

## 111 學年度英語朗讀比賽 附件二

- 二年級組文章（二選一）

### A Girl with a Powerful Voice

**Malala Yousafzai** is a young Pakistani woman. Supported by her father, she started an online blog when she was 11 years old. Malala's hobby had a serious objective, however. She and her family resided in an area under the control of the Taliban. They are a group of Islamic extremists who insist that girls receive only religious instruction. Malala wrote posts calling for full education for girls and young women. It was a concept that almost cost the girl her life.

By 2012, when Malala was fifteen, her audience had grown, and she was exceedingly well known in Pakistan. As a result, the Taliban designated her a target. One day, a gunman boarded the bus she was on and shot the teenage girl in the head. She miraculously survived, but had to endure a long and painful recovery. Despite the discomfort she went through, Malala did not lose her enthusiasm for school. She continued to speak up for female education.

Malala's tireless efforts and bravery brought her worldwide attention. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014, she is the youngest person ever to win the honor. In her acceptance speech, she said she was proud to be the first Pakistani to win the prize. Malala also joked that she was probably the first prize winner who still quarreled with her younger brothers. More seriously, she said the award "is for all those children who are voiceless, whose voices need to be heard."

Since her recovery, Malala has continued the fight on behalf of young people everywhere. She has spoken for the millions of children who do not get access to formal education. A fund set up in her name helps children around the world. For Malala herself, the dream to be educated has been realized, and she is studying at university in England. For many others, girls and boys alike, education remains a dream. Malala wants them to be given better prospects. She has become a powerful voice for those who need someone to speak for them.

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- 二年級組文章（二選一）

### **No Limbs, No Limits**

Everyone has good and bad days. To some extent, our happiness depends on how we handle the bad things. When faced with a serious problem, how do you usually react? Maybe you've heard about the power of positive thinking, but what does it mean to be positive? One man who can tell you is **Nick Vujicic**. He has dealt with bigger problems than most people, and he is known for his positive attitude.

Born in Melbourne, Australia, Nick has a rare genetic disorder. He has no arms or legs, just a small foot attached to his left hip which he calls his "chicken drumstick." When Nick was a boy, he suffered a lot of bullying because of his appearance. He felt there was no purpose to his life. At the age of ten, he even attempted suicide by rolling over in the bathtub. He would have killed himself then if he hadn't realized the pain his parents would feel.

To his parents, Nick was special and they loved him the way he was. One day, his mother showed him an article about people with severe disabilities. Nick began to feel less alone in his struggle. His deep religious faith also gave him the strength to face his disability with hope. In high school, he gave a speech, telling other students about himself. Some of them were very touched and moved to tears. That was when Nick found that he could bring courage to people through his story. Therefore, he decided to pursue a career as a motivational speaker. At last he had a purpose in life.

Now Nick has a beautiful wife and four children, and lives a fulfilling life. Like able-bodied people, he can accomplish most everyday tasks. He also swims, and has even gone skydiving. Furthermore, his chosen career has led to success. Nick has traveled all over the world, and millions have heard him speak. Many people have been inspired by Nick Vujicic. Nick often says he made a choice, which he has described in these words: "We should not be angry for what we don't have, but be grateful for what we do have." For Nick Vujicic, being positive means giving instead of receiving, and it means living a life without limits.