they are. I love to hear it, don't you? Yes, I always do.

### III

#### 1. FOUNTAIN PENS

What kind of pen have you? I have a fountain pen. A fountain pen, is it? Yes, my father gave it to me for a Christmas present. It was a very nice present. Yes, it was just what I wanted. Then you were very pleased with it. Yes, I was more than pleased. Is it a real good one? Yes, it is a first-class pen. What make is it? It is a Waterman. Is yours a Waterman? No, mine is a Parker pen. Is that a good kind of pen? Yes, it writes very well. I like a

fountain pen much better than the old-fashioned steel pen, don't you? Yes, I do. It is so convenient. Does your fountain pen leak in your pocket? No, it does not leak at all. Neither does mine. How often do you fill your pen? Oh, about twice a month. Then you do not write much with it. Yes, I write a lot. I write a good deal, too, and I fill it no more than once a month. Is that so? Perhaps mine uses more ink than yours. Yes, perhaps so. Have you a filler? Yes, and I use fountain pen ink.

## 2. FOUNTAIN PENS COMPARED WITH SKATES

Lend me your fountain pen a moment, please. Certainly; here you are! Where is your own? Have you left it at home? No, I have it in my pocket, but it wants filling. Your pen writes very well. Yes, it is quite a good one. A fountain pen is much better than a steel pen, because it can go on writing as long as you like without dipping into the ink bottle. Do you like a fountain pen better than a pair of skates? Yes, I do, because you can use skates only in winter, but you can use a fountain pen all the year round. Yes, that is so. I had not thought of that. What you say is quite true. What does a fountain pen cost? You can get a good one for

about five dollars. As much as that, are they? Fountain pens are quite dear, aren't they? Yes, they cost a lot. The price of good things is always high, you know. Yes, I suppose so. What do skates cost? A pair of skates costs about two or three dollars, I think. That is less than a pen, isn't it? Yes, it is much less.

### 3. SKATING

Oh, have you your new skates? Yes, I got them yesterday. What did you pay for them? I paid two dollars fifty. That is not so dear, is it? No, I expected to pay more. But you can buy cheaper ones than these. This is a very good pair. Yes, those skates look good. Have you tried them yet? Yes, a little. They skate very well. The ice is not very good at present. There has not been enough frost recently. When hard frost comes we shall have better ice. The pond ice is not strong enough yet, I suppose. No, it is only about half an inch. I do not like to try it before it is an inch thick. Nor do I. It is dangerous. It is very risky to go on thin ice. Yes, it is. We had better keep to the rink until the pond ice is thicker. Yes, we will do that. Can you cut any figures on the ice? Yes, I can do a few tricks. But I am not an expert



skater. Your sister skates too, doesn't she? Yes, she skates quite well. But not so well as you, I suppose. Oh, I don't know. Perhaps not.

## IV

### I. AGE

How many brothers have you? I have only one. Are you older than he? No, he is the older. He is the eldest of the family. Oh, is he? You have sisters, I suppose? Yes, I have two sisters. My sister Mary is next to me. Oh, you are older than she is. Yes, I am one year older than Mary. Janet is the youngest of the family. Are you taller than your sister Mary? Yes, I am a good deal taller. But you are not taller than your elder brother, I suppose. No, he is two inches taller than I am. That is because he is older, isn't it? Yes, quite so. How old is your elder brother? He is fifteen. Then you are just fourteen. Yes, just about fourteen. You are quite tall for your age. Do you think so? Yes, I do. How old are you? I am only twelve. I was twelve my last birthday. Then you are past twelve. You will be thirteen your next birthday.

Yes I will. When is your next birthday? It will be in June. It is on the tenth of next June. You are growing quite fast.

## 2. GROWTH

How much did you grow last year? I don't know. I have not measured myself this year. Have you? Yes, I measured myself the other day. Did you? Yes. And how much have you grown during the year? I have grown over two inches. Oh, that is a lot. I have not grown so much as that. I expect I have not grown more than one inch or an inch and a half. Oh, I guess you have grown more than that. I must get my father to measure me when I go home this evening. You say you have grown two inches? Yes, I have. Has your sister grown so fast? No, she grew only one inch last year. Is that so? My dog has grown very fast too. Yes, dogs grow faster than boys. Yes, they do, don't they? How old is your dog? He is only six months old and he looks like a full-grown dog. Yes, he has shot up very rapidly. He grows like a young tree. It would be very funny if a baby boy grew to be a man in a year. Yes, it would, wouldn't it? Animals grow quickly and do not

live long. People grow slowly and live for many years. Yes, that is the way of nature.

### 3. HEIGHT

Your father is quite a tall man, isn't he? Yes, he is unusually tall. How tall is he? Do you remember? He is over six feet in his socks. Oh, that is very tall. Is your mother tall too? Yes, quite tall, but not so tall as my father. She is about five feet six inches. Oh, that is quite tall for a woman. You are not so tall as your mother yet. No, not yet. Many boys are as tall as their mothers, but I am not. That is because your mother is a very tall woman. Do you think you will grow to be as tall as your father? I don't know, I am sure. I should like to be as tall as my father. Would you like to be as tall as your father? Yes, I should. Well, you may be quite as tall. If you eat well and do not smoke cigarettes you will be tall and strong. Is that so? Yes, our teacher says that smoking keeps boys from growing. Perhaps it does. Frank Smith smokes and he is very pale. Who is Frank Smith? He is a boy whom I know. He does not go to our school. His people are very poor and ignorant. Oh, is that so? I feel very sorry for him. Yes,

it is too bad. I hope he will be able to go to school. Yes, I hope so.

## V

## 1. ABOUT TO GO HOME

Who is that boy? That is Chen Mou. What a funny gait he has! Yes, he has quite a swagger, and hobbles along like an old man. I always know him by his gait. It is not good to walk that way. No, I know it is not good. A boy should always walk like a soldier. He should hold his head up, stand erect, and keep his chest out. Yes, that is what my father says. And the teacher says so too. Whose exercise book is this? It is Charles's. How do you know? I know it by the handwriting. See, his name is in it too. Oh, yes; so it is. Tell him to put his exercise book away. The seat is no place for it. He should not leave it about like this. Have you put your own books away? Yes, they are all in my book bag. You may go home now. Do not loiter on the way. All right; I will go directly home. Well, you had better start. Yes, I will start directly. Where is my cap? There it is, hanging on the wall. Yes, thanks; I see it. Oh, this is not my cap. It is Yao's. I suppose he has taken mine by mistake. That was very careless of him.

## 2. INQUIRING THE WAY; PREPARING ENGLISH LESSONS

I beg your pardon. Do you speak English? Yes, I speak a little. Then can you tell me the way to the South Station? Yes; go straight along this street until you come to the street car line, and then any car going south will take you to the station. Oh, thank you very much. I will find the station all right. Yes, you cannot miss it. Who was that man that spoke to you? I don't know. He was a stranger to me. He was an Englishman, I think. Yes, or an American. Could he speak Chinese? I don't know. He spoke English to me. I suppose he thought you could speak English. Yes, he asked me if I could speak English and I told him I could speak a little. Have you prepared your English lesson for tomorrow? No; have you? Yes, I always prepare mine before supper. I have prepared my reading lesson but not my conversation lesson. I usually prepare after supper and then I get very sleepy. Yes it is better to prepare before supper. Your mind is fresher then. Preparation is very important. Without it we cannot get good marks. I want to get high marks in English. So do I.

### 3. STARTING FOR HOME

Yuan is very good at baseball, isn't he? Yes, he is a very good runner, but not so good as a batsman. He runs like an ostrich, very fast with long steps. Can you outrun him? No, he can run much faster than I can. Look at him running now! How fast he gets over the ground! Yes, he can go at a fine rate. Is Hsu Fei here? No, he has gone into town. I must go home now. Oh, must you go now? Yes, I have a long way to go and I must leave early. How far have you to go? I have to go about three miles. Oh, is your home so far away as that? Yes, we live out of town. You are in a hurry, then. Yes, my mother will be anxious about me if I am late getting back. You do not wish her to have any anxiety about you, do you? No, I don't. Which road do you take? I take the Buxton Road, and when near home, I cross the field for a short cut. By cutting across the field I save about half a mile. Is that so? Yes. Well, I must be off. Good-by. Good-by.

## VI

### 1. A CLASSROOM

This is quite a fine classroom, isn't it? Yes, it is better than that of A class. Yes, and it is



better than the one we had last year. Yes, it is much better. How many doors has it? It has two doors, one at that end and one at this end. The ceiling is quite high too. How high is the ceiling? It must be fifteen feet, I should think. Yes, it is that at least. „I like a high ceiling, don't you? Yes, it makes the air better. There is very good light in this room too. Yes, how many windows are there? There are four large ones. Do the windows open easily? Yes, they do. See! I have opened one without difficulty. There are some ventilators too. And there is a fanlight over each window and door. We shall have plenty of fresh air, shan't we? Yes, I think so. The desks and seats are very good too. Yes, they are. I am glad we have a good room. I hope we shall learn our lessons well in this room. Yes, I hope so. Where is your seat? It is just here, near this window. Where is yours? Mine is at the corner here. That is a good place to be. I like my seat all right. Yes, I like mine too.

## 2. SPELLING

George, come [to the blackboard, please. All right, sir. Take the chalk and write this sentence: "A stitch in time saves nine." All the rest

of the class write it without looking at the board. When you have finished writing it, then look at the sentence on the board. We shall then correct the mistakes. Now, write it carefully in your exercise books. Have you all finished? Very well, then. Is there any mistake on the board? Yes, sir; I see one. Well, Charles, what is it? The word "stitch" is misspelled. It has only one "t," but it should have another "t." The proper spelling is "s-t-i-t-c-h." Yes, that is right. "S-t-i-c-h" is wrong. Is there any other mistake? Yes, sir, I have found another mistake. Yes, what is it? "Saves" must be spelled with a "v" and not an "f." Yes, you are quite right. Now how many mistakes has the class made? Up hands all who have made no mistakes. Only ten boys have no mistakes. Up hands all who have one mistake. Only three boys have one mistake. How many have two mistakes? Oh, quite a number. Well, do not forget how to spell "stitch" and "saves."

### 3. EXPLANATION OF A PROVERB

"A stitch in time saves nine:" what is that? I know, sir. Well, Frank, what is it? It is a proverb, sir. Yes, you are quite right. It is an old English proverb. How many of you have heard it before? All who have heard it before we



wrote it on the blackboard, hold up their hands. Only five boys have heard it. That is not very many. Now, what is the meaning? Who can tell me? I can, sir. Well, Joseph, tell me what it means. I am afraid I don't know, sir. I thought I saw your hand up. Yes, it was, sir; but I was mistaken. Will any one else try? How about you, Tom? Can you tell me the meaning of this old proverb? I don't think I can, sir. Well, Harry, I see your hand raised. Let us hear your explanation. I will try, sir. It means that when anything is wrong or broken we must mend it or attend to it at once, or it will get worse and we can't mend it at all. Yes, your explanation is quite good. Now what is a proverb? Who can define it? I think I know, sir. Well, Charles, what is a proverb? It is the wisdom of many and the wit of one. Yes, that is good. Is that your own definition? No, I learned it from my mother. Yes, I supposed you must have had assistance. That will do for to-day. Frank, you may take your seat.

## VII

### I. HORSEBACK RIDING

I am going out to ride. Are you? Is that your horse? No, it is my father's, but he has

lent it to me. Where are you going? First I am going to the blacksmith's shop. What for? The horse has a shoe loose. He is limping a little. I suppose a nail has come out. The shoe rattles a little. I think the shoe will hold till I reach the blacksmith. You will have to be careful to hold the rein tight. If the horse stumbles he might fall with you. Yes, I will keep a tight rein on him. I hope he will not lose his shoe on the way. He is quite a fine horse. Yes, and his skin is in good condition, too. He looks very well. How often do you get him shod? We have him shod two or three times a year. Is he hard on his shoes? Yes, he soon wears them down. We have him sharp-shod in winter for the ice; and in summer we have him smooth-shod. Does he kick? No, he is quite a gentle animal. He has been well broken in. Still he does not like strangers to go too near his heels. No, no horse does, I think.

## 2. SHOERING A HORSE

Good day, Mr. Sands. Good day. My horse has a loose shoe. Will you kindly fix it? All right, I will soon put a nail in it. Which foot is it? It is the left hind foot. Let me have a look at it. Tie him up here. I will tie him up. Does

he kick? No, he is quite gentle. What is his name? His name is Jinks. Hello, Jinks! Hold up your foot. Yes, the shoe is very loose. It will have to come off. It is crooked and worn away on one side. It will not take very long. I will wait for him. All right. Let me blow the bellows for you. Very good, but don't blow too hard. Are those horse nails in that box? Yes, they are a new kind. Yes, I thought so. They clench well and hold well. . . . There, that shoe is all right now. How are the others? They are all right, I think. Please charge it to my father's account. Oh, that's all right. Good day and thank you. Good day. Now, Jinks, you have a new shoe on and you must not limp any more. Come on, Jinks! Step lively! Go it, now! Yes, you trot very well. Poor old Jinks! He likes to be patted.

### 3. A COMET

Have you ever seen a comet? Yes, we saw one last night. Where did you see it? In the sky, of course. We did not go into town to see it. Yes, I know it was in the sky, but in what part of the sky was it? It was in the east, down near the horizon. We saw it from the window of our room. It was quite brilliant,

wasn't it? Yes, and what a great tail it had! You can see it well with the naked eye, when the sky is clear. You cannot see it before sunset. The best time to see it is after sunset and before the moon rises. After the moon comes up the tail is too dim to be seen. Did you see the story in the newspaper about the family in the country who read about the comet in the paper and went into town to see it, thinking it was a city sight? Oh, how funny! I did not read it. They must have been simple folk. Yes, they were quite silly. This will not be a good night for seeing the comet, as it is too cloudy. Perhaps to-morrow evening will be clearer. It was beautifully clear last night. Yes, last night was lovely. The comet shone out very brilliantly. We had a glorious view of it. Yes, and we also could not have had a better view. That was good. How long will the comet be visible? Oh, for a week or more yet. I must look out for it every night until it disappears. Yes, so shall I. I have a fine view of it from my bedroom window

## VIII

### 1. BACK FROM TIENTSIN

Good afternoon. Good afternoon. Come in, please, and sit down. It is a long time since I

have seen you. Yes, quite a long time. How have you been? Thank you, I have been very well. How have you been? Oh, about as usual, thank you. Are all your family well? Yes, all well, thank you. We have been having very pleasant weather lately. Yes, it has been delightful. I hope it will continue. Yes, I hope so. We usually have good weather this time of year. Yes, I think the weather is settled now. I suppose there is no news. No, nothing of importance. I was in Tientsin last week on a visit to my uncle. Oh, were you? You went by train, I suppose. No, I went by boat. It is a pleasant sea trip. Yes, I know it is. Did you have smooth sailing? Yes, the sea was as calm as a pond all the way. That was good. How are things in Tientsin? Oh, nothing unusual. Did you go out to see the sights? Yes, I went out with my cousin. When did you get back from Tientsin? I got back on Monday. I returned by train. Oh, indeed. Well, I must be off now. Oh, must you go? Well, I am glad to have seen you. Good-by. Good-by.

## 2. TO NANKING

What time does our train leave? It leaves at half past nine. What time is it now? It is now half past eight. Then we have an hour yet. Oh,

yes, we have plenty of time, I think. We shall not be late for the train. Does it always start on time? Yes, I think so. We don't want to miss it. Oh, we shall catch it all right. When is it due at Nanking? It is due there at four o'clock this afternoon. That will be quite early. Yes, we shall have time to do some sight-seeing before night. Where shall we go? Let us walk about the town. Yes, I suppose it will be too late to see any of the temples. We shall walk down to the lake and sit there for a while. Yes, that would be pleasant. It is very pretty there. Yes, it is quite pretty. Do you know Nanking very well? No, not so very well. I have been there only three times. How often have you been there? Oh, I have never been there. This is my first visit. Is that so? Then you will enjoy it very much. Yes, I shall now be able to enjoy it. Oh, yes, so you will. Nanking is certainly a beautiful city.

### 3. ON THE TRAIN

Here we are at the station. We get our tickets at this booking office. Let us take second class, shall we? Yes, all right. Now we go this way. The gate is open, so we can get into the train at once. Here is a second-class car. There are not

many people in it. There is another one farther down the platform. Yes, but that one is crowded. There are more vacant seats in this one. Yes, perhaps so. Where shall we sit? Let us sit here. This is a good seat. Can you ride with your back to the engine? Yes, but I don't like it. All right. Sit here and you will face the engine. I do not like riding backward either. Now we shall be quite comfortable. Yes, I think we shall have a pleasant trip. The train journey will be nice, I think. Yes, it is pleasant to have good weather for our trip. Yes, we are very fortunate. Yesterday was quite a wet day. The weather is now settled, I think. Yes, I think so. Is the weather cool at Nanking? Why, it is the same as in Shanghai. Did you bring any lunch? No, we can buy some on the train. Yes, so we can. What hotel shall we stop in? Let us stay at the Garden Hotel. Yes, that is a good place. There! The train is starting. Yes, we are off now.

## IX

### 1. GOING TO SCHOOL BY TRAM

What time did you get up this morning? I got up about six o'clock. That was quite early,

wasn't it? Do you always get up so early? Yes, I usually rise about that hour. I do not get up before half past six. And what time do you have breakfast? I have it at seven. Yes, I do too. That gives one time to get ready for school. Yes; how long does it take you to reach school? It takes me about half an hour. Sometimes it takes me longer. If the car is not delayed I get to school in twenty minutes. But I generally allow half an hour. How long does it take you? It takes me about forty minutes. I live in the suburbs. The cars in our direction are very crowded in the morning. The workmen are all on their way to work then. Yes, all over the city the trams are crowded in the early morning. I take the first car I can get, whether it is crowded or not. If I do not do that I may be late for school. Yes, I do that too.

## 2. COWS AND LIONS

Are you fond of milk? Yes, I take two or three glasses a day. So do I. Have you a cow at home? No, we get our milk from the dairy. Where do you get your milk? We have two cows. Oh, indeed. That is very nice. I suppose you have plenty of cream and milk. Yes, we have



all we can drink. If you drink so much milk you will get as fat as a pig. You do not want to be so fat as that, do you? No, I should not like to be too fat. I like a cow. She is a very useful animal. Yes. Do you think the cow is more useful than the horse? I don't know. Both are very useful. Yes, that is so. I suppose the lion is the greatest of all animals. They call him the king of beasts. That is because he is so strong and can kill all other animals, but he is not so useful as the horse and the cow. No, he isn't. Have you ever seen a lion? Yes, I saw two at the Zoo. Did you hear them roar? Yes, the roar of the lion is like thunder, isn't it? Yes, indeed. It is terrible. It makes one shudder. The lioness is smaller than the lion, isn't she? Yes, much smaller; and she has no mane. What do lions eat? They eat all kinds of meat, but they specially like beef and venison. Have you not seen them fed? No. Then you have missed something. They feed the lions about four o'clock in the afternoon. Is that so?

### 3. BEGINNING A LESSON

Philip, please open the window. We must have some fresh air. Shall I open it at the bottom or at the top? Open it at both bottom and top.

A few inches will be enough. Thank you; that is better. Now, where does our lesson begin to-day? Do you know, Frank? Yes, sir; it begins on page 10. On page 10, is it? No, sir; it begins on page 12. Ah, there is a difference of opinion, I see. Some of you have forgotten the page. You have not been preparing your lesson, I fear. Who is right? Is it page 10 or page 12? Well, Charles, do you know? Yes, sir; we commence to-day on page 12. Yes, that is right. Hugh, you may begin. Are there any questions on this lesson or on the last one? If any one has a question let him hold up his hand. Well, Hugh, what is it? Please explain once more the sentence beginning with line 5 on page 9. . . . Thank you. I quite understand now. Any other question? Yes, Tom; all right. Please, sir, what is the meaning of "facetious"? "Facetious"? It means to be over-witty. Thank you. Yes, George; what is your question? Has the verb "present" the accent on the first syllable or the second? Oh, on the second, of course. Thanks.

## X

### 1. A NEW BICYCLE

This is your new bicycle, is it? Yes it is. What a fine one it is! Yes, it is a very good

one. It was a birthday present from my father. Oh, indeed. What a magnificent gift! When did he present it to you? It was last week. You will feel very proud of it. Yes, I do. I am quite glad to have it. Can you ride well? No, I do not ride very well yet. But I am learning. The first time I got on it after going a little way I fell off. Next time I did the same thing. But that time I tumbled into a ditch. My father only laughed at me and told me to try again. Did you get hurt? No, I only bumped my head and skinned my knuckle. It was nothing. So you tried again, did you? Yes, my father kept on saying, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." It is a very good rule. Yes, it is a good rule to follow in all things, as well as in learning to ride a bicycle. Now you ride quite well, don't you? Yes, I ride much better. And I can now mount without difficulty. It is not easy to learn to mount. It is more difficult than to ride. Yes, I suppose so. What tires has your wheel? They are Dunlop tires. You have a good saddle too. Yes, it is very comfortable. Your handlebars are quite high. Yes, I like them high. It has a free wheel, has it? Yes, all bicycles have a free wheel now. Yes, I suppose so.

## 2. TAKING OFF HATS

Did you hear what the teacher said last hour? Yes, he said that when we meet a lady or a gentleman whom we know, we should always take off our hats. Do you always do that? Yes, I do. What should one do if one's hands are full? Then you can bow. I read a story about a boy who did not take off his hat to a lady whom he knew, because his hat was full of little sparrows. He had taken the young birds from their mother in the nest and had put them in his hat so that no one could see them. Oh, what a cruel fellow! No wonder he could not take off his hat. I wonder what his mother said to him. She scolded him and punished him, I suppose. Is it cruel to take young birds away from their mother? Yes, it is very cruel. We should be kind to birds and beasts. What kind of birds did the boy have in his hat? They were young sparrows. Oh, yes; so you said. Have you ever seen a sparrow's nest? Yes, I have often found a nest in the grass. Were there any eggs in it? Yes, sometimes there were eggs and sometimes young ones. What do sparrows eat? They eat worms and insects, I think.

### 3. AN ENGLISH EXAMINATION

We have an examination in English to-morrow. Is that so? I did not know about it. Yes, the teacher said so yesterday. Oh, did he? That is not the term examination, is it? No, it is only a monthly test. I suppose it will not be very difficult. No, but we must pass, all the same. Do you think you can pass? I think so. I have studied my English lesson quite well this month. How about you? I have done quite well too, but I was ill one week and missed some lessons. Well, you had better get them up. Yes, I must review all my English lessons for the month. I wonder how many questions the teacher will give us! Oh, about the same as usual, I guess. There will be about five questions, perhaps. He set ten questions last time. Well, that was for a term or a final examination. Yes, it was at the annual examination. Of course the annual examination is more difficult than the term examination. And usually there are more questions too. Do you like examinations? No, I don't. Oh, I do. I think they are fine fun. That is because you always pass well. I am no good at examinations. I get rattled. Oh, you must take your time and think carefully. It is no use to be in too big a hurry in

an examination. Go slowly and surely and you will make more marks.

## XI

### 1. RAINBOWS

Oh, look at that beautiful rainbow ! Yes, it is a beauty, isn't it ? It must be raining somewhere. Yes, it must. There can be no rainbow without rain. Have you ever seen a double rainbow ? Yes, often. You mean one above the other ? Yes, I have often seen that kind of rainbow, but there are not really two bows, you know. One is only the reflection of the other. Oh, is that so ? Yes, my father told me so. Why is it called a rainbow ? Don't you know ? No. That is because it is the shape of a bow. You have seen a bow and arrow, haven't you ? Oh, yes, I have a bow and some arrows. They are only toys. Well, the rainbow is the same shape, isn't it ? Yes, so it is. Can you shoot with your bow and arrow ? Yes, a little. The bow is too small and it does not send the arrow very far. Do you know how many colors there are in the rainbow ? Yes, there are seven colors. Can you name them ? I think so : they are violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. Yes, that is right. Think of VIBGYOR and you will not forget them. Yes,

that is a good way to remember them. Is there no white color in the rainbow? Yes, all these colors together make white.

## 2. SHOOTING

Did you say that you could shoot with a bow and arrow? Yes, I can shoot some. Can you shoot with a gun too? No, a gun is dangerous. I shall shoot with a gun when I become a man. Do you like a bow and arrow better than a gun? I don't know. I have never had a gun. Of course I have an air gun, but it does not shoot very well. I like archery very well. We practice archery at our school. Oh, do you? Can you always hit the target? Yes, I do not find it difficult to hit the target, but it is very difficult to hit the bull's-eye. Have you ever put an arrow in the bull's-eye? Yes, a few times. That was very good. To hit the center is good shooting. Are you good at archery? No, I am not very skillful with the bow. I can do better with a gun. When I grow up I am going to be a soldier and then I shall have a rifle and learn to shoot well. Yes, that will be very interesting. My brother is a soldier. Is that so? Yes, he is in the Eighth Division. Oh, indeed! That is an honor.

### 3. SNOWBALL, THE CAT

Whose big cat is that? She is ours. We call her Snowball. That is a funny name for a cat. Why do you call her by that name? Don't you know? It is because she is white like snow. Yes, but she is not perfectly white. No, she is not all white, but most of her is white. When she is washed she looks very white and clean. Snowball is quite a thief, is she? What does she steal? She goes into the kitchen and takes a piece of meat. The cook should keep her out of the kitchen. Yes, but pussy steals into the kitchen and makes off with the meat before the cook knows about it. Snowball must be a nuisance, then. Yes, she is a great nuisance. We shall have to get rid of her. Shall you sell her? No, no one would buy her. We shall give her away. To whom will you give her away? We may give her to a warehouse man to catch rats and mice. Yes, she would be very useful to catch rats and mice in a warehouse. You will be sorry to give her away, I suppose. Yes, I like her and she is very fond of me. When I come home from school she always comes up to me, rubs her back against my leg and purrs to welcome me. Does



she ever catch birds? Oh, yes; she catches plenty of birds. The birds in our garden will be very glad when we give pussy away. Yes, I suppose they will.

## XII

### I. VACATION

When is the term examination? It is next week, I believe. On what day does it begin? It begins on Monday. Then it takes place a little earlier than last term. Yes, I think so. After that we have two weeks' vacation. Yes, about two weeks. Where will you go for the vacation? I hope to visit my uncle in Hangchow. Oh, that will be very pleasant. Yes, I am looking forward to it with much interest. You will go by train, of course. Yes, but I can go by boat if I like. Perhaps I shall go by train and come back by boat. Have you many friends in Hangchow? No, only my uncle's family. My uncle is a teacher in the middle school there. Oh, is he? Yes; he is a Peking man, but he has been in Hangchow three years. Will you be back before school begins? Yes, I hope to get back a few days before the opening of school. Shall you be glad to get back to school at the end of the vacation? Yes, I shall. I hope you will have a good time in

Hangchow. Thank you; I expect to have a very good time. Well, I must go now. I will see you to-morrow. Yes, all right. Good-by. Good-by.

## 2. FLYING KITES

Come on out with me. I am going out to fly my kite. Oh, is that so? Have you a good kite? Yes, a fine one. Did you make it yourself? No, I bought it. It is a ten-cent kite. It must be a beauty. It is quite a big one. Here it is. Oh, yes; it is a big one. You have a fine, big ball of string too. Yes, it is nearly three hundred feet long. Oh, that is a great length. I must go and get my kite too. All right. Do not be long. You will find me on the square. Very well. I shall be back in a few minutes. . . . Well, you have come back. I see you have your kite. It is a very nice one too. Did you make it or buy it? My brother Frank made it for me. Oh, yours is quite high by this time. I shall never get mine so high. I will try. Here goes! I must run to give it a start. Yours is getting higher and higher. The wind is quite strong to-day. Yours looks like a small bird, it is so high. Yes, but yours will soon be up as high as mine. I doubt

it; mine is not such a good flyer. Play it well on the wind and it will rise. Yes, I am trying hard. It is gradually getting up. Be careful not to cross my string. Yes, all right.

### 3. WRITING TO MY COUSIN

What are you going to do? I am going to write a letter to my cousin in America. I have not written to him for a long time. How long is it since you wrote to him? It is about four months since I last wrote. That is quite a long time. He will be thinking you have forgotten him. Are you going to write with a pencil? Oh, no; one must not write letters with a pencil. A pencil is all right for notes at school, but it will not do to write a letter. I must use a pen and black ink. I do not write many letters, so I fear I shall make many mistakes. If you write slowly and carefully, you will not make many mistakes. Shall you write a long letter? I should like to write a long one, but I am afraid I cannot make it newsy enough, so I had better make it short. What are you going to tell your cousin? I am going first to tell him about my new bicycle and the nice watch father gave me at Christmas. Yes, that will be very interesting to him. Oh, I have no blotting paper. I must get a piece before I begin. Here

is some blotting paper. It is a very small piece, but it will do. You have very nice writing paper and envelopes. Please address the envelope for me, as you write much better than I do. All right, if you like.

### XIII

#### 1. POSTING A LETTER

Are you off to school now? Yes, but I want to drop in at the post office to post this letter. Can't you drop it into a post box by the way? No, I must get a stamp first. There is a branch post office at the next corner. . . . Please give me a one ten-cent stamp. Here you are. Thank you. I must stick the stamp on and put the letter into the pillar box at the door. Oh, you are putting the stamp on upside down. Yes, so I am. Now it is all right. Have you sealed the letter? Yes, it is sealed. How long will it take that letter to reach your cousin in New York? Oh, it will take three or four weeks. Will it take so long as that? I thought it took a letter only three weeks to go to America. Well, it depends on the steamer by which it goes. If it goes by a Canadian Pacific steamer it will get to New York a few days sooner. How is that? The Canadian Pacific steamers do not stop at Honolulu. Oh, I see. Shall we take

a car to school or shall we walk? How much time have we? Oh, we have half an hour yet. It is only half-past seven. Well, we have plenty of time to walk. All right; let us walk then. It will be pleasant to walk.

## 2. KEEPING HENS

Does your father keep hens? Yes, we keep a few for the sake of having fresh eggs. That is very nice. We have new-laid eggs every day. Do your hens ever have chickens? Yes, one of them hatches every now and then. How long does it take the chickens to come out? They come out in two or three weeks, I think. How many chicks does a hen have? Oh, a hen may have all the way from a dozen down to none. Does a hen lay an egg every day? Some hens do and some don't. A good layer lays an egg daily. If you feed them well they lay regularly, but you must not feed them too well or they will not lay at all. Fat hens do not lay many eggs. Is that so? They are like fat men. Fat men cannot work as well as thin men. We have a fine, big rooster too. Have you only one cock? Yes; two would only fight. Do you like to see a cockfight? No, I don't. It is a cruel sight. Yes, I suppose

it is. Has your rooster good spurs? Yes, he has very long ones, and they are very sharp too. Have you ever seen a turkey? No, only in pictures.

### 3. THE INTERIOR OF A HOUSE

Let us go into the house. Thanks. Leave your umbrella in the stand and hang your hat on the rack. Come this way. Thank you. Come into my room. It is upstairs. What a pretty room you have! Yes, it is very cheerful and bright. That is a good oil painting on the wall. Yes, it was painted by my mother. Oh, is that so? She must be quite an artist. It is a picture of her old home. It is a very pretty place. The next picture is a water color. That is by my sister. She is very fond of sketching in water colors. It is a pretty sketch. Yes, I like it. Take a seat. Thank you. Here is my clothes closet and there is my wardrobe. Yes, they are very nice. Your bedroom is very nice. I like your bedroom suite. Yes, the bureau and washstand are quite nice, but I like a brass bedstead better than a wooden one. Do you? This one is quite nice, I think. Whose photograph is that? That is a photograph of my brother in America. Oh, is that so? He is much older than you. Yes, he is ten years older than

I am. I was only a small boy when he went abroad. When is he coming home to visit you? He will be home next summer. You will be delighted to see him. Yes, we are looking forward to his visit with great pleasure. I must go now. Thank you for showing me your room. Oh, that is all right. Good-by.

## XIV

## 1. PUPPIES

Say, we have a litter of puppies at our house. Oh, have you? I will give you one, if you like. How many have you? There are four. Our bitch has four of the nicest pups you could see anywhere. I should like to see them. Come out with me. They are with their mother in the kennel. Oh, yes; they are fine little fellows. Which one would you like? You may have any one you choose. Take whichever one you like. Oh, thanks; you are very generous. Well, we cannot keep all of them, you know. How many shall you keep? Oh, only one, I think. I should like to have a male pup. All right. There are three males. Shall you take it to-day? Are they not too young yet? No, I think not. They are more than ten days old. You see, they have their eyes open. Will they take milk from a saucer? Yes, I am sure

they will. Well, I will take it along with me. My little brother will be delighted with it. May I have this one? It is a darling. He has a white spot on the top of his head and another on the tip of his tail. You don't mind carrying it, do you? No, I can take it all right.

## 2. GEOGRAPHY

Excuse me, but you are going to upset your ink. Oh, thanks. I might have upset it. I upset Frank Smith's ink bottle the other day and blotted his exercise book badly. Oh, that was too bad. Yes, I was very sorry about it. But Frank has forgiven me. Have you a geography lesson to-day? Yes, I have. Do you know it? No, I have not made much preparation. Let me ask you a few questions. Very well. Go ahead. Can you tell me the highest mountain in the world? Yes; it is Mount Everest, isn't it? Yes, that is right. How high is it? It is over twenty-nine thousand feet. Yes; and do you know where it is? It is a peak of the Himalaya range in India. & Yes, quite right. What is the highest mountain in China? The Kuenlun Mountains are the highest mountains in China. What is the longest river in China? The Yangtze is the longest river. What is the longest river in the world? The Mississippi.



Yes. Where is that river? It is in the United States. Yes, that is right. You know geography quite well. Yes, so long as you ask me easy questions I can answer. Oh, those questions are quite difficult. Are they? I do not think so.

### 3. SPRING

We shall soon have spring again, shan't we? Yes, spring will soon be here. I love the spring, don't you? Yes, I do. Do you like it better than any of the other seasons? Yes, I like the spring best of the four seasons? The weather is now getting gradually warmer. There will be no more snow this year. No, I think not. April is always a lovely month, I think. Yes, it is the month for cherry blossoms. The peach blossoms have not come out yet. No, they will not be out for a week yet. Where can we go to see them? We can go to Lung Hwa. The peach blossoms were very beautiful last year. Yes, but the rain spoiled them a little. I hope we shall have no rain in peach-blossom time this year. No, I hope not. Are you going to see the peach blossoms this year? Yes, if I can get away. Would you like to go? I should be delighted. March, April, and May are the spring months, aren't they? Yes, each season has three months.

## XV

## 1. BUILDING A SNOW MAN

Oh, it is snowing. Yes, so it is. I am so glad. I love to see the snow. Now we shall have a jolly time snowballing. Yes, and let us make a snow man too. Oh, yes; that will be good fun. Can you build a snow man? Yes, I think so. Can you? I have never made one. I don't think I could. How do you begin? At first you take a big snowball and roll it along in the snow until it gets very big. Then you roll along another one until it is just as big, and you set that one on top of the other one. When the body is high enough you make a small snowball for the neck and then one a little bigger for the head. But how do you make his eyes and nose and mouth? Oh, that is easy. Two bits of coal will do for the eyes. His nose you make of snow and blacken it a little with coal or ashes; and you can make his mouth in the same way. Does a snow man have any arms? Oh, yes; you can make arms for him too. Stick two sticks in his sides and cover them with damp snow and put a snowball on the end of each for fists. Oh, that would be a fine snow man. We must make one. Yes, but you can't make him unless

the snow is quite damp. Dry snow is no good. I hope the snow will be damp enough to make a snow man. Yes, I hope so.

## 2. TELEPHONING

I see an automobile coming. Whose is it, I wonder. It is Mr. Kuo's, I think. Yes, so it is. I see him in it. He is slowing up. He is waiting for us to cross the street. Let us hurry and get across. How quickly he speeds along! Yes, like the wind. Oh, I want to send a telephone message. To whom do you wish to telephone? I want to phone to Frank Smith to tell him that I cannot go to play tennis with him this afternoon. Is that so? May I use your telephone? Yes, you may. I will ring up Central. Yes; what number, please? Give me central one eight one nine. Hello! Is this central one eight one nine? Yes. Who is speaking? It is Charles Brown. Is Frank Smith at home? Yes. Tell him to come to the phone, please. Very well. Hello! Is that you, Frank? Well, I am sorry I cannot go to play tennis this afternoon. I have to do something else. Oh, is that so? I am sorry too. Yes, I must call it off. Sorry to disappoint you. Never mind. It can't be helped. I will come another time. All right. Good-by. Did you ring off? Yes, I rang off.

### 3. A FREIGHT TRAIN

Here is a train waiting at the crossing. We cannot get over till it passes. Yes, it is a freight train. What a long train it is! Yes, and what a huge locomotive! Yes, it has three drivewheels on each side. Their diameter is over six feet, I should say. Yes, it must be. It is a very powerful engine. I wonder how many cars it can pull? Oh, it can pull a great many. Could it haul two hundred? Not that many, I think. There is no engine equal to hauling so many as that. How many cars are in this train? I don't know. Let us count them. There are over a hundred, I think. Yes, I counted one hundred and ten. I wonder what horse power that engine is. I cannot say. A good many thousand, I guess. But it is the steam that does it all. Yes, steam is a mighty power, isn't it? Would you like to be an engine driver? Yes, I think it would be interesting work. A locomotive engineer has to be a very careful man. It is dangerous work, too, isn't it? Yes, sometimes it is.

## XVI

### 1. FLOWERS

Are you fond of flowers? Yes, very. Do you like wild flowers better than garden ones?

No, I like garden flowers better. I have a corner of my own in our garden. Have you? And what have you sown in it? I have sown many flower seeds. When did you plant them? I planted them in the spring. Indeed! Have they all come up? Yes, most of them have sprouted. Some of them are just peeping above the ground. A few of them are quite high now. None of them are in bloom yet? No, it is too early for them to blossom. I must water them more often and they will grow better. Yes, they must be watered regularly. What kinds of flowers are they? Oh, there are various kinds. Some of them are sweetpeas. I planted some mignonette, too. They will be quite pretty when they flower. Yes, I am looking forward to having many pretty flowers. When they come out in bloom I will send a bouquet to your mother. Oh, thank you; she will be delighted to have it. She will put it on the dining table. I always like to see flowers on the dining table at meals. Yes, I do too. My mother always has a vase of flowers there.

## 2. FISHING

Would you like to come fishing with me? Yes, I should be delighted to go, but I have no rod and line. I will lend you some fishing tackle.

I have a spare rod and plenty of hooks, which I can let you have. Oh, thank you so much. Where shall we go? Let us try the stream down behind our house. There are usually fish in it. . . . Here is a deep place. Let us try it. It looks as if it would be a likely place for fish. What kind of fish can one get in this stream? Only small trout, I think. We must not talk now or the fish will be scared and won't bite. Yes, let us keep silence. Oh, I have had a bite already. Here, I have him. It is only a tiny one. Yes, it is too small to keep. I will throw him back again. I must try to get him off the hook without injuring him. Yes, if you injure him he will die. There, little chap; go back to your mother. His mamma will be glad to have him back with her. I have half a mind to try another place. The fish seem to be very scarce here. Yes, it seems so. I wish we could catch enough for supper. Yes, I am very fond of fried trout. So am I. I want to hook a one-pounder, if I can. I am afraid there are none so big as that in this stream. No, I am afraid not.

### 3. A RUNAWAY HORSE

Oh, I saw a dreadful sight on my way to school to-day. What was it? It was a runaway horse.

Oh, dear! Where was it? It was on Main Street. There was a lady in a carriage, and her horse shied at an automobile and bolted down the street. She tried to hold him in, but he took the bit in his teeth and made off at top speed. All went well till he suddenly turned around a corner. The carriage upset and the lady was thrown out. Oh, that was awful. Yes, it was. The woman was quite stunned. The police carried her into a house, but I don't know whether she was killed or not. Was the carriage smashed? Yes, smashed to bits. It struck against a big telephone post and went to pieces. Was the horse stopped? Yes, the police stopped him after a bit. Did he injure any one else? I don't think so. When the people saw the horse come tearing down the street they made themselves scarce. They ran like rats in all directions. Only the policeman was brave enough to attack the horse. It is very difficult to stop a runaway horse without getting hurt one's self. Yes, it is a risky thing to try. Many a one gets injured or killed in that way. I hope the woman was not fatally hurt. I hope not. We shall read about it in the newspaper this evening. Yes, I suppose so.

## XVII

## I. FIGHTING AT SCHOOL

Do any of the boys in your school ever fight? No, not very often. We have boxing for amusement but no real fighting. Is that so? Yes, but sometimes a boy gets angry at another and tries to blacken his eye. That does not happen often. Our boys very seldom come to blows. Do the lads in your school quarrel? Sometimes they do. The other day Charles Brown got angry at Tom Jones and gave him a back-hand blow on the nose, making it bleed. It isn't nice to see boys fighting, is it? No, it is anything but nice. It is always better to forgive than to fight. But if a fellow is very bad he is apt to get a licking. I like to see a bully get beaten. Yes, I suppose that is natural. The teachers in our school do not permit quarrels. It is against the rules for boys to fight. If they have a dispute which they cannot settle without fighting, they must report it to the teacher. Yes, that is a very good way to settle it. What would you do? If a boy hit you, would you hit him back? If he hit me in fun I should hit him back; but if he wanted to start a row I should report him to the teacher. Yes, that is right.



## 2. A LAZY BOY

You know Fred Lankey, don't you? Yes, I know him. He is a good-for-nothing sort of fellow, isn't he? Yes, he is fearfully lazy. An awfully lazy fellow, isn't he? He certainly has the name of being lazy. He must have been born tired. He seems to love idleness. Yes, he is idle most of the time. Is he idle at school? Yes, he does not study much: in fact, he hardly studies at all. He is a slovenly looking chap too. His clothes are so ragged and dirty and always seem to be falling off. He likes to wear his hat on the back of his head. He thinks it smart, I suppose. The teacher is always at him to look clean and tidy, but he seems to pay no attention. Perhaps his parents are poor and ignorant. Yes, perhaps so. A lazy boy makes a lazy man, so I suppose Lankey will grow up to be a useless fellow. Yes, if he does not change he will come to nothing. It is a pity, isn't it? Yes, a great pity. I always feel sorry to see a boy make a fool of himself. Yes, so do I.

## 3. CARPENTRY

Do you like joinering? Yes, I do. I think I should like to be a carpenter. I am very fond of driving nails. Can you drive a nail straight? Can

you always hit it on the head? Yes, I can, if I have a good hammer. But a real carpenter can drive a nail even with a bad hammer. They say a poor carpenter quarrels with his tools. Yes, that is a proverb, isn't it? Yes, it is an old English proverb. Do you know the meaning of it? Yes, it means that the bad workman always has an excuse for doing bad work. Yes, quite right. When he does not succeed he puts it down to his tools. Just like some boys at school: when they are too lazy to learn anything they say the teacher is no good. Are you good with tools? I can use some tools. Can you use a saw and a plane? Yes, a little. But I can drive nails best. Have you ever tried to bore a hole with an auger? No, not with an auger, but I have used a brace and bit to bore holes. Did you succeed all right? Yes, I managed it very well. In some schools they offer a course called manual training. Do you take it at school? Yes; but we do not have carpentry. Is that so? In my school it is required. Mr. Pei, our principal, can use the plane and the saw very well. He teaches the course himself.

## XVIII

## I. AËROPLANES

You have seen an aëroplane, I suppose. Yes, I once saw one flying over Shanghai. Have you ever ridden in one? Oh, no, never. Did you ever ride in one? No, but I should like to. I do not think I would like to ride in an aëroplane. It is too dangerous. There are so many accidents. I have a toy aëroplane. Is that so? Yes, my father gave it to me. Are aëroplanes of any practical use? Yes, they are used for carrying messages and mails; and in time of war they are used for scouting and finding out where the enemy is. Aëroplanes are used in the navy and in the army. Yes, I know they are. I saw a water aëroplane at Woosung. It is called a hydroaëroplane, or waterplane. Have you seen an airship too? Yes, I saw one in Shanghai. I think an airship is safer than an aëroplane. Yes, it is, but it cannot go so fast. No, the airship travels quite slowly. How fast does an aëroplane go? It goes at the rate of sixty miles an hour. That is very fast, isn't it? Yes, it is a mile a minute. Who is the best aëronaut in China? I don't know; let me find out.

## 2. MISTAKES IN SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION

Are you good in dictation? No, not very good. I make too many mistakes in spelling. I make a good many blunders too. I always forget to dot my "i's" and cross my "t's." Yes, and I often forget to put in capitals at the beginning of sentences and for proper nouns. What words do you find most difficult to spell? I think the word "receive" is quite difficult, and the word "believe" also. Yes, in those words I often put the "i" in the wrong place. I often put "l" for "r" too. Yes, that is a common mistake with beginners. Do you punctuate correctly? No, I make a good many mistakes in punctuation. I cannot tell when to put a semicolon and when to put a period. Yes, that is more difficult than the comma. But you must always have a period at the end of a sentence. Yes, I know. Can you always write straight? No, I begin straight, but after a few lines I go crooked. Do you like going to the blackboard? No, I don't; I dislike writing on the board, as I never do it well. I can always write better on paper. I am more used to it. Yes, it is difficult to write with chalk. But one has to take one's turn at it. Yes.

## 3. FELIX HELPS MOTHER

Felix Phipps is not coming back to school this term. Have you heard? No, why is he coming? He is leaving school. Oh, is he? I wonder why. Well, you know his father died some time ago and Felix has to help his mother now. Oh, indeed. I am very sorry he has to leave school. Yes, I am very sorry for him too. It is too bad. What is he going to do? He has a place as messenger boy in a bank, I believe. Is that so? He is quite a deserving lad, so he will get on well wherever he goes. Yes, he is a good fellow. His mother is not very strong and can't work much. Felix will have to support the family. It is unfortunate for him to lose his father, isn't it? Yes, very. He was quite fortunate in finding a vacancy in the bank, wasn't he? Yes, he was. He is an upright fellow and he will always make friends wherever he is. Yes, such boys always succeed. The boy is father to the man, as the old proverb says. Yes, that is so. Let us go to see him some evening. Perhaps we can help him in some way. Yes, all right. I should like to go with you. I will ask my father to give me a present for Felix and his mother. That would be very kind. Perhaps my father will do the same. We shall see.

## XIX

## 1. DRAWING

Do you care for drawing? Yes, I like it quite well, but I am not good at it. I am not very clever at it myself, but my brother is quite an artist with his pencil. Is that so? Yes, he does some very good sketches. He draws in black and white, does he? Yes, mostly. He can do pen and ink sketches and also with crayon. I can draw a little. Last time at school we drew a pine tree. How did you do? Oh, I don't know. The teacher said it was not bad, but I think he said so to encourage me. He said it could be better. I thought so myself. I should like to be able to paint well. Well, if you learn to draw you may be able to paint some day. Do you like oil painting better than water colors? Yes, I think I do. I wonder which is the more difficult. I don't know. My mother gave me a nice box of paints with brushes last week. Oh, that was nice. Have you tried them yet? Yes, I have, but I have only made some daubs with them. I have not learned the secret of mixing paints and forming the various colors yet. Oh, that is very important. Yes, I will learn it by degrees.

## 2. COOKE PUNISHED

Will Cooke looks very glum to-day. Yes, I see he does. What is the matter with him? I suppose it is because the teacher punished him yesterday. Why did he punish him? Will pulled the hair of the boy in front of him. Oh, that was naughty of him. How did the teacher punish him? The teacher made him stand in the corner, facing the wall, and learn two verses of a poem. As soon as he could say the verses by heart the teacher allowed him to return to his seat. Well, it served him right. He had no business to interfere with others. He should attend to his lessons. Boys do not go to school to play tricks in class. They go to study. Yes, that is so, but Will often forgets his duty. He does not keep his eye on his book for long. He is often up to mischief. As soon as the teacher's head is turned Will is up to something. That is very bad. He will be a dunce. Does he attend school regularly? Yes, he comes regularly, but he is not always punctual. Well, punctuality is necessary to success.

## 3. ROWING

I went for a row on the river yesterday afternoon Oh, did you? That must be delightful. Did you

have a good time? Yes, fine. Where did you row to? We rowed over to the other side of the river and climbed up the rocks. Did you row? Yes, I had an oar. My oar once slipped out of the rowlock and I tumbled back off the seat. Oh, what a joke! I quickly recovered myself. How many rowers were there? We had six rowers, three on each side. Did you row stroke? No, I rowed bow. My father was cox. Just as we got about midstream a steamer came along and we had to rest on our oars to let her pass. The wash from the wake of the steamer almost upset us. Oh, that was dangerous. Yes, a little risky. Sometimes the wash from a steamer upsets a small boat. Yes, I know it does. One has to be very careful. After the steamer passed we bent on our oars and were soon across on the other side. Was it your own rowboat? No, we hired it. Ours is rather small. Are you fond of rowing? Yes, I am very fond of it. I hope you will come with us some time. Thank you, I should like to go very much. I will let you know when we go next time. Thanks ; all right.

## XX

### 1. A FOUNTAIN PEN LOST

Why are you putting on such a long face? You seem to be in a brown study. Are you feeling



bad? Yes, I lost my new fountain pen. Oh, is that so? That is unfortunate. Where did you lose it? Have you any idea? I lost it on the playground somewhere, I think. I wonder where. I was wrestling with Tim Kelly a few minutes ago and it might have dropped out of my pocket. It was just about here somewhere. Did your pen have a clip on it? Yes, but it did not hold. Let us have a look for it. Are you sure this is the spot? Yes, I think so. I do not see it anywhere. No, nor I. Perhaps one of the boys picked it up. If so he will give it to the teacher and you will get it all right. Yes, I must speak to the teacher about it. I hope it is not lost, as it was a very good one and quite new. Yes, it would be a pity to lose it. Have you ever lost it before? No, never. I thought it was quite safe in my pocket, especially as it had a clip. Yes, it is safe enough usually, but in wrestling one is quite rough and it might easily be pulled loose and fall out. Yes, that is so.

## 2. RIDING A DONKEY

We have a little donkey at our house. Did you know? No, when did you get it? Oh, we have had it now for over a week. Do you ride it? Yes, I ride him a little. But he is not yet quite safe to ride. He often balks and is very stubborn.

Yes, most donkeys are obstinate. Does he kick? No, but when I am riding him sometimes he will stop stock-still and won't budge an inch. Do you try the whip on him? Yes, but his hide is so thick and tough that he does not feel the whip. I like a horse better. I will try to get my father to exchange him for a horse. Yes, that would be better. The donkey may be better after he is more broken in. You say he does not kick? No, he does not kick at me, but if a dog goes near his heels he lets fly both heels at him. Yes, donkeys do not care to have dogs near them. Have you a cart for him? No, not yet. I ride him only. You must come and have a ride on him some time. Thanks, I should like to try him. You have a good saddle, I expect. Yes, a very good saddle. It was made in New York.

### 3. NEW YEAR

How do you do, Smith; I wish you a happy New Year. Thanks; the same to you. Thanks. It is nice weather for the New Year, isn't it? Yes, splendid. It could not be better. Oh, here is Ned Hunter. I must wish him the compliments of the season. How do you do, Ned. A happy New Year to you. Thank you; the same to you, and many of them. Thanks. How are you going

to spend the New Year? I am going to call on a few friends at first. In the evening we are to have a New Year's party at our house. Oh, what are those girls going to do over there? They are going to play battledore and shuttlecock. Oh, yes; so they are. You are not setting out to make calls now, are you? Yes, I am going my rounds right away, so as to get it over. May I go with you? Yes, if you like. Oh, here is where the principal of our school lives. I must leave a card on him. Yes, leave one of mine, too, will you? Yes, let me have your card and I will leave it with mine. Well, we have made quite a round of calls. Yes, it was very pleasant. Did you send any New Year's picture post cards this year? Yes, a few. I sent them mostly to friends in England and America. The New Year's picture post cards are quite pretty this year, aren't they? Yes, they are for the year of the rat. Well, I shall see you this evening. Yes, all right.

## XXI

## 1. OLD MRS. HUGHES

Who is that old woman? That is old Mrs. Hughes. Don't you know her? No; I have heard her name before, but this is the first time I have seen her. Is that so? Oh, I have known

her quite a long time. She often comes to our house. Why does she come to your house so often? She comes to see my mother, I suppose. They have tea together whenever she comes. What makes her so bent, I wonder? That is because she is so very old. Old women are often bent in that way. When you are eighty years of age perhaps you will be bent too. Yes, perhaps so, but I hope not. No, I hope not, but one never knows. Where is Mrs. Hughes going now? I don't know, I am sure. May be she is on her way home. Yes, may be so. She walks quite fast for so old a lady. Yes, she does; but some old ladies can walk fast, you know. Yes, of course. Does old Mrs. Hughes live all alone? No, she lives with her son and his wife. Is that so? Yes, their house is just around the next corner.

## 2. CALL ON A RAINY DAY

How do you do? How do you do? I'm so glad to see you. Thank you, I am pleased to see you. Excuse my not shaking hands, as my hands are a little wet from the rain. Yes, it is raining quite fast. You did not get much wet, did you? No, not very. I used my umbrella and my rain-coat. That is good. Please remove your coat and hat and come into the sitting room. Thank you. Hang your hat on the rack. I will put your

umbrella in the stand. Allow me to take your coat. I will have it put by the fire to dry. Oh, thank you; do not trouble. Come into the sitting room. Thanks. Take this chair. It was very kind of you to come to see me this afternoon in the rain. Oh, I wanted to come sooner, but I have been so busy. Yes, I suppose you are usually very busy. How is everything with you? Very well indeed, thank you. Nothing new, I suppose. No, nothing unusual. You have heard that Herbert MacPherson is entering the medical college, I suppose? Yes, his father told me, yesterday. Is he going to be a doctor? Yes, I expect so. I should not like to be a doctor; should you? No, it would be uninteresting to have to visit so many sick people. Yes, and sometimes you would have to cut off their legs or arms. Oh, that is a surgeon's work. I should not like to be a surgeon; I would sooner be a physician. It is well that some one likes to do unpleasant work, isn't it? Yes, or it would be left undone.

### 3. LIFTING EACH OTHER

Phillip Burns is quite a strong chap, isn't he? Yes, I think he is. Have you any special reason for saying so? Well, the other day we were all

trying to see how much we could lift, and Burns was able to lift more than any one of us. Is that so? How much did he lift? He lifted a weight of one hundred ten pounds. Oh, indeed; one hundred ten pounds is quite a weight for a young fellow to lift. Can you not lift one hundred ten pounds? I don't think so. How much can you lift, then? Not more than seventy-five pounds, I think. Oh, I can lift more than that, I think. Can you lift me? Yes, of course I can. You do not weigh seventy-five pounds. Yes, I weigh eighty-nine pounds. I'll bet I can raise you off the ground; let me try. All right; go ahead. Let me get my arms around you. There! You see I can easily lift you. You are as light as a feather. No, I am not so light, but you are very strong. Did you suppose I could not lift you? No, I did not know that you could; but now I see that you can. Now, let me lift you. What! You can't lift me! I am a giant, you know. No, you are not too heavy for me to lift. Now, you see I have lifted you, although you tried to prevent me. How did I try to prevent you? Why, you hung dead in my arms and made it very difficult for me to raise you off the ground. You should hold yourself stiff and then the lifting is easier.

## XXII

## 1. PINE TREES

Oh, what a beautiful pine tree! Yes, the pines along the moat are very fine. They are very old, I suppose? Yes, they were planted there more than three hundred years ago. Who planted them, I wonder? They were planted by an official of the Ming dynasty. I love the scent of pine needles, don't you? Yes, the odor of pines is pleasant. Are those red pines or black pines? I don't know; but they look like black pines. The red pine grows chiefly inland, doesn't it? Yes, I believe so. The black pine loves the coast. Some of the big pines have very gnarled branches, haven't they? Yes, they have. I like to see the snow on the pines, don't you? Yes, it is a truly beautiful sight. Yes, it is specially beautiful at the New Year. There was no snow last New Year, was there? No, we have had no snow at New Year's for a long time. Have you ever tried to compose a poem on the snow upon the pine branches? No, but I have read poems on that subject. Yes, there are very beautiful poems on that subject. Yes, have you read them? Yes, I have read them. Did you understand them well? No, not very well, but

my father explained them to me. The pine is a symbol of long life, isn't it? Yes, it is. That is because it is an evergreen. Its leaves never fade like those of other trees. No; they are always green.

## 2. A LAMP AND A BAT

Turn on the light, please. Which lamp shall I turn on? Turn on the fifty-candle-power lamp. All right. That big lamp is an Osram, isn't it? Yes, it is. Did you buy the bulb in town? Yes, I got it at Sincere's. How much did you pay for it? It was sixty cents big money. That is not very dear for so big a bulb, is it? No, not so dear. Does it give good light? Yes, it gives a better light than others I have used. How long will it last? Oh, it will last for more than a year if it is used carefully. It must not be handled roughly or the inside wire will break. Yes, I suppose so. Sit near the light, won't you? You cannot see to read at that distance. It will injure your eyes. Thanks, I will sit here. Shall I open the window? Yes, you may; it is getting a little too warm here. Thanks, that will be enough. Oh, what is that thing flying about the room? It looks like a bat. Yes, it is a bat, no doubt. A bat is a strange creature, isn't it? Yes, very



curious. It looks like a mouse and yet it flies like a bird. Does it lay eggs like a bird? No, I think not. It does not build a nest; and it sleeps hanging up by the toes in some old building. I wonder what it lives on? Oh, it catches flies and other insects. Does it bite? Yes, if you touch it, it will use its sharp teeth on you. Oh, it has flown out again. Yes, it is happy now. It came into the room by mistake.

### 3. A FUNERAL PROCESSION

Why are the cars all stopping here? See! There are twenty or thirty cars waiting! Yes, there must be some reason for it. I will ask this gentleman. Sir, excuse me, but may I ask what is the matter? A great funeral procession is coming this way. Dr. Sun Yat-sen's body is to be carried to the station this morning on the way to Nanking. Oh, is that so? Thank you. So you see his casket is expected. All the people are standing along either side of the street to see it. There, it is coming. Yes, I see it. It is in that carriage with the fine pair of horses. Yes, that's it. How slowly and solemnly they have passed! Now the cars will go on and all the crowd will scatter. The people all took off their hats, did they not? Yes, of course; they always do so, out of respect to the founder of the Republic.

They bowed the head also. Yes, that is right; it is not so polite to hold the head up staring in an inquisitive manner. To bow the head is quite proper. I hope you always do so. Yes, I always do so. That is right.

## XXIII

### I. A FARMER

Would you like to be a farmer? No, I should not. Why not? Oh, I should not like working in the clay all the time. Well, most people in the world are farmers, you know. Yes, I suppose so. But I am not a farmer. I am a student. Well, if all the people in the world were students, where should we get rice and vegetables and other food? We cannot live without the farmer, you see. Yes, that is so. The farmer is a very useful and necessary person. He feeds the world. Yes, he is more necessary than any other person. A good farmer is also a good student. He must study the soil and understand how to grow things. A foolish or an ignorant man cannot be a successful farmer. The farmer is the backbone of the nation. One of the boys in our class is the son of a farmer; he is quite a clever lad too. Is that so? Does he live near the city? No, his father lives far in the country, but he has sent his son to the

city to get an education. What is the boy going to be? He intends to study for a teacher, I think. The farmer has many other sons at home. Are not farmers usually very poor? No, by no means. Some are poor and some are very well off. But poverty is no disgrace. A man may be poor but honest. The main thing in life is to do one's duty faithfully, and a farmer may do that as well as a famous man.

## 2. LIGHTNING AND THUNDER

It is very cloudy, isn't it? Yes, it looks like rain. Do you think it will rain? I hardly think so. There is a patch of blue sky yonder, and that is a good sign. You had better take an umbrella in any case, lest it should rain. We had quite a heavy rain last night. Yes, it rained nearly all night. The streets were very muddy this morning. I had to wear my rubbers. I heard some thunder too. Yes, it is rather early in the season for thunder, isn't it? Yes, it is, isn't it? Did you see any lightning last night? No, I saw no lightning. The thunder sounded in the distance. Yes, it was probably very far away. Are you frightened in a thunderstorm? No, not very; but I don't like it very much. Ralph Piggott runs under the bed when he hears thunder. Is that so? He must be a coward. Is under the bed a safe place?

No; no safer than any other place. It is not safe to stand under a tree during a thunderstorm; one should stay in the house, if possible, and not stand near an open door or window. Last summer a house near ours was struck by lightning. There was an awful clap of thunder and the lightning ran down one corner, breaking the house a little. It is fortunate the house did not take fire. Yes, it was fortunate.

### 3. SUMMER VACATION IN A VILLAGE

Where did you spend your summer vacation? We went to a village in the mountains. Oh, did you? And did you have a pleasant time? Yes, very pleasant, thank you. What did you do? Some days we climbed mountains, and some days we went fishing along the streams. That must be interesting. Did you get any fish? Yes, a few, but they were quite small: only brook trout. But they were very good to eat. Yes, I suppose they tasted good. Was the place near the station? No, the village was about ten miles from the railway. Oh, indeed. And how did you reach it? We went by omnibus. Oh, there was a bus, was there? Yes, a queer old thing, which went very slowly. The horse was a very poor one, while the bus could carry only six persons. Was it a level road? No, there were many hills, some

of which were quite steep. Was the horse able to pull you up the hills? No; we had to get out and walk up the hills, but my mother stayed in the omnibus. My father and my sister and I walked. How did you manage for food? Oh, there was plenty of food in the village. I am glad you had a nice summer.

## XXIV

### I. CHINESE AND FOREIGN FOOD

Can you eat Chinese food? Yes, I am quite fond of it. At first when I came to China I could not eat anything except rice. Now I eat almost all kinds of Chinese food. Do you like foreign food? Yes, I eat foreign food, but I like Chinese food better. Yes, I suppose you do. What kind of Chinese food do you like best? I think I like plain food best. Yes, that is right. Dishes for the feast are good too, but they are too rich. What kind of foreign food do you prefer? I like beefsteak and onions with vegetables, don't you? Yes, I like that a little; but I prefer roast beef to steak. Let us go into this restaurant and have lunch together. All right. Shall we sit at this table? Yes, if you like. What shall we order? They have only foreign food here, I think. Yes, this restaurant has only foreign food. Shall

we try some steak? Yes, but it may be tough. Perhaps ham and eggs would be better. Just as you like. Well, then I will order ham and eggs for two. Yes, all right. Ham and eggs for two, please. All right; it will be ready presently. . . . This ham and eggs are very good. Yes, the eggs are fresh. Shall we have some coffee? Yes, it would go very well. Two cups of coffee, please. Shall we have toast or more bread? I would like a piece of toast, wouldn't you? Yes, I should. Some toast, please. Will you have anything more? No more, thank you. Waiter, bill, please. How much is it? It is seventy-five cents. Let me pay. No, I will pay.

## 2. GOING TO AMERICA

My brother is going to America next week. Is that so? Yes, and my mother and I are going to Shanghai to see him off. By what ship is he going? He sails by the President Wilson. Is that an Admiral Line boat? No, it is a Dollar ship. Oh, yes; I remember now; it belongs to the Dollar Company. That is a very large ship, isn't it? Yes, it is one of the largest and finest ships crossing the Pacific. She is a new boat, is she not? Yes, almost new. She was built about five years ago. Was she built at Shanghai? Not at

Shanghai, no! She was built in the United States. Has your brother taken his passage yet? Yes, he booked a passage yesterday. I hope he has a comfortable cabin. Yes, he was very fortunate in getting a cabin amidships. Is it an outside cabin? No, an inside cabin. The outside cabins are very expensive. Yes, I suppose so. Is he a good sailor? Yes, very good, I think; he never gets seasick. That is good. What time does he expect to reach San Francisco? The ship will reach there in about three weeks, I think. She calls at Honolulu, you know. Yes, I believe she does. Will your brother stay in San Francisco? No, he is going on to New York. He is going on business, and expects to return in about three months. Oh, is that so? I hope he will have a pleasant trip.

### 3. SEEING A FRIEND OFF AT SHANGHAI

Are you all ready to leave for the steamer? Yes, I am all ready. It's good of you to come. Well, I want to say good-bye to you. How kind of you! I appreciate your kindness. Let me accompany you to the steamer. Oh, that is not necessary; it takes such a long time. Never mind; I have time. Then, let's start. All right. Let me carry that package for you. If you will, please. Is it too heavy for you? Oh, no; not at

all. How about that grip? I take that. Is this all you have to take? Yes; my heavy baggage went this morning. I see. Here we are at the jetty. Is this the tender that's going to take us over to the Dollar wharf? I think so. Now I am sure, for there's the \$ sign on the smoke-stack. You are right. Let's go on board. All right. We have fifteen minutes to wait. What a lot of people come to see friends off! Yes, it's a sight worth seeing. Some are so jolly and some sad. That's because some are going on a holiday trip and expect to come back soon, while others are parting for a long time. There goes the whistle. We're off. How pretty is the skyline of Shanghai from the river! Isn't it pretty! The river is full of junks and steamers. So it is. This port is a busy place. It surely is a busy place. Do you know that it is the second largest port in the world in tonnage cleared? Is that so? Which is the largest? New York. Just imagine that Shanghai is ahead of London, San Francisco, and Hongkong! That must be your steamer. I believe so. Your cabin is very nice. I must go back. I hope you will have a good trip. Thank you. I shall write you. Please do. Good-by. Good-by.



## XXV

## I. DICTATION

Let us have some dictation this hour. Boys, take your notebooks. May we use a pencil, sir? Yes, you may use a pencil for the first copy, but the final copy must be written in ink. I have left my notebook in the next room, sir. May I go and get it? Yes, you may. Thank you, sir. Are you all ready? Then, I will begin. Am I reading too fast for any of you? If I am, please stop me. Now, that is all. Read over the dictation carefully and correct any mistakes you find, and then rewrite it with pen and ink on a sheet of clean paper. Shall we give the paper to you, sir? Yes, all of you hand in your papers to me, please. I want to look over them and give marks. Frank, haven't you finished yet? You are rather slow about it. Most of the other boys have finished. I am sorry to be so slow, sir. Never mind. Take your time and do it well. Slow and sure is better than fast and wrong. Well, Charles, what is it? I have broken the point of my pencil, sir. I want to borrow a knife to sharpen it. Very well. You may do so. Frank, will you kindly lend me your knife to sharpen this pencil? Certainly; here it is. Thank you. I have finished with it; thank you.

## 2. A FIRE

There was a fire near our house last night. Oh, is that so? Yes, about ten o'clock we heard the fire bell ringing; and on looking out through the upstairs window we saw the flames coming from a house near by. Oh, that was rather dangerous, wasn't it? Yes, we felt frightened for some time. At first we all ran to see the fire. A great many people were looking at it. Was the fire brigade there? Yes, the firemen were there, and were working very hard to put out the fire. They kept the fire hose playing on the flames for some time and then the fire began to die down. They succeeded in putting it out, did they? Yes, they did. That was good. Was the house much damaged? Yes, it was almost destroyed. The roof fell in and part of one side was all burned down. Was any of the furniture saved? Yes, I think most of the contents of the house were saved. That was fortunate. Yes, fortunately there was not much wind and the flames did not spread. I think fires are dreadful things, especially at night. Yes, they are. We do not have so many in Shanghai as formerly. No, since the electric light came the fires are fewer. Many fires were caused by oil lamps.

### 3. SHOPPING WITH MOTHER

What have you been doing to-day? This morning I went shopping with my mother. Oh, indeed; that must be interesting. Where did you go? We went along Nanking Road. Is that the best shopping street in Shanghai? Yes, I think it is. Nanking Road is not near your house, is it? No, it is quite a long way off. We took an electric car and soon reached the Sincere Company. First we went to the grocery department, as my mother wanted to buy some provisions. Yes, and what did she buy? She bought some bacon, a few tins of peas, and a pound of cheese. Then the shopman asked if there was anything else we wanted. He said: "Anything else, madam?" And my mother said: "Yes, I will take a half-pound tin of cocoa and a one-pound tin of oatmeal." Then we called at the jewelry department. My mother left her watch there to have a new mainspring put in. Did you see anything interesting in the jeweler's? Yes, there were many pretty things in silver and gold. And what did you do after that? Then we went to a tailoring department and my mother ordered a new suit for me. Oh, you would like that, wouldn't you? Yes, I shall be very glad to have the new suit. It is of gray tweed cloth. That will be very nice.

Yes, I think I shall like it. When is it to be finished? It will be finished next Wednesday. What time did you get home? It was about one o'clock when we got home. Just in time for lunch. Yes, we sat down and had lunch at once.

## XXVI

### I. ORDERING EGGS AND BUTTER

James, on your way to school this morning, kindly call at the grocer's and order some eggs and butter. All right, mother. How many eggs shall I order? Order two dozen; three-cent eggs will do. Yes, and how much butter? Tell them to send up one pound of fresh butter. What brand of butter shall I ask for? Get the Daisy Brand butter. Is there anything else you would like me to order? No, I cannot think of anything else just now. Tell them to bring the eggs and butter this forenoon. Very well . . . Mrs. Anderson, the eggs and butter have come. Is that so? Yes, the grocer's boy has brought them. Well, count the eggs and see that there are two dozen, and that none of them is cracked. What butter did they send? I will see . . . Yes, ma'am; there are just two dozen eggs; and the butter is the Daisy Brand. Very well; that is all right.

Has the boy brought the bill? Yes, he has. It is \$1.50 in all. Here is the money; please pay him and have him receipt the bill. It is receipted. Here it is. Yes, that is all right. These eggs look a little stale. I hope they are fresher than they look. Perhaps they are. Take them to the cook and tell her to put them in the pantry. She may take three of the eggs to make some sponge cake for tea this afternoon. All right; I will tell her. Be careful not to let the eggs fall; that paper bag is not very strong, I think. Yes, I will hold it carefully. Oh, it is already eleven o'clock. Tell the cook not to be late with luncheon.

## 2. FATHER GOES TO MOKANSHAN

Walter, your father is going to Mokanshan today for a little rest. Is that so? I thought he was going somewhere, as I saw him getting ready. By what train is he going? He will leave by the ten-ten train. The 10:10 train? He has not much time to spare, has he? No, he will have to hurry. Is the packing all done? Not quite: he has to put his raincoat and night clothes in the valise yet. Ask him what you can do to help him. . . . Father, is there anything I can do to help you with your packing? Yes, please bring down my hairbrush and comb,

and also my toothbrush and tooth powder, and put them in my handbag. All right. They are on your bureau, I suppose. Yes, on the bureau in my dressing room. Is the valise all packed now? Yes, all finished, I think. Then I will shut it and lock it. Where is the key? Here it is. When you finish with it, give it back to father. Has the ricksha been ordered? Yes, it has. Well, it has not come yet. Oh, here is the ricksha now. Are you ready, father? Yes, all ready. You can put your valise between your feet and hold your small handbag on your knees. Well, good-by, father. I hope you will have a pleasant trip. Thank you; good-by to all. Good-by.

### 3. BACK FROM MOKANSHAN

Oh, here is father! He has arrived back from Mokanshan. Hello, father! Welcome back! Thank you. Are all well? Yes, all well. Did you have a good time at Mokanshan? Yes, a very pleasant time. I reached the hotel the first day and stopped there overnight. The next morning I walked up to the top. The walk was very beautiful among the bamboos. Oh, I suppose it was quite charming. And what did you do on Mokanshan? Oh, I did not do very

much, as I wanted chiefly to rest. One day I went out to a pool below a waterfall and tried to catch some fish. That must be fine fun. Did you get any fish? Only a few small ones. How was the weather? Fortunately, I had good weather all the time. The altitude there is high, so the air was quite cool. I went for walks in the hills, too, and had some fine views from the heights. Could you see Huang Shan? Oh, yes; at a distance. In what hotel did you stay? I stopped at the Railway Hotel. Were there many guests staying there? No, not very many. Have you ever stayed in that hotel before? Yes, once before. Is it a nice hotel? Yes, pretty fair. I put up there for four days and started for home this morning. I am glad you had such a nice trip. Yes, thank you; I enjoyed it very much. Next time I must take mother with me. Yes, that would be nice. Mother, would you like to go with father to Mokanshan next time he goes? Yes, but I should not be able to walk up the mountain. No; but you can have a chair. Yes, of course.

## XXVII

## I. TRYING TO RECOVER A LOST UMBRELLA

O mother, I have lost my nice, new umbrella. Indeed! How did you lose it? I left it in the

street car. Perhaps you can get it again by applying to the office of the Street Car Company. Yes, I must apply at once. You had better go to the office yourself; that is better than sending a letter. All right; I will go this afternoon. Yes, the sooner the better. What shall I say at the office? Oh, tell them you left your umbrella in the car this morning. Do you remember the number of the car? Yes, I remember its number. It was No. 5. Then tell them it was the No. 5 car. About what time was it when you left the car? It was about eleven o'clock. Then tell them the time also. If I see the umbrella I shall recognize it at once. How will you recognize it so easily? I shall know it by the handle. It had a peculiar handle, made of cherry with a root on it. Yes, but many umbrella handles are made like that. I do not think there are many just like mine, mother. Perhaps not. And the cover was quite new, as you know. Yes, it was a brand-new umbrella, and I hope you will be able to find it again. But sometimes umbrellas are taken from the car before the conductor sees that they have been left. Yes, but



not often, I think. Your umbrella will probably be found in the office. Well, I shall see, at any rate.

## 2. A TRIP TO CHINKIANG

We went to Chinkiang day before yesterday. Oh, did you? And did you have a good time? Yes, we had a fine time. What train did you take? We took the nine-thirty train. The 9:30 is an express, isn't it? Yes, it is. What time did it get you into Chinkiang. We got into Chinkiang at 2:22. That was good going. Did you take the train at Jessfield? No, we left from the North Station. Jessfield is nearer our house, but we could not take the train there. Oh, that is inconvenient, isn't it? Yes, it is. You did not go third-class, I suppose? No, we went second-class. Who went with you? My mother and father. It was kind of your parents to take you with them. Yes, it was very kind of them. But in any case they would not care to leave me at home alone all day. No, I suppose not. Do they always take you with them? No, not always, but they take me quite often. That is very pleasant. Yes, indeed. Did the train stop at many way stations? No, it did not stop very often; it stopped only at principal stations. We waited about five minutes at Wusih. What

did you do at Chinkiang? First we went to see the Golden Hill, and then we took a boat for the Silver Island. We took tea in the temple on the island. Then you had a jolly day of it. Yes, a delightful day.

### 3. INTRODUCTION

Oh, how do you do, Mr. Ball! Do you know my friend, Mr. Day? No, I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting him. Then allow me to introduce you. Certainly, with pleasure. Mr. Day, this is Mr. Ma. How do you do, Mr. Ma! I am very pleased to meet you. Thank you; I am glad to make your acquaintance. Is it long since you came to China? No, not very. I came only two years ago. Then you have made some acquaintances. Yes, I know a few people. Have you ever been to America? No, not yet; that is a future pleasure. I hope to visit America next year. Oh, indeed. I hope you will. America is a very big country, isn't it? Yes, quite extensive. Well, what do you think of Peking? Peking is a great city and very interesting. Yes, we Chinese think there is no place like Peking. Of course every Chinese wants to visit it some time during his life. Yes, I suppose so. What is the most interesting part of Peking? Oh, there are many interesting

places. It is very interesting all around the palaces. Yes, I suppose so.

## XXVIII

### I. REPAIRING MY WATCH

Excuse me, but may I ask you the time, please? I am sorry that my watch is not going. I forgot to wind it last night and it stopped. Ask Mr. Benton. Oh, Mr. Benton, may I ask what time it is by your watch? My time is ten thirty. It is 10:30, is it? Thank you. I must wind up my watch and set it. My watch goes slow; I must take it to the watchmaker and have it regulated. Is it an American watch? Yes, a Standard. The Standard is a good watch, isn't it? Yes, I think so. It has a very good name. Mine is an Elgin watch. That is a good make too, I understand. Yes, it keeps very good time. Mine wants cleaning, I think. Which is the best watchmaker to take it to? The Hope Brothers are all right, I think. I always go to them. Your watch chain is of solid gold, isn't it? No, it is only plated, but it is good plate: quadruple, I think. You carry a watch charm, I see. What is it? Oh, it is only a locket containing photos of my father and mother. Is that so? May I have a look? Yes, certainly. It is very nice to have one's father

and mother in that way. The photographs were taken a long time ago, I suppose. Yes, many years ago. They are still living, I presume. No, dead years ago. Oh, is that so? My parents are still living. That is very pleasant. Yes; but they are getting quite feeble now, and I do not expect to have them much longer.

## 2. ABOUT TO RAIN

How hot it is to-day! Yes, it has not been so hot for some time. It is awfully close, isn't it? The sky is clouding over. I expect we shall have a shower. If it comes on it will not be more than a shower, I think. I think it looks like thunder. Do you suppose we shall have a thunder squall? Not here, I think. The storm is in the distance. It will not come our way. I see a bit of blue sky yonder; that is a sign of fair weather. What way is the wind? The wind is east, isn't it? Yes, according to that weathercock it is east. But I feel raindrops. Do you? Yes, one or two have struck my face. Then we may have a shower here, but it will soon pass off. Yes, it is beginning to rain. Let us stand in that shop door for a moment; it will soon stop. I forgot to bring an umbrella with me. The shower will be nothing, I think. There! It is stopping.

It has almost stopped now. Let us go on. Yes, let us. There is no rain to speak of now. Did you get the umbrella you left in the street car the other day? Yes, I went to the street car office and got it. It was there, all right, was it? Yes, I found it among several others. I knew it at once. You had no trouble getting it, then? No, none whatever.

### 3. MOSQUITOES

The scenery here is very pretty, isn't it? Yes, it is delightful. Let us sit down a moment and take it in. Yes, we can sit on the grass here. Perhaps it is too damp. No, it is quite dry, I think. I shall put my cape under me. I will do the same. It will soon be sunset, won't it? Yes; and it will be a beautiful sunset this evening, I think. Yes, it promises to be very beautiful. The sky is red in the west. See, the sun is going down like a huge ball of fire. Yes, lovely, isn't it? How bad the mosquitoes are here! They are a nuisance, aren't they? Yes, a dreadful bother. How they bite, don't they? You should say "sting," shouldn't you? Yes, such insects sting, don't they? Yes, the mosquito drives his spear into your flesh and then, as it is hollow, he pumps up the blood into his body till he swells out like a football. Mosquitoes are greedy things, aren't they? They are,

indeed. What is good for mosquito bites? You can get medicine for them at the drug store. Do you sleep under a mosquito net? Yes, I could not sleep without one. Are the mosquitoes very bad in your part of the city? Yes, vicious. They breed there, as there is a cemetery with many flower vases full of water, in which the mosquitoes lay their eggs. Oh, indeed.

## XXIX

### I. SENDING A TELEGRAM

I want to send a telegram. Then please write it out on this form. Thank you; all right. Here is the telegram. It is a message to Canton. How many words are there? Let me see: there are sixteen words. What is the rate for telegrams? The rate is twenty cents for the first fifteen syllables, and five cents for every five syllables or less, over that number. Then this telegram will cost twenty-five cents. Yes, quite so. Here is a dollar. Thanks: I will give you the change. Here you are: twenty-five cents. Did you write your name on the back of the telegram? Yes, I live in the city. I have written my name and address on the back of the telegram. That is all right. I should have paid in stamps, should I not? Yes, but never mind; I will put the stamps

on the telegram for you. Thank you. Good day. Good day. I must get some postage stamps before leaving the post office. Please give me ten three-cent stamps and five one-cent stamps. Yes, here you are. Let me see; that will be thirty-five cents in all, will it not? Yes, thirty-five cents. Here is one dollar. Thanks; here is your change: sixty-five cents. Thank you. Good morning. Good morning.

## 2. BEFORE THE NEW YEAR

Every one is very busy now preparing for the New Year. Yes, very busy, indeed. I see they are already putting up the New Year decorations. Yes, all along the streets they are pasting red paper over and upon the gates. Yes, that is a sign of good wishes or new prospects for the New Year. Well, I hope you will have a happy New Year. Thanks, I hope you will have the same. I want to send a New Year's card to a foreign friend. What should I write on it? Oh, just write, "I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year." That will be enough, will it? Yes, and then sign your name. All right. Thanks, I will do that. Are you sending many New Year's cards? No, not very many. Just a few to some old friends. I am not sending so very many either. I hope we shall have good

weather for the New Year. Yes, I hope so. We had very good weather last year, I remember. I don't remember. Yes, it was beautiful, sunny weather. I trust we may have the same weather for this New Year. Yes, I trust so.

### 3. A BUDDHIST FESTIVAL

Oh, how do you do! I have not seen you for a long time. No, I have been very busy and have not been able to call upon you. How have you been since I saw you last? I have been pretty well, thank you. You have been well yourself, I hope. Yes, thank you; quite well. Where are all the people going to-day? I see great crowds everywhere. Yes, they are going to the Bubbling Well Temple, I suppose. Oh, yes, this is the day of a Buddhist festival, isn't it? I had forgotten. Are you going? Yes, I will. Would you like to come, too? Yes, it would give me pleasure to go. There is no entertainment, but a Bamboo Fair is going on outside the temple. Is that so? Yes, they sell bamboo furniture and many other things. That would be very interesting. . . . Thank you so much for taking me to the festival. Oh, it was a great pleasure to me to have you. I hope you enjoyed it. Yes, I enjoyed it very much, indeed. There was a great crowd and all seemed to enjoy



the occasion. Yes, I think they did. Good-by. Good-by. Come and see me soon. Thank you, I shall.

### XXX

#### I. OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM

Have you ever heard our national anthem sung in English? No; have you? No, we sang it in Chinese at our school. But we may translate it into English. Who is going to do the work? I think our English teacher can translate the song very well. We may ask him some time this week. Then we can sing it in English. Of course, Chinese boys can sing it better in Chinese. Yes, of course. And it sounds better in Chinese. Indeed, it seems very strange to a Chinese to hear the national anthem sung in a foreign language. Yes, I suppose so. Well, can you sing it in our own language? Yes, I can try; but I do not sing very well. Let me hear you. All right; I will try. . . . Oh, that sounds very well.

#### 2. BRITISH AND AMERICAN NATIONAL ANTHEMS

Have you ever heard the British national anthem? Yes, but I do not remember the words. The British national anthem is "God Save the King," isn't it? Yes, those are the first words of it. Can you sing it? No, not very well;

but I know the words. Would you kindly write them out for me? Yes, I shall be glad to do so. Here they are:

God save our gracious king,  
Long live our noble king,  
    God save the king;  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
    God save the king.

Is that all? No, there are other verses, but that is all I can remember now. Do you think you can learn to sing it? Yes, I think I can if you teach me. Well, let us try it together. All right. You lead. Very well. . . . You have done very well. It is rather a difficult tune for a Chinese to learn. Oh, do you think so? Yes, I do. Well, perhaps so. How about the American national anthem? The Americans sing two songs on national occasions. If the occasion is religious they sing:

My country, 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty,  
    Of thee, I sing.  
Land of the pilgrim's pride,  
Land where my fathers died,  
O'er every mountain side  
    Let Freedom ring!

And what tune do they use? They use the same tune as that of the British national anthem. Oh, indeed. On secular occasions they sing "The Star-Spangled Banner," which has rather a difficult tune. I will write it out for you some time. Thank you: I should like to have it.

