



**Harmony Tree International Speech Festival (HTISF)**  
2024-2025 Set Pieces for Asia Division

**Prose Reading**  
*Born in 2019-2020*

## **The Boy and the Nettle**

*An Aesop Fable*

A Boy, playing in the fields, was stung by a Nettle.

He ran home crying, to get his mother to blow on the hurt and kiss it.

“Although it pains me so much, I touch it ever so gently.” the Boy told his mother.

“Son,” said the Boy's mother, when she had comforted him,

“the next time you come near a Nettle, grasp it firmly, and it will be as soft as silk.”

Whatever you do, do it with all your might.