

# Pulling Up Seedlings

In the Song Dynasty, there lived a farmer who **tended** to his **rice field** with great care.// Each morning, he watched with excitement as the small seeds he had planted grew into **delicate** seedlings.// However, as days passed, the farmer started to feel **impatient**.// He **longed** to see his plants grow tall quickly.//

As he was unable to wait any longer, the farmer decided to help them along.// He **gently** pulled each seedling upwards, thinking it would make them grow faster.// After he finished, he stood back and looked at his work, feeling proud.//

**Nevertheless**, the next day brought a sad surprise.// Instead of **thriving**, the seedlings had **wilted** and died.// The farmer felt terrible when he saw what had happened.// He realized that his impatience had caused harm instead of helping.//

From that day on, the farmer decided to work with more **humility** and patience.// He understood that nature had its own **rhythm**, and that **forcing** things to happen before their time / could lead to disaster.//

宋王朝の時代に / ある農夫が暮らしていた / 自分の田んぼを丁寧に手入れしていた// 毎朝 / 彼はわくわくしながら見守った / 自分が植えた小さな種が / 上品で繊細な苗に成長していく間// しかし / 日が経つにつれて / 農夫はもどかしさを感じ始めた// 彼は、植物が早く背丈を伸ばすことを切望していた//

これ以上待つことはできないと / 農夫は苗の成長を助けてやることにした// 彼は苗を一本一本そっと上に向かって引っ張った / それが成長を早くすると考えたのだ// 終わった後 / 彼は後ろに立ち自分の仕事を眺め / 誇らしい気持ちになった//

それにもかかわらず / 翌日に悲しいサプライズがもたらされた// 育つどころか / 苗はしおれ、枯れてしまった// 農夫はひどくつらい気持ちになった / 起きたことを見て// 彼は自分のせっかちさが、害を及ぼしていることに気づいたのだ / 助けるどころか//

その日からずっと / 農夫はもっと謙虚に、忍耐強く働くことにした// 彼は、自然には自然のリズムがあることを理解した / そして、物事を（生じる時期よりも前に）無理に起こすことで / 災難につながることもあると//

## Vocabulary and Phrases

△dynasty	王朝	gently	そっと / やさしく
tend to O	～の世話をする	nevertheless, ...	それにもかかわらず
※tend to V	～する傾向がある	thrive	繁栄する / 成長する
rice field	田んぼ	△wilt	しおれる
delicate	繊細な / 優美な	humility	謙虚
impatient	せっかちな、気短な	rhythm	リズム
long to V	～したがる (= wish)	force O to V	OにおりやりVさせる
help ~ along	～の進展を助ける		

## Total Number of words used

: 169 words

## Time for 100 wpm

: 102 sec.

## Time for 120 wpm

: 85 sec.

## Your BEST TIME

: \_\_\_\_\_ sec.



**【Listen & Fill Blank】**

In the Song Dynasty, there lived a farmer who \_\_\_\_\_ to his rice field with great care. \_\_\_\_\_ morning, he watched with excitement as the small seeds he had planted \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_ seedlings. However, as days \_\_\_\_\_, the farmer started to feel \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_ to see his plants grow tall quickly.

As he was \_\_\_\_\_ to wait any longer, the farmer decided to help them \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_ pulled each seedling upwards, \_\_\_\_\_ it would make them grow faster. After he finished, he \_\_\_\_\_ back and looked at his work, feeling \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, the next day brought a sad surprise. Instead of \_\_\_\_\_, the seedlings had wilted and died. The farmer felt \_\_\_\_\_ when he saw \_\_\_\_\_ had happened. He realized that his impatience had caused harm \_\_\_\_\_ of helping.

From that day \_\_\_\_\_, the farmer decided to work with more \_\_\_\_\_ and patience. He understood that nature had its own \_\_\_\_\_, and that \_\_\_\_\_ things to happen before their time could lead to disaster.

**【Q&A / A&Q】**

**Question 1:** Why did the farmer decide to pull his seedlings?

**Question 2:** What happened to the seedlings on the second day?

**Question 3:** What did the farmer learn from his unfortunate experience?

**Ask 1:** Farmer についての質問を英語で書いてください。

**Ask 2:** Seedlings についての質問を英語で書いてください。

**Ask 3:** 本文について知りたいことを英語で書いてください。

**Sample Answer 1:** The farmer could not wait any longer to see his seedlings grow tall.

**Sample Answer 2:** Contrary to the farmer's anticipation, the seedlings withered and died.

**Sample Answer 3:** The farmer understood that nature has its own rhythm and realized the importance of working with humility and patience through his experience.

**Sample Question 1:** Does the farmer work alone?  
How long has the farmer been engaged in farming?

**Sample Question 2:** How long does it take for the seedlings to grow tall?  
Do the seedlings need fertilizers to grow well?

**Sample Question 3:** Where does the farmer sell his rice?  
How big is the farmer's rice field?