

The North Wind and the Sun¹

One of Aesop's Fables

Before You Read

What kind of weather do you love, like, or hate? Draw ☺, ☹, or ☹ under each one.

sunny	cloudy	rainy	windy	warm	hot	cool	cold
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Reading

One cool winter day the North Wind and the Sun had a big fight about which one of them was the stronger.

“Let’s decide by having a contest,” said the Sun.

They looked down from the sky and saw a man walking on a mountain road. He was wearing a warm winter coat.

“As a test of who is the stronger,” said the Sun, “Let’s see which of us can take the coat off that man.”

“It will be easy for me to make him take off his coat,” said the Wind.

The Wind blew hard. The birds held on tightly² to the trees and the air became filled with dust³ and leaves. But the harder the Wind blew, the tighter the man pulled his coat around him.

Then, the Sun came out from behind a cloud. The Sun warmed the air and the ground. The man on the road unbuttoned⁴ his coat.

The sun grew slowly brighter and brighter.

Soon the man felt very hot. He took off his coat and sat down under a tree.

¹ Adapted from *Great Story Reading Project (storiesfirst.org)*

² tightly (adv.) 緊緊地 tight (adj.) 緊的

³ dust (n.) 塵土

⁴ unbutton(ed) (v.) 解下鈕扣

“How did you do that?” said the Wind.

“It was easy,” said the Sun. “I was gentle¹.”

5W1H:

Who had a contest?

Where did they have the contest?

When did they have the contest?

What did they do in the contest?

Why did they have the contest?

How did the winner win the contest?



Tell a story.

In our country, there are also many stories about the sun, the moon, the wind, or the water. Ask your family or look them up on the Net, and share them with your classmates.

¹ gentle (adj.) 溫柔的