# A Fable: The Hare and the Tortoise

Once upon a time there was a hare who said that he could run faster than anyone else. The hare laughed at the tortoise because he was so slow. "You are such a straggler!" he said.

Finally, one day, the tortoise thought “Enough!” So he said to the hare: "I challenge you to a race!" "Ha, ha, ha!" said the hare. "A race? With you? But I'm so speedy, that there's nobody in the world that can beat me." "We will see," said the tortoise.

A course was planned, and the next day at dawn they stood at the starting line. The hare simply yawned while the tortoise started slowly away from the line. When the hare saw how very slow the tortoise was, he decided to have a little nap. "Take your time!" he said. "I'll have a nap and catch up with you in a minute."

A little later, the hare woke up and looked around for the tortoise. But the tortoise was only a short distance away. "I think I’ll have some breakfast!" said the hare. And he went to look for some cabbages. He remembered that there were some in a nearby field.

A few minutes later, the hot sun made him feel sleepy again. He looked at the tortoise, and saw that he was halfway along the course, so he decided to have another snooze. The sun started to approach the horizon, and the tortoise, who had been slowly, but steadily, walking all day, was about one yard from the finishing line. Suddenly, the hare woke up, feeling startled. He could see the tortoise in the distance and so he started to run. He ran and jumped at a great speed. Soon he will be at the finish. But the hare's last jump was too late, because the tortoise had beaten him to the finishing line. Tired and in disgrace, the hare sat on the ground next to the tortoise. "Slow and steady wins the race!" said the tortoise.