

Fun with English Proverbs

Let us continue with
'Q' and 'R'.

Butterfly

1

A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder.

平日不做虧心事，夜半敲門也不驚。

If we always behave ourselves in a sensible way, there's no need to be afraid of bad luck or fortune.

Example : *Mary is so afraid to stay alone in the house during the night Her mother comforted her and said, "Mary, you always behave well and are always so kind to people, so you don't need to be afraid. A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder."*

2

Rain before seven, fine before eleven.

朝雨不過午，用來勉勵別人不要因挫敗而灰心，事情總會有轉機的。

This is a typical saying for Londoners to show their wish for the better weather of the day. We always use this saying to encourage those who are in difficulties to look on the bright side as there's always a way out there.

Example : *Ann's mother is suffering from terminal cancer and Ann is very worried about her mother. Rosa consoled her and said, "Ann, don't worry! Everything will be better tomorrow. Rain before seven, fine before eleven."*

3

A rotten apple spoils the barrel.

一個爛蘋果爛了一籮蘋果，勸喻我們做任何事情也要三思而後行。

If someone is dishonest or immoral, he/she can have a bad influence not only on himself / herself, but on a group. Therefore, think thoroughly before you act.

Example : *"John, please stop your nasty behaviour because you and your classmates will suffer from what you have been doing. Remember that a rotten apple spoils the barrel."*

4

Read not before you learn to spell.

做任何事情，都要按部就班，循序漸進。

This proverb means that whatever we do, we have to do it step by step. Otherwise, we'll make mistakes easily.

Example : *Kate wants her three-year-old boy to be outperformed among kids of the same age. Therefore, she makes him play piano and learn calligraphy at a young age. Her husband reminds her, "Read not before you learn to spell, we should do everything step by step."*