

wǒ men wéi hé gē chàng

C013: 我們 為何 歌唱 (Why Do We Sing)

(Picture and video obtained through the Internet.)

(To find article: go to MATHisacommonLANGUAGE.com → Traditional → lower right)

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C013: 我們 爲何 歌 唱 (Why Do We Sing)

Why do ordinary people sing?

We all know why the professional singers sing.

It is their job.

They were trained to do so.

But why do ordinary people sing?

This question would have been weird to Confucius's ears
who lived at least three thousand years ago.

Confucius is esteemed as

the First Teacher according to

Taiwanese and traditional Chinese educations.

According to the teachings of Confucius,

music was the Second Pillar of education.

(The First Pillar was “proper manners”.)

It harmonizes and changes a person from inside.

But for me, there is another

even more practically important reason to sing.

Look at the professionals.

Unlike the soldiers, professional singers' postures
are straight and comfortable

– while the soldiers are trained

to have postures that are straight but rigid.

Singers need to stand straight and comfortable

so they can sing beautifully.

That posture happens to be the healthiest one!

CFP is a noisy place because of all the equipment.
 It is hard to sing in a noisy environment.
 However, like I said before,
 we need to conquer the enemy when one is coming our way.
 In this case, we need to utilize the available hearing protections
 to conquer this one disguised in the form of noises.

Also, we can sing to defeat this enemy.

Do you know that people who sing learn a language faster? Can you explain why?

Challenge question: Why the singer's posture is the healthiest?

**(Hint: what does a singer have to do properly
 in order to sing beautifully?)**

I remember how I learned English as a kid. I laid the foundation of learning English without knowing it. At that time, my sister and my brother were learning English. They both liked listening to the American pop music that was broadcast from the nearby navy station. When they listened, I also listened, although I hardly understood anything. But the sound of the language stayed with me.

When I finally began to learn English -- I am younger than my sister by 4 years and younger than my brother by 3 years -- the learning became a second nature to me, because I was already familiar with the sounds of the language. Now, it is time to utilize this same technique to pave the way for you to learn Chinese.

cài qín
 蔡琴 happens to be my most favorite singer. To be honest with you, there are not many good singers in Chinese language -- not because other singers are not talented -- but because of the difficulty of writing good songs in a tonal language so as to sing them beautifully.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HkeMwp_9Yf4

(抉擇-蔡琴(Cover by 江玉如) 電影「瀑布」主題曲 - YouTube)

jué ze2

抉擇 (Choice)

ǒu er3

偶爾

piāo lái

飄來

yī zhèn

一陣

yǔ

雨

(As it just so happened, a shower came)

[As it happened] [came floating] [a bout] [of rain]

dian3dian3

點 點

sǎ luò

灑落

le mèn dì

了

滿地

(Drop by drop, the rain drops covered the ground)

[drop by drop] [sprayed and fell upon] [*] [the entire ground]

xún mì

尋覓

yǔ sǎn

雨傘

xià

下

(I searched for you among the multitude of people under the umbrellas)

[searched] [umbrellas] [under]

nà gè

那個

bèiyǐng

背影

zuì

最

xiàng nǐ

像你

(which one when looked from behind looked most like you)

[which] [image from behind] [most] [like you]

kàn xī lái rǎngwǎng rénqún zhōng mei2yǒu nǐ
看 熙來攘往 人群 中 沒有 你 (the crowd bustled to-and-fro, but I did not see you)

[looked][bustle to-and-fro][crowd][among][not existed][you]

ǒu er3 piāo lái yī zhèn yǔ
偶爾 飄來 一陣 雨 (As it just so happened, a shower came)

[As it happened] [came floating] [a bout] [of rain]

dian3dian3 sǎ luò le mèn dì
點 點 灑落 了 滿地 (Drop by drop, the rain drops covered the ground)

[drop by drop] [sprayed and fell upon] [*] [the entire ground]

yě xǔ yǔ yì tíng
也許 雨 一停 (perhaps once the rain stopped)

[perhaps] [rain] [once stopped]

wǒ jiù néng zài jiàndào nǐ
我就 能 再 見到 你 (I would be able to see you again)

[I] [then] [would be able to] [again] [see] [you]

yě xǔ gāi yì zhí xià bù tíng
也許 該 一直 下不停 (*perhaps the rain should never stop*)

[perhaps] [should] [all the way] [go on raining without stopping]

ménglóng de yǎn
朦朧 的眼 (*misty were my eyes*)

[misty] [*] [eye]

ménglóng de yǔ
朦朧的 雨 (*misty were the rains*)

[misty] [*] [rain]

yǎn qián chéngxiàn zhe0 měihǎo yuǎnjǐng
眼 前 呈現 著美好 遠景 (*in front of my eyes, a beautiful scene presented itself*)

[eye] [in front of] [presented] [*] [beautiful] [scene]

wǒ zài jiē tóu zhù lì
我在街頭 佇立 (*I stood in the street*)

[I] [in][street] [stood]

xīn zhōng yǐ jīng yǒu le jué dìng
心中 已經 有 了 決定 *(I made up my mind)*

[in my mind] [already] [had] [*] [decision]

wǒ xiǎng nà xiǎo yǔ yí dìng néng bǎ nǐ dǎ xǐng
我想 那 小雨 一定 能 把你 打醒 *(I imagined the shower would sure patter and
wake you up)*

[I] [thought] [that] [shower] [sure] [could] [*] [you] [pattered and wakened up]

ǒu er3 piāo lái yī zhèn yǔ
偶爾 飄來 一陣 雨 *(As it just so happened, a shower came)*

[As it happened] [came floating] [a bout] [of rain]

dian3dian3 sǎ luò le mèn dì
點 點 灑落 了 滿地 *(Drop by drop, the rain drops covered the ground)*

[drop by drop] [sprayed and fell upon] [*] [the entire ground]

rú guǒ yǔ yì tíng
如果 雨 一停 *(if the rain once stopped)*

[if] [rain] [once stopped]

wǒ jiù néng zài xiàndào nǐ
我就 能 再 見到 你 (*I would be able to see you*)

[I] [then] [would be able to] [again] [see] [you]

nà shì wǒ zuìhǎo de
那 是 我 最好的 (*that would be my best*)

[that] [would be] [I] [best][*]

juéze2
抉擇 (*choice*)

[choice]

朦朧的眼
朦朧的雨
眼前呈現著美好遠景
我在街頭佇立
心中已經有了決定
我想那小雨一定能把你打醒

偶爾飄來一陣雨
點點灑落了滿地
如果雨一停
我就能再見到你
那是我最好的
抉擇