

2025-2026 HT International Speech Festival (TW Division) Pieces
2025-2026 珩天文化國際英語朗誦節（台灣賽區）選材

4 minutes
限時4分鐘

Dramatic Duologue (Born in 2012-2013)
二人戲劇 (2012-2013年出生組別)

Choice A
選擇 A

Extinct

by Jacqueline Emery

(JAMIE and JACK have been studying dinosaurs at school. They have been asked to work together to make a model dinosaur as part of their class project. Unfortunately, they are not very pleased at the idea of working with each other. In this scene, Jamie is sitting on the floor surrounded by books about dinosaurs.)

JAMIE: It's just not fair! I hate Jack Carter. He's so full of himself. Thinks he knows best... Miss Stephens is mean. She knows Jack will boss me around — like he does with all of us!

Here he comes now! Well, at least he's brought all the model making stuff.

(JACK carries a pile of boxes, crouches down next to Jamie and putting all the model making kit on the floor.)

JACK: Have we decided which one we're going to make?

JAMIE: We haven't decided anything yet.

JACK: Well, we'd better be quick. We could try a Stegosaurus. *(Looking at the book)* He's really interesting. Look at the armour on his body.

JAMIE: I thought they were thick spikes. We could make them with cardboard.

JACK: He had a small brain though, *(looking at Jamie)*, like someone else I know!

JAMIE: *(Picking up a roll of paper towel and hitting Jack over the head with it)* You watch out! I may not be brainy but I'm a good fighter!

JACK: Fighting! Typical! Now, what about the Seismosaurus? He's massive.

JAMIE: Too big! We couldn't make it in time. We haven't got enough stuff.

JACK: You're right. He was 60 feet tall, 140 feet long and weighted 100 tons.

JAMIE: Sounds like Miss Stephens! *(They look at each other and grin)* How do you know all that? Measurements and things. You sound like an encyclopaedia!

JACK: I didn't know it, silly! I was just reading it on this fact card. Come on! You choose. We must hurry up.

JAMIE: That's the one! The diplodocus. It says he had a long neck and a tail — with a thick body.

JACK: It says he was a vegetarian, could weigh as much as 50 tons and lived 150 million years ago!

JAMIE: Wow! You do the body. I'll make the head and neck.

(They run around sticking the inside of a kitchen roll to a larger box. They continue to make the model during the rest of the conversation.)

JACK: It's more difficult than I thought it would be.
JAMIE: It doesn't look at all like the picture.
JACK: We need something for the legs.
JAMIE: I've not made the head yet.
JACK: I don't know what to make the legs with.
JAMIE: Here's some plasticine.
JACK: That won't stick! Where's the glue?
JAMIE: You can't use glue with plasticine! Even I know that!
JACK: *(Passing small toilet roll centres to Jamie)* Here we are! This should be better!
JAMIE: Come on. Give two to me! *(They stick them, stand back to admire their handiwork)*
He doesn't look anything like the picture!
JACK: He's sort of lop-sided.
JAMIE: Where are the buttons? He hasn't got any eyes! *(Picking up a pen, drawing two eyes)*
Never mind— this will have to do!
JACK: *(Taking the pen from Jamie and drawing beneath the 'eyes')* He's got a mouth now too!
JAMIE: I like him.
JACK: Even if no one else does!
JAMIE: You know, I didn't want to work with you Jack — but I'm enjoying this.
JACK: So am I. Will you be my partner again?
JAMIE: Yes... yes, of course.
JACK: Let's give him a name.
JAMIE: I know! How about 'Dippy'?
JACK: Dippy the Diplodocus. I like that.
JAMIE: Jack. Look! Look at Dippy!
JACK: What now? It's time we told Miss Stephens that we're ready!
JAMIE: Look! He's...he's moving!

- The End -

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Dramatic Duologue (Born in 2012-2013)
二人戲劇 (2012-2013年出生組別)

Choice B
選擇 B

Unicorns and Alley Cats

by D M Larson

(On a rainy night in a big, busy city, DUDE the alley cat and KIM the unicorn meet and talk about their lives. Dude is an experienced city dweller, while Kim comes from a faraway land and is frightened by the noise and bustle of the city.)

DUDE: Ah, rain. What a wonderful thing it is. So refreshing... I love puddles. The smells of the city that the rain brings out are unequalled. I love the city. What would I do without you? This is great!

(Suddenly, the sounds of loud honking and cars slamming on their brakes are heard from the street. DUDE is startled and hops behind his box. He peeks out from behind it just as a unicorn, KIM, runs into the alley and stops, out of breath and very scared.)

KIM: Oh, why did I ever come here? This is a perfectly awful place. It's smelly, rainy and dirty. The people are so unkind. Everything is so big. I don't understand it at all. I'm so very frightened. I want to go home.

DUDE: You're a unicorn!

KIM: Blaaah! What do you want?!

DUDE: Take it easy. I've just never seen a unicorn before.

KIM: *(Still scared and on guard)* I've never seen whatever you are before either.

DUDE: I'm a cat. An alley cat to be exact. *(Picks up a newspaper off the ground and holds it up)* I have the paper to prove it. They call me Dude.

KIM: Dude?

DUDE: Actually, my birth name is Sir Douglas Paramount, but all my friends nicknamed me Dude. Easier to say, I suppose. What's your name, my fine horned friend?

KIM: Kim. Kim of the Jagged Peaks.

DUDE: Impressive. So where is this Jagged Peaks place?

KIM: Hidden in a land far away. It's not at all like this place.

DUDE: Ah, yes. The city. You like it?

KIM: To be honest, not really.

DUDE: Then why did you come here?

KIM: I'm not sure.

DUDE: I'm afraid I don't understand.

KIM: I really didn't want to come here, but all unicorns must when they reach a certain age. Coming here makes you appreciate your home much more and realise how wonderful it really is.

DUDE: I know what you mean. I once got lost in a park. I was so happy to get back to my alley.

KIM: Everything is so big and so close together in the city. I feel as if I'm being crushed. And the noise... *(She shudders)*

DUDE: Take it easy, okay. It's not so bad once you get used to it. The city is exciting.

KIM: I don't like exciting.

DUDE: Then go home.

KIM: I can't. The problem is, I don't know what's best for me.

DUDE: While you are deciding, why don't you enjoy yourself a little?

KIM: How?

DUDE: Try jumping and splashing through puddles. It's great fun.

KIM: I'm wet enough, thank you.

DUDE: You could go down to the market and beg for fish.

KIM: Fish?

DUDE: You could sneak into a mattress store and sleep away the afternoon...or at least until you're caught. No, I guess not. I know a great spot that overlooks the city. You can also watch the sunset.

KIM: That sounds nice.

DUDE: Yes! A breakthrough! There's always the park and the duck pond is fun.

KIM: The park might be a good idea.

DUDE: See. There's something.

KIM: But, it's not home. I'll try harder. I'm sure I can like it if I give it a chance. I'm sorry. I don't mean to tell you all my troubles. I do feel better after talking to you.

DUDE: Good. I'm glad to be of service.

KIM: Will you stay and keep me company?

DUDE: Can't. Gotta go.

KIM: What? You're leaving?

DUDE: Got places to go, rubbish bins to meet...

KIM: But, I'll be lonely again.

DUDE: I promise you I'll visit every chance I get.

KIM: Bye.

DUDE: See you soon.

(After watching DUDE go, KIM looks around sadly at the city. Then, she sees a mud puddle.)

KIM: Puddles. *(Playfully she splashes through them and skips happily off)*

- The End -