

Lesson 2 - Thirteen Equals One

Was the vicar pleased that the clock was striking? Why?

woz ðə vɪkə **pli:zd** ðæt ðə **klok**
woz **straɪkɪŋ wai**

au-ə **vɪkə** ɪz ʊoʊlweɪz reɪzɪŋ **mɑːni**
foʊ wɑːn kooz ɔr ənəðə bət hɪi
hæz **nevə** məenɪdʒd tuu get ɪnəf
mɑːni tə hæv ðə tʃætʃ **klok**
rəpeɪ-əd

ðə bɪg **klok** wɪtʃ **ju:st** tuu straɪk ði
au-əz **deɪ** æˈnd **nait** woz
dæmɪdʒd menɪ **ɪi-əz** əgou æˈnd
hæz biːn **sail**'nt evə **siːns**

wɑːn **nait** hau-**evə** au-ə vɪkə wouk
ap wɪð ə **staat**
ðə **klok** woz straɪkɪŋ ðiɪ **au-əz**
lu:kɪŋ æt hɪz **wɒtʒ** hɪi **soo** ðæt ɪt
woz wɑːn **əklok** bət ðə beɪl strak
pəθiːn taimz bɪfɔr ɪt **stɒpt**
ɑː'md wɪð ə **toʊtʃ** ðə vɪkə weˈnt
ap ɪˈntuː ðə **klok** tau-ə tə **sɪi** wɒt
woz gou-ɪŋ **oːn**
ɪˈn ðə **toʊtʃ**lɑɪt hɪi **koo**t saɪt ɒv ə
figə huːm hɪi ɪmiːdʒətli
rekəgnɑɪsd æz biːl **wɪ**'lkiːnz **ɑː**
louk'ɪ **gr**oʊsə

wotevər ɑː yuː **duː**-ɪŋ ap **hɪi-ə** biːl
ɑːskt ðə **vɪkə** ɪˈn səˈpraɪs
aɪ'm **traɪ**-ɪŋ tuu rəpeɪ-ə ðə **beɪl**
ɑːnsəd **biːl**
aɪv biːn **kɑː**mɪŋ ap hɪi-ə **nait** ɑːftə
nait fə **wiːks** nau
yuː **sɪi** aɪ woz **hou**pɪŋ tuu **gɪv**
yuːw ə səˈpraɪs

yuː **sæt**'nliː **did** gɪv miːy ə səˈpraɪs
sed ðə **vɪkə** yuːv **prɒ**bəbli woukn
ap **ev**riwɑːn ɪˈn ðə viːlɪdʒ əz **weɪl**
stiːl aɪ'm **glæd** ðə beɪl ɪz **wæ**kɪŋ
əgeˈn

ðæts ðə **trab**'l **vɪkə** ɑːnsəd **biːl**
ɪts **wæ**kɪŋ ʊoʊl **raɪt** bət aɪm əˈfreɪd
ðæt æt wɑːn **əklok** ɪt wɪl straɪk
pəθiːn tɑɪmz æˈnd ðeːz **nə**pɪŋ aɪ
kæˈn **duːw** əˈbaut ɪt

wɪl get **ju:st** tə ðæt **biːl** sed ðə
vɪkə pəθiːn ɪz nɒt əz gud əz
wɑːn bət ɪts betə ðˈn **nə**ðɪŋ nau
lets gou **dau**'nsteez æˈnd hæv ə
kap əv **tɪi**

Our vicar is always raising money for one cause or another, but he has never managed to get enough money to have the church clock repaired. The big clock which used to strike the hours day and night was damaged many years ago and has been silent ever since.

One night, however, our vicar work up with a start: the clock was striking the hours! Looking at his watch, he saw that it was one o'clock, but the bell struck thirteen times before it stopped. Armed with a torch, the vicar went up into the clock tower to see what was going on. In the torchlight, he caught sight of a figure whom he immediately recognized as Bill Wilkins, our local grocer.

‘Whatever are you doing up here Bill?’ asked the vicar in surprise.

‘I'm trying to repair the bell,’ answered Bill. ‘I've been coming up here night after night for weeks now. You see, I was hoping to give you a surprise.’

‘You certainly did give me a surprise!’ said the vicar. ‘You've probably woken up everyone in the village as well. Still, I'm glad the bell is working again.’

‘That's the trouble, vicar,’ answered Bill. ‘It's working all right, but I'm afraid that at one o'clock it will strike thirteen times and there's nothing I can do about it.’

‘We'll get used to that, Bill,’ said the vicar. ‘Thirteen is not as good as one, but it's better than nothing. Now let's go downstairs and have a cup of tea.’

New words and expressions

Write	Say	Class	Chinese
equal		verb	等于
raise	reiz	verb	募集, 筹(款)
torchlight	toʊtʃlaɪt	noun	电筒光
vicar	ˈvɪkə	noun	牧师

我们教区的牧师总是为各种各样的事筹集资金。但始终未能筹足资金把教堂的钟修好。教堂的钟很大，以前不分昼夜打点报时，但很多年前遭到毁坏，从此便无声无息了。

一天夜里，我们的牧师突然被惊醒了，大钟又在“打点”报时了！他一看表，才 1 点钟，可是那钟一边敲了 13 下才停。牧师拿着一支电筒走上钟楼想去看看究竟发生了什么事情。借着电筒光。他看见一个人，马上认出那是本地杂货店主经比尔·威尔金斯。

“你究竟在这上面干什么，比尔？”牧师惊讶地问。

“我想把这口钟修好，”比尔回答说。“好几个星期了，我天天夜里到钟楼上来。嗯，我是想让你大吃一惊。”

“你确实使我大吃了一惊！”牧师说，“也许同时你把村里所有的人都吵醒了。不过，钟又能报时了，我还是很高兴的。”

“问题就在这里，牧师，”比尔回答说。“不错，钟能报时了，但是，恐怕每到 1 点钟，它总要敲 13 下，对此我已无能为力了。”

“大家慢慢就习惯了，比尔，”牧师说。“13 下是不如 1 下好，但总比 1 下也不敲强。来，咱们下楼去喝杯茶吧。”