Aesop(伊索) was a slave living around 550 BC. We call the stories he wrote fables(寓言), as every story has a moral. Almost all the fables he wrote are 1 (humor) and entertaining, appealing to people 2 all ages. To date, Aesop’s fables 3 (translate) into many languages and are known all over the world. Not only 4 the fables themselves lived for nearly 1500 years, but 5 (express) from them have entered various languages.

One fable, for instance, is about a farmer who was driving his cart along a country road. The cart got 6 (stick) in the mud, but the farmer made 7 effort to get it out. Instead, he began to pray to the gods for help. The god Hercules finally appeared and told 8 man to get busy and push it. “Push your shoulder to the wheel.” Hercules advised.

The moral of the story is clear. We mustn’t rely on 9 for help. Another saying which has come from the fable is “God helps those 10 help themselves.”

1. humorous/humourous 2. of 3.have been translated 4.have 5.expressions 6.stuck 7. no/little 8.the 9. others 10. who