

*"QualityTime-ESL" presents...*



## Your English No. 26

### A Poem to Learn English (Part 2)

Hi. I'm Marianne Raynaud. My goal is to help my listeners improve their spoken English. In this episode we will continue our work on "*A Poem to Learn English.*" I hope you have already learned the first part by heart. It was in podcast No. 25. I have tried to put many different verb tenses and numerous useful structures of the English language into one single poem. And the poem rhymes. I wrote it, as I have seen that rhymed poetry can help students with vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. Again, I ask you to stress certain syllables the way I do. As I have already explained, English is a stressed language, and you must put the stress on words correctly in order to be properly understood.

*Listen and repeat:*

### A Poem To Learn English (Part 2)

*The words to be stressed are in bold.*

I've been through **hardships**, I have had **pain**  
 I have felt great **anguish** over and over **again**  
 Have I **suffered** a **lot**? Have I **shed** real **tears**?  
 Yes, but I **haven't** felt **sorrow** as **much** as my **peers**

When **I** was a **child** just like **you**, my young **man**  
 We were **poor**, with no **home**, we lived in a **clan**  
 We couldn't **do** what we **liked**, free **thought** they **forbade**  
 We were **always** **worried** and **always** **afraid**

*Your English No. 26 A Poem to Learn English (Part 2)*

We **had** to build **courage** and **decide** we should **flee**  
To a **place** where we'd **feel** in **peace** and **harmony**  
So, we **traveled** for **weeks** with no **firm** land in **sight**  
Till we **reached** our **journey's end** far into the **night**

My **parents** there **settled**, worked **hard** all their **life**  
I was **sent** to **school**, and **later** they **found** me a **wife**  
They **wanted** for **me**, what they **hadn't** **achieved**  
The **learning** and **skills** they hadn't **received**

So, I **studied** at **high** school and **made** some good **friends**  
But **that** is not **where** this **long** story **ends**  
I **learned** a profession, then found **work** I could **do**  
Became a **carpenter's aid**, I would **saw**, **polish** and **glue**

So I **earned** my **living** and could **make** ends **meet**  
We had **food** on the **table** and our **neighbors** we'd **greet**  
My **wife** she was **pleased** and our **kids** got **along**  
I **saw** how they **grew**, became **tall** and so **strong**

They **studied** **Chinese**, **higher physics**, and **French**  
Their **thirst** for **knowledge** they **never** could **quench**  
They **played** the piano and their **parents** did **please**  
They **went** onto **college**, got **prestigious degrees**

*Now listen repeat the rhymes with me.*

*And finally, I will say the poem once at a normal speed.*

*That's the end of this episode. In our next podcast we will complete the work on this poem. If you want additional practice, you can try our other series "QualityTime-ESL Podcasts" and "5-Minute TOPs". For more information go to our website [www.qualitytime-esl.com](http://www.qualitytime-esl.com). Thank you all for listening. Bye for now.*