

**PART 1**
READING ALOUD

In this passage, a piano is saved.

"It's very old," said Mr Hussain, looking doubtfully at the piano. He lifted the lid and played a few notes. "And very out of tune." He looked into the back of the instrument, sending a spider running for its life.

"Well, all this stuff has to go," said his old friend Mr Chow. "I need to clear the house out completely before I go away, and I can't keep things like this."

Once Mr Hussain had decided he wanted the piano, he took great care over the rest of his arrangements. The piano was delivered at the beginning of a weekend when he knew his wife and children would be away, visiting his sister's family. The old instrument had been professionally cleaned and reconditioned: its dark wood and brass fittings shone.

Some hours later the piano-tuner arrived. When she had finished her work, she played some scales and then a beautiful version of the theme from the film *Titanic*. Mr Hussain was overjoyed. "It's still a very fine instrument," the piano-tuner said. "You were lucky to find it."

The time came for Mr Hussain to explain to his astonished family, when they came home. "When I was very young," he said, "my mother played a piano almost exactly like that one. Now I'm going to have lessons and try to remember how I learned to play. I've decided it's time we had some live music in this house – not just CDs and television."



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