

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

**Verse Speaking**  
*Born in 2015-2016*

Choice A

## Sitting in My Bath-tub

*by John Foster*

Sitting in my bath-tub,  
I have sailed the seven seas.  
I have anchored by the taps.  
I've been shipwrecked off the knees.

I have sailed into the unknown  
To beat off an attack  
From a fleet of pirates  
Round behind my back.

I have sailed between the fingers  
Where no other ship has been.  
I've explored the murky depths  
In a soapy submarine.

Sitting in my bath-tub  
I have sailed the seven seas.  
I have anchored by the taps.  
I've been shipwrecked off the knees.

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**Choice B**

## **Packing and Unpacking**

*by Shirley Tomlinson*

Suitcase yawns... a happy hippo waiting to be fed.  
Let's tuck fresh folded food deep into his mouth!  
Watch him gulp underwear and sweaters,  
swallow toys and books.  
Hungry still? We'll press in trousers,  
socks and swimsuits,  
shorts, towels and trainers,  
add frocks and silver sandals for dessert.

Hippo groans. It's been a long day.  
Twist the key and spring the locks.  
Crumpled clothes froth.  
Small hands burrow for pebbles in a bag,  
sticks of rock, a box of shells.  
Linen basket fills as Hippo slims,  
and dreams of meals to come.