To Catch the Chick!

During the war we returned to our native village. Being a stranger to the trade of farming, father failed to support the family. By the last stage of the war, we had suffered greatly from insufficient food. I finishing all my daily routine of picking up dry twigs and leaves for fuel, I returned home. Following me into the house was my father, probably having gone away from its companions. Quick, close the door! Father, who had been sick for weeks cried out almost hysterically.

The chickens were found to have escaped and I immediately went out to look for them. Scanning the act of theivry thoroughly, I found some grain before it and repeating the words "hawk", "kuk, kok!" father whispered to me when I arrived. The chick started its last struggle for its young life. Holding the unconscious creature in my hands, for the first time in my life, I felt myself trembling.

I could not remember we ever had eaten so delicious a bowl of chicken rice as we had ten years ago. We often recall this incident with many a sigh.

When men are drifted, along the sides of cold, hunger, thirst and poverty, they have to invoke any possible means to survive themselves without regarding decency and risk. Mary King (French Canadian)

LITERARY QUIZ

1. Who is the Swan of Avon?
2. Who is the Dean of St. Patrick's?
3. With what is Dr. Johnson most noted?
4. Who is the composer of Old Lang Syne?
5. The Cocker and the Fox is a well-known story. Where is it from?
6. Who wrote the Fairy Queen?
7. Name two critics who predate Shakespeare.
8. Who was the Duke of Bedford?
9. Who was a famous blind poet?
10. The following are some of the most charming characters in English fiction. State in which books they appear.
11. For what book is Conan Doyle famous?
12. Who were the three Brothers?
13. Give one novel each by:
   a. Jane Austen
   b. Mark Twain
   c. Charles Dickens
   d. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
   e. Sir Walter Scott

WORDS WITH TWO MEANINGS

Some words may be used in more than one sense. For example: When spring comes, everyone is happy. There is a spring behind his house.

Now fill in the missing words in these sentences:

1. The — of my watch is broken.
2. I love to wander in my garden during —.
3. He was sent out to — the cable.
4. He was knocked out in the —.
5. The lady wore a —.
6. If you need the servant, please — the bell.
7. What do you — by going to school late?
8. Children are fond of —.
9. She shall leave this town by taking that —.
10. Shall I — to be a teacher?
11. His — is broken in a —.
12. Put up your —, otherwise I will kill you.

Can you distinguish the meanings of the following pairs of words?

- In intricate means complicated (难度的)
- Extricate means to free from difficulties (解困)
- Executioner means one who puts condemned criminals to death.
- Execution means the act by the executioner.
- Courtesy means politeness combined with kindness.
- Electrocute means to kill by means of an electric current.
- Boastful means conceited and most of the criminals are electrocuted instead of being hanged.
- Electrify means to thrill.
- Support means according to truth.
- To be current means a small needle with (流行)
- Current means a body of air or water flowing in a certain direction.
- The boat moved down the river.

Memory Lane

The warm voice

we would gather in the garden to listen to her stories and to enjoy her singing. She would sing of her childhood, her travels, and the people she had met along the way. Her voice would carry across the garden, filling the air with her beautiful music. She would always end her song with a smile, and we would all respond with cheers and applause.

Answer:
1. spring, 2. round, 3. ring, 4. mean, 5. ball, 6. train, 7. chest, 8. hands.