

第五十课 上古文课

Episode Fifty - Ancient Chinese Lesson

1. 老师：请大家跟我念：竹外桃花三两枝，春江水暖鸭先知。蒌蒿满地芦芽短，正是河豚欲上时。
2. 同学们：竹外桃花三两枝，春江水暖鸭先知。蒌蒿满地芦芽短，正是河豚欲上时。
3. 老师：麦克，你怎么不跟着我读啊？
4. 麦克：老师，我一句都听不懂。听着跟唱歌似的？
5. 老师：这不怪你。我们今天学的是一首非常著名的古诗。
6. 麦克：古诗？
7. 小明：哎呀，麦克，古诗就是古代人写的诗。这首诗是大诗人苏轼写的。
8. 老师：谁能解释一下儿这首诗的意思？
9. 小明：老师，我来吧。这首诗的意思是……
10. 麦克：我知道，我知道。这首诗里有什么什么“暖鸭”。这“暖鸭”也是一种好吃的吧？
11. 麦克：笑什么笑。老师，“暖鸭”和我吃过的“烤鸭”是不是差不多？您看，这明明就是鸭子的鸭嘛。
12. 老师：哈哈，没想到你的想象力还挺丰富的。
13. 小明：我的天哪，麦克，“鸭”也不都指“烤鸭”啊。这句话的意思是：春天到了，水变暖了，鸭子会最先感到。“暖”是指“水暖”，不是你说的“暖鸭”，还“烤鸭”呢！
14. 老师：小明，麦克学习汉语不久，我们要多鼓励他，可不能笑话他啊。
15. 小明：老师，没事没事。我和麦克是哥们儿，他不会生气的。是吧，麦克？
16. 老师：小明，老师交给你一个任务。你今天晚上把这首诗从头到尾给麦克讲明白，明天我检查。好么？
17. 小明：老师，您放心，没问题。
18. 老师：好了，同学们，我们继续上课吧。大家再跟着我读一遍……

Translation

1. Teacher: Repeat after me: Beyond the bamboo garden, the peach branches swing, while ducks swimming first sense the warmth of Spring. Mugworts abound but reed buds are short; It's time for the puffer fish to be in the market.
2. Classmates: Beyond the bamboo garden, the peach branches swing, while ducks swimming first sense the warmth of Spring. Mugworts abound but reed buds are short; It's time for the puffer fish to be in the market.
3. Teacher: Mike, why aren't you reading with me?

4. Mike: I don't understand a word of it, teacher. It sounds like singing a song?
5. Teacher: That's not your fault. Today we're learning a very famous ancient poem.
6. Mike: Ancient poem?
7. Xiao Ming: Mike, an ancient poem is written by someone from ancient times. This one was written by famous poet Su Shi.
8. Teacher: Who can explain the meaning of this poem?
9. Xiao Ming: Let me, teacher. The meaning of this poem is...
10. Mike: I know, I know. This poem has something about "warm ducks". This "warm duck" must be tasty?
11. Mike: What are you laughing at? Teacher, is "warm duck" kind of like the "roast duck" I've had? Look, this clearly is the same duck character.
12. Teacher: Haha, you have quite a rich imagination.
13. Xiao Ming: My god, Mike, the word "duck" doesn't all mean "roast duck". This sentence means: spring's here, water's warming, the ducks feel it first. "Warm" is to describe the water, not the duck, nor "roast duck"!
14. Teacher: Xiao Ming, Mike hasn't been studying Chinese that long, we have to encourage him, not tease him.
15. Xiao Ming: Don't worry about it, teacher. Mike and I are good buddies, he won't get angry. Right, Mike?
16. Teacher: Xiao Ming, I'm giving you an assignment. Tonight you have to explain this poem to Mike --- from start to finish. I'll check up tomorrow. How's that?
17. Xiao Ming: Sure, teacher, no problem.
18. Teacher: OK, students, let's continue our lesson. Everybody repeat after me...