

There are three passages available. Choose one of them and read it aloud. You may click on the audio to listen to the speaker read out the lines if you have difficulty on pronouncing the words. Record a video of you reading the passage, then send it to teacher for marking.

以下有三篇短文。选择其中一篇朗读。如在发音上有困难，可以点击音频收听扬声器朗读的句子。录视频，然后将视频转发给教师评估。

### Passage 1: Mosquitoes



While it may seem that all mosquitoes are biters, this is not actually the case.

Male mosquitoes eat plant nectar.

On the other hand, female mosquitoes feed on animal blood.

They need this blood to live and produce eggs.

When a female mosquito bites a human being, it transmits a small amount of saliva into the blood.

This saliva may or may not contain a deadly disease. The result of the bite can be as minor as an itchy bump or as serious as death.

### Passage 2: Hot Air Balloon



A hot air balloon has three major parts: the basket, the burner, and the envelope.

The basket is where passengers ride. The basket is usually made of wicker.

This ensures that it will be comfortable and add little extra weight.

The burner is positioned above the passenger's heads and produces a huge flame to heat the air inside the envelope.

The envelope is the colourful fabric balloon that holds the hot air.

When the air inside the envelope is heated, the balloon rises.

### Passage 3: Fleas



Fleas are perfectly designed by nature to feast on anything containing blood.

Like a shark in the water or a wolf in the woods, fleas are ideally equipped to do what they do, making them very difficult to defeat.

The bodies of these tiny parasites are extremely hardy and well-suited for their job.

A flea has a very hard exoskeleton, which means the body is covered by a tough, tile-like plate called a sclerite.

Because of these plates, fleas are almost impossible to squish.

The exoskeletons of fleas are also waterproof and shock resistant, and therefore fleas are highly resistant to the sprays and chemicals used to kill them.