

你好, 欢迎收听第一期Simple Stories in Chinese ,我是Mabel.

Today's story is one of my favorites when I was little and it taught me that **slow and steady wins the race and that overconfidence leads to your downfall**. I think you might already know it in English. The tortoise and the Hare 龟兔赛跑 which exactly means a turtle race with a rabbit.

Important vocabulary in this story includes:

比赛 Bǐsài : competition

爬行 pá xíng : crawl

慢 màn : slow

笑 xiào : smile/laugh(laugh at)

山顶 shāndǐng : top of the mountain

同时 tóngshí : at the same time

出发 chūfā : start off

追 zhuī : chase after

找 zhǎo : to find

舒服 shūfú : comfortable

眨眼 zhǎyǎn : blink

躺下 tǎng xià : lie down

睡着 shuìzháo - to fall asleep

努力 nǚlì - try hard/work hard

醒来 xǐng lái - wake up

I hope you enjoy it.

Let's start!

Yǒu yītiān, wūguī zhèngzài lùshàng mànman de páxíng, yīzhī tùzǐ wèn tā: Nǐ zài zuò shénme?

有一天, 乌龟 正在 路上 慢慢 地 爬行, 一只 兔子 问 它: 你在 做 什么?

Wūguī shuō: Wǒ zài pǎobù.

乌龟 说: 我 在 跑步。

Ránhòu, tùzǐ xiàole, shuō: Nǐ pǎo de hǎomàn ya! Kàn wǒ, wǒ pǎo de hěnkuài.

然后, 兔子 笑了, 说: 你 跑 得 好慢 呀! 看我, 我 跑 得 很快。

Wūguī shuō: 'Búyào xiào wǒ, wǒmen kěyǐ bǐsài.'

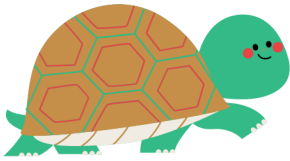
乌龟 说: '不要 笑 我, 我们 可以 比赛。'

Tùzǐ shuō: 'Nǐ hé wǒ bǐsài? Zhēnde ma? Hǎo ba, kàn shéi xiān pǎo dào shāndǐng.

兔子 说: '你 和 我 比赛? 真的 吗? 好吧, 看 谁 先 跑 到 山顶。

One day turtle was slowly crawling on the road, and the rabbit just asked him 'what are you doing?' and then the turtle replied: 'I'm running'. Rabbit laughed at him and said: 'You run so slow. Look at me, I run so fast!' And the turtle said: 'Don't laugh at me, we can race.' And the rabbit said: '真的吗? ! really?! Let's see who will reach the top of the mountain first.'





Here I need to mention that 和 (hé and/with) **is mainly used to link nouns**. Don't try to link verbs (or whole sentences).

Bǐsài kāishǐle , tùzǐ hé wūguī tóngshí chūfā.

比赛 开始了, 兔子和 乌龟 同时 出发。

Tùzǐ pǎode fēicháng kuài, yī zhǎyǎn, jiù yǐjīng pǎole yībànle.

兔子 跑得 非常 快, 一 眨眼, 就 已经 跑 了 一半 了。

Dànshì wūguī hái zài hòumiàn hěn chīlì de zhuī.

但是 乌龟 还 在 后面 很 吃力 地 追。 (吃力chīlì - strenuous)

The race starts, they set off at the same time. Rabbit runs so fast, just a blink, he's already half way. But turtle is still behind and chase after him as fast as he could.

Let's take a look at the sentences '比赛开始了 Bǐsài kāishǐle' '一眨眼, 就已经跑了一半 yī zhǎyǎn, jiù yǐjīng pǎole yībàn', Here we can see they used 了 at end of the sentence, **here the 了 doesn't mean action complete**. This kind of 了 is used to **indicate a new situation or change of state, the situation is now different compared to before**.

So, 比赛开始了 means the match started, before wasn't, so the state of the match has changed.

Tùzǐ kànle yíxià wūguī, xiǎng: Wūguī tài mànle, wǒ shuì yī jiào yě méiguānxì.

兔子 看 了 一 下 乌龟, 想: 乌龟 太 慢 了, 我 睡 一 觉 也 没 关 系。

Yúshì, tùzǐ zhǎole yīgè shūfú de dìfāng, tǎng xià. Hěn kuài, tā jiù shuìzháole.

于是, 兔子 找 了 一 个 舒 服 的 地 方, 躺 下。 很 快, 它 就 睡 着 了。

The rabbit took a look at the turtle, and The turtle is too slow, I can just take a nap and it's ok.' So the rabbit found a comfortable place and lay down. Sooner, he fell asleep.

So here 也没关系 - means 'it's ok/doesn't matter. 我睡一觉也没关系, it's okay if I take a nap.

Wūguī hái zài hěn nǔlì de páxíng, yībù yībù xiàng qián pá, tā lí shāndǐng yuè lái yuè jìn.

乌龟 还 在 很 努力 地 爬 行, 一 步 一 步 向 前 爬, 它 离 山 顶 越 来 越 近。

Turtle was still trying as hard as he could, step by step going forward, he was getting closer and closer to the top.

Here's one good pattern,越来越yuè lái yuè - **more and more**..., so we can say '越来越远yuè lái yuè yuǎn' -further and further. '越来越好yuè lái yuè hǎo' - better and better. So similar patterns like these.



Tùzǐ xǐng lái de shíhòu, wūguī yǐjīng dào shāndǐng le.

兔子醒来的时候, 乌龟已经到山顶了。

When Rabbit woke up, the turtle had already arrived at the top of the mountain.

醒来 means to wake up, but I think you might get confused with 起床, 起床 means get up. So you could be awake but still in bed.

For example: 他醒来了, 但是他不想起床。

He is awake but he doesn't want to get up.

Tùzǐ juéde hěn bù hǎoyìsi, tā bù huì zài xiào wūguī le.

兔子觉得很不好意思, 它不会再笑乌龟了。

The rabbit felt so embarrassed, and he did not laugh at the turtle anymore.

Here 不好意思, a lot of time can be 'excuse me/Pardon'

But when you say 觉得to feel with 不好意思, then the meaning changes.

This context means: feeling embarrassed.

But it also can mean 'feeling overwhelmed'

For example, 这个礼物很贵, 我觉得很不好意思。

This gift is too expensive and I feel overwhelmed to receive it.



This is the end of the story.

谢谢收听, this is the story of 龟兔赛跑, If you liked this story, please share it! You can find the audio and a transcript at chinesewithmabel.com

If you haven't already followed me on Spotify, Apple Podcast, Youtube, and Instagram then please go follow me on your favorite platform, so you never miss an episode. And, if you have any stories you want to listen to or any questions, always welcome to contact me at chinesewithmabel@gmail.com.

谢谢, 下期见!

Thank you and see you next time!

