

Lyrics:

## 两只老虎

liǎng zhī lǎohǔ  
Two Tigers

两只老虎，两只老虎      Two tigers, two tigers  
liǎng zhī lǎohǔ, liǎng zhī lǎohǔ

跑得快，跑得快      run fast, run fast  
pǎo de kuài, pǎo de kuài

一只没有眼睛      one doesn't have eyes  
yì zhī méiyǒu yǎn.jīng

一只没有尾巴      one doesn't have a tail  
yì zhī méiyǒu yǐ/wěiba

真奇怪，真奇怪      how strange, how strange!  
zhēn qíguài, zhēn qíguài

The melody of this nursery rhyme is French originally. In the late 1920s, Chinese lyrics were first written by a military cadre of the then Republic of China (by the Nationalist Party) Huangpu Military Academy to call on Chinese people to fight against feudalism and imperialism. Later on, the popular song was rewritten into this nursery rhyme. Today, children still love this song for its lively melody and tongue-in-cheek lyrics.

The lyrics contain some fundamental Chinese grammar concepts, including:

Line 1: “number + measure word + noun” (in English: number + noun, usually)

Line 2: “V + particle “de” + (modifier) + adjective” (English: V + adverb)

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