

Fun with English proverbs

Fisherman

Let us continue with "W" and "Y".



Words cut deeper than swords.
利劍可傷人，唇槍舌劍傷得更深。

A physical wound can be very painful and scar may even be left. Yet, one can still bear it as time passes by. For a wound in the heart, it can be ignored still, but it never goes away and will hurt in the most unexpected moments when the injured thinks it has long gone. Hence words can cut deeper than swords.

Example: One's feeling can easily be hurt, a wound in the heart can be ten times more painful than an injury on the body. We must be careful of our tongue, since words cut deeper than swords.

When cat's away, mice will play.
貓兒不在屋，老鼠玩不停。

When parents are not at home, sometimes children can be very naughty and their house becomes a playground. Disorder is guaranteed.

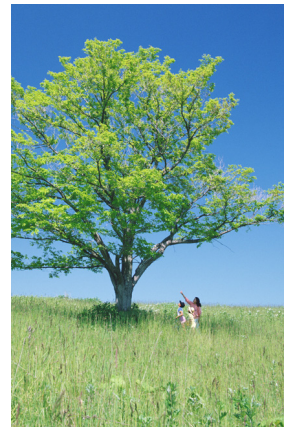
Example: When parents are not at home, sometimes children can be very naughty. It is just like when the cat is away, the mice will play, since there is nothing to fear.



You never know what you can achieve till you try.
成功在於嘗試。

Some people may think that success may lie in the hand of the brave. In fact, those who have little faith in their ability may never know how able they can be. When there is still chance, try and see one's limits.

Example: For those who get used to their self image as a low achiever, they may even not bother to try. But life is full of surprise. Sometimes trying may not cause a lot. So you never know what you can achieve till you try.



You cannot make an omelet without breaking eggs.
凡事總有付出。

One must give or do something in order to achieve his end. He cannot deny giving and just thinks of taking.

Example: Paul admires how his friend Peter can play the piano so brilliantly, he wants to do the same but without serious practice. So he never plays well yet keeps complaining. Once his mother told him, "You want to play the piano as well as Peter does, you have to practise much more. You cannot make an omelet without breaking eggs."

