

## 第 32 回ちびっ子イングリッシュコンテスト英語暗唱部門 課題文

対象 : 小学 3～6 年生

### Advice from a Caterpillar

The Caterpillar and Alice looked at each other for some time in silence: at last the Caterpillar addressed her in a sleepy voice.

“Who are *you?*” said the Caterpillar.

Alice replied, rather shyly, “I—I hardly know, sir, just at present—at least I know who I *was* when I got up this morning, but I think I must have been changed several times since then.”

“What do you mean by that?” said the Caterpillar sternly. “Explain yourself!”

“I can’t explain *myself*, I’m afraid, sir,” said Alice, “because I’m not myself, you see.”

“I don’t see,” said the Caterpillar.

“I’m afraid I can’t put it more clearly,” Alice replied very politely, “for I can’t understand it myself to begin with; and being so many different sizes in a day is very confusing.”

“It isn’t,” said the Caterpillar.

“Well, perhaps you haven’t found it so yet,” said Alice; “but when you have to turn into a chrysalis—you will some day, you know—and then after that into a butterfly, I should think you’ll feel it a little strange, won’t you?”

“Not a bit,” said the Caterpillar.

“Well, perhaps your feelings may be different,” said Alice; “all I know is, it would feel very strange to *me*.”

“You!” said the Caterpillar. “Who are *you?*” (269 words)

Adapted from Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*.