

# Fun with English proverbs

Let us continue with 'S' and 'T'.

Vanessa

## 1

### Spare the rod and spoil the child.

省了棍子，寵壞了孩子。

**This proverb means that if you don't punish a child or correct the mistakes when he does wrong, then you will spoil his character.**

*Example : Auntie Annie has got a 3-year-old boy, Adrian. He is her only child, so she never punishes him whenever he does something wrong. One day, Adrian asked for chocolates. As he was having a bad cough, Auntie Annie didn't give him any. He became so angry that he slapped his mother's face. Auntie Annie was shocked and didn't know how to react. Thereafter, she realized that the over-protecting her child had badly affected his character. Finally, she agrees with the saying 'Spare the rod and spoil the child.' and decides not to spoil her child any more.*

## 2

### A stitch in time saves nine.

小洞不補，大洞吃苦。

**This saying means that it's always better to deal with a problem at an early stage so as to prevent it from getting worse.**

*Example : Miss Lee is an English teacher. She is kind, patient and supportive. She cares about us very much so she always loves us and encourages us even when we are doing something wrong. She always reminds us with the saying "A stitch in time saves nine" to encourage us to be brave enough to face our problems at the early stage so as to prevent them from getting worse.*

## 3

### The best advice is found on the pillow.

最好的建議是在枕頭上。

**This proverb means that a good sleep may help us find an answer to our problem.**

*Example : Ana used to get tense easily. Whenever she came across any difficulties, she became too nervous to fall asleep. So she never found a solution for her problems. A year ago, her friend Zoe reminded her the saying "The best advice is found on the pillow". Since then, she has been practising it and found it work. Now, she can face her problems with ease.*

## 4

### The early bird catches the worm.

早起的鳥兒有蟲吃。

**This proverb means that if you want to do something successfully, you should do it as soon as you can.**

*Example : Kevin is a 15-year-old boy who is very well-organized and good at planning. He understands the significance of the saying "The early bird catches the worm", so he always acts upon his plans as soon as possible. As a result, he can always achieve what he expects.*