A Wolf Wags His Tail

Before You Read: New Words and Exercises

caught/catch [ka:tʃ]  ལགས་འབྲེལ།

nice [nais] བོད་དོན་གནང་།

believe [bi:li:v] འཕལ་ོར་མེད།

wag [wæg] འགུལ་བགས་

work [wə:k] རྩག་ཆ་ཡོན་ཏན།

tired [ˈtaɪd]  འཛིན་བོ།

tried [ˈtraɪd] འཛིན་བོ།

still [stil] འབྲོད་

virtue [ˈvɜːtjuː] འབྲོད་

lose patience [luːz ˈpeɪʃəns] འབྲོད་པོ་བྲེལ་བའི་ཐོབ་བཞེངས་

trap [træp] ནུ་

save [seiv] ལན་བོ།

friendly ['frendli] རོ་བོག་ཆུབ་སོང་།

my tail [mai'teil] འབྲོད་

especially [ˈespeʃəli] རྩག་ཆ་ཡོན་ཏན།

waiting ['weitiŋ] འབྲོད་

forget [fo'get] འབྲོད་

trick [trik] རོ་བོག་ཆུབ་སོང་།

momo ['məʊməʊ] འབྲོད་
Exercises: Answer the questions below.

1. Have you ever caught anything in a trap? What was it?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

2. Look at this sentence: *Patience is a virtue*. What do you think it means? Do you like this sentence?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Once, a wolf was caught in a trap. An old sheep saw the wolf. The sheep walked toward the wolf. Wolf said, "Friend! Please help me!"

Sheep said, "Who are you? Why are you caught in a trap?"

The wolf said, "You don't know who I am? I am a nice dog. There was a chicken caught in this trap. I was trying to save the chicken. I didn't think about myself. I walked into the trap to save the chicken. Now I can't get out. Please help me."

Sheep looked at Wolf for a long time. He didn't believe him. Sheep said, "Are you really a dog? You look like a wolf."

Wolf said, "I am a wolf dog. I look like a wolf but I am really a dog. I am nice and friendly. I can also wag my tail. Look at me. I'm wagging my tail."

Sheep moved away. He said, "Yes, you can wag your tail. Dogs are not the only animals that wag their tails. Many animals can wag their tails. Are you really a dog?"

"Yes, I am really a dog. Please help me. I will work for you. I like sheep. I especially like old sheep," said the Wolf. He was tired of being caught in the trap.

Sheep said, "I need to think about this."
Wolf was angry. He was tired of waiting. He had lost his patience. He opened his mouth and yelled, "Are you going to help me or not?"

Sheep looked at wolf. He said, "No. I won't help you. You are a wolf. I saw your teeth. Last winter you tried to catch me. I almost died. I can't forget that. You can wag your tail but you are still a wolf. You can't trick me. Goodbye!"

Sheep left. Wolf was still caught in the trap.
Exercises: Replace the words in parentheses ( ) with the shorter words (can't, won't, and don't) in these sentences.

1. Now I ___________(cannot) get out.
2. I ___________(did not) think about myself.
3. You ___________(do not) know who I am?
4. You ___________(cannot) trick me.
5. I ___________(will not) help you.
6. I ___________(cannot) forget that.
7. He ___________(did not) believe him.
Exercises: Write about what you can't, won't, and don't do.

Part 1: Put these sentences in the correct order.

_____ Wolf was tired of being in the trap.
_____ Once, a wolf was caught in a trap.
_____ Wolf opened his mouth and showed his teeth.
_____ An old sheep saw the wolf.
_____ Sheep wanted to think.
_____ Sheep left.
_____ Wolf asked for help.
_____ Sheep asked the wolf who he was.
_____ Wolf lost his patience.
_____ Wolf was still caught in the trap.
_____ Wolf said he was a dog.
_____ Sheep said that many animals wagged their tails.
_____ Sheep wouldn't help Wolf because Wolf had tried to eat him before.
_____ Sheep did not believe that Wolf was a dog.
_____ Wolf wagged his tail.

Comprehension Questions: Follow the directions below.
Part 2: Meaning རང་ལགས་བོད་ལྡན་པར་བརྡེ་

1. What is the most important thing that happens in the story? Why do you think it is important?

2. Why does Sheep leave Wolf in the trap? Would you have helped Wolf?

3. What do you think about this story? གཉིས་དུས་ཞིག་ཡིན།

Simplified English text by Rose Hyson.

The Tibetan version of this text was prepared by G. yang skyabs rdo rje and Bsod nams rin chen rgya.