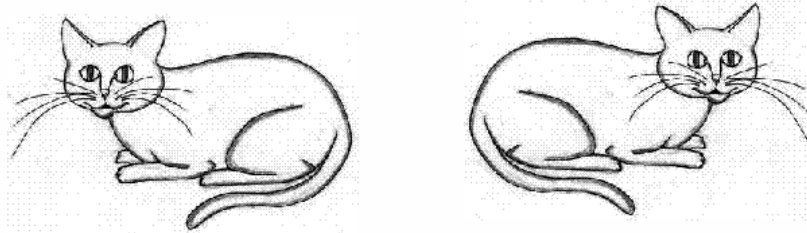


# THE HAK TAKS

## (TWO OF EVERYTHING)

A CHINESE FOLKTALE



A dialogue script for a beginning reader to read with an accomplished reader  
Just read it together, or go all out and make costumes and put on a play.  
It is also fun to read this into a tape recorder.

### Focus:

Three-sound words with short a, i and o  
The single sound made by "ck"

# PHONICS SCRIPTS



The following script is based on an old Chinese folktale. It is formatted as a drama-script, which the child reads with a tutor or another accomplished reader. The adult dialogue lines carry the plot, while the child's lines are written in phonetically controlled text.

It is hard for controlled-text phonics books to tell a good story. The restricted vocabulary of a phonics story limits the storyteller's ability to capture a child's imagination with a good plot and good characters. By separating the story text into adult and beginning reader parts, these phonics scripts give beginning readers the experience of participating in the reading of an enjoyable folktale.

The dialogue written for the student is controlled for the following categories of words:

1. Three sound words with short a, short i and short o (consonant-vowel-consonant)
2. The single sound made by "ck"
3. The following sight words:

you	for
a	and
where	me
are	this
the	some
two,	be
one	oh
of	no
have	go
in	is
my	I am
we	so

**Note on sight words:** Sight words are either words that don't easily fit into phonics rules, or which are governed by rules the child has not yet learned. The children are encouraged to learn these by "sight" rather than by sounding them out using phonics rules. If a child struggles with a sight word, quickly read the word for the child. He/she will eventually learn these by sight.

# THE HAK TAKS

The child reader takes the role of **Hak Tak 2**. If the child is a boy Hak Tak 2 is Mr. Hak Tak. If the child is a girl, Hak Tak 2 is Mrs. Hak Tak.

*Hak Tak 1: I don't have a lot of money. I live with my spouse in a row house on 22nd street. One day I went to the store to buy some thumbtacks. I bought one box. As I left the store I saw a big pot lying beside a trash barrel. It was too big to fit in the trash barrel, so someone had left it on the sidewalk beside the barrel. I thought I'd take it home and surprise (Mr./Mrs.) Hak Tak. I needed to carry that pot with both arms because it was so enormous. That meant that I couldn't hold the thumbtacks I just bought, so I put the box of tacks inside the pot. The tacks got carried home inside the pot.*

*It took me a bit of time to get home (the pot was so heavy). When I finally got home, I found that the pot was too big to fit easily through the doorway. As I was trying to maneuver it into the house, my spouse heard me and came to the door.*

## **Hak Tak 2: You got a pot?**

*Hak Tak 1: Yes, I found it by a trash can.*

## **Hak Tak 2: Where are the tacks you got?**

*Hak Tak 1: In here, in the pot.*

## **Hak Tak 2: The tacks are in the big pot?**

*Hak Tak 1: Yes, help me get the pot through the door and then you can reach in and get out the thumbtacks.*

*Hak Tak 1: My (husband/wife) helped me squeeze the pot through the door and then he/she reached in to get the tacks.*

## **Hak Tak 2: You got two, not one box of tacks!**

Hak Tak 1: No, I just bought one box of thumbtacks.

## **Hak Tak 2: No, you got two.**

Hak Tak 1: Then I saw that in my spouse's hand there really were two boxes of thumbtacks. That was very strange. I know I had only bought one box of tacks. Puzzled, I looked into the pot. As I leaned over, the black 76er cap I was wearing fell into the pot. I reached into the pot get my cap and ... I felt **two** caps in the pot. I pulled them both out and they were exactly the same; there were two identical black 76ers caps in the pot. My cap had gotten a twin.

## **Hak Tak 2: You have two 76er caps!?**

Hak Tak 1: That is not possible! One cap became two! What is with this pot? One box of tacks becomes two boxes; one 76er cap becomes two 76er caps. Will the pot make two of everything?!!

## **Hak Tak 2: Pop in my back pack.**

Hak Tak 1: So we put in the back pack. Would we get two back packs out of that pot? Sure enough, when we reached in we found, not one, but two identical back packs. We stared getting very excited.

Hak Tak 1: I haven't had lunch, let's put in some food, and have twice as much lunch as usual. Throw in a hot dog.

## **Hak Tak 2: We will have two hot dogs, one for you and one for me! Lob in this ham.**

Hak Tak 1: I'll also put in a bottle of juice.

## **Hak Tak 2: Tip in a tin of chips, and some dip for the chips.**

*Hak Tak 1: Everything we put into the pot doubled! We ate until we were full.*

*Hak Tak 1: Now let's get serious. Let's make two of everything! We will be rich!  
Put in the stereo.*

## **Hak Tak 2: Pop in the VCR.**

*Hak Tak 1: I'll put in the toaster and the microwave.*

## **Hak Tak 2: And the TV.**

*Hak Tak 1: My favorite jacket.*

## **Hak Tak 2: My bag of socks.**

*Hak Tak 1: The telephone.*

## **Hak Tak 2: The cat and the dog!**

*Hak Tak 1: The pot was really a magic pot. Everything we put in came out doubled. We got carried away in our excitement. Before long our living room was full of two of everything we owned. Suddenly I got the great Idea.*

*Hak Tak 1: I've got a great idea. Let's just put in money. We'll keep on doubling our money and then we can buy anything we want!*

*Hak Tak 1: My spouse got so excited about this idea he/she ran up to hug me. I was knocked over by the hug and guess what I fell into? I fell into the magic pot. You can guess what happened. Suddenly inside the pot with me was ... squirming and wiggling ... **another me!***

## **Hak Tak 2: Oh no! not two of you!! No, no go back, go back!**

**This is bad!**

Hak Tak 1: Both of me stepped out of the pot, bewildered. Mr./Mrs. Hak Tak was stunned, too. He/she walked slowly over to the new me, staring very hard. A look of panic came over his/her face and suddenly he/she tried to push the other me back into the pot where the other me came from. I jumped up to stop that. If the other me got pushed in there would be another double of me! We didn't need three of me! **Then things got even worse.** As I jumped over to stop Mr./Mrs. Hak Tak from pushing the other me in the pot, I tripped over the extra toaster that was lying on the ground and knocked Mr./Mrs. Hak Tak in the pot! And you guessed it: now there were two of each of us!

**Hak Tak 2: Two of you. Two of me! The pot is a big, bad pot. I am sad. I will sob and sob!**

Hak Tak 1: We all four sat on the floor and cried, we didn't know what to do! Then I thought...

Hak Tak 1: I have an idea, why doesn't the new Mr. Hak Tak marry the new Mrs. Hak Tak and move in next door. We can double everything we have and give it to them. We can do everything together and have lots of fun. We will have new best friends.

**Hak Tak 2: I am not sad! We can have two pals!**

Hak Tak 1: And so that is what we did. The new Hak Taks got married and lived next door and became our best friends. Neighbors assumed they were close relatives because they looked so much like us. We kept on using the pot, doubling things when we needed anything. We doubled things for the new Hak Taks and also for all our neighbors and even for people who lived in other neighborhoods. Everybody had all they needed. Best of all, we had the best friends anybody could have living right next door.

**THE END**