课间十分钟，我和王小虎的跳绳比赛

下课铃响了，数学老师刚说出下课两个字，我的心思早就飞到了操场上。上个星期，我和王小虎拉了钩：这周课间来一场跳绳比赛，输的人要把自己最喜欢的漫画借给对方看一个星期。

跑到操场的时候，好多同学已经围在那里了。班长李乐自告奋勇当裁判，从文具盒里掏出小秒表，喊了一声：预备！王小虎握着绳柄先甩了两圈，绳子在空中发出呼呼的响声。我把我的绳柄攥得紧紧的，两只脚踩在地上，膝盖微微弯着。

开始！李乐一按秒表，我们俩的绳子同时抽打起地面。啪、啪、啪，绳头一下一下打着操场，风从我的耳朵边上刮过去。我盯着自己脚尖前面的那块地，跳起来，落地，再跳起来，再落地，辫子在脑后一上一下地甩。一、二、三，我在心里数数。数到八十个的时候，两条腿开始发沉，每一下都要比刚才跳得更高一点。围着的同学喊起了加油，声音大得差点盖过绳子抽地的声音。

突然，绳子挂到了我的鞋带上，我一个趔趄，差点摔个屁股墩。我抬头瞟了一眼李乐手里的秒表，已经五十三秒了。我赶紧重新甩起绳子，拼命快跳。秒表一响，李乐大声宣布：一百二十三个！王小虎那边是一百三十一个。第一轮我输了八个。

第二轮，三分钟连续跳！李乐宣布了新规定。这一次我不抢快了，稳稳地按自己的节奏跳，绳子发出有规律的啪啪声。小曼站在我旁边替我数数，她的声音越数越高：二百零一、二百零二我的衬衫后背全湿透了，汗珠顺着指尖甩到地上。

刚跳到第二百五十个，上课铃响了。铃声又急又响，把加油声都压了下去。谁也不想走。李乐把秒表往文具盒里一塞：今天先到这儿，明天课间接着比！王小虎一边往教学楼走，一边冲我挥绳子：明天你还是输！我甩着酸溜溜的小腿往教室跑，嘴角却怎么也合不上。

回到座位上，我翻开课本，满耳朵还是绳子的啪啪声和同学们的加油声。课间十分钟只有这么长，可这十分钟，是我这一个星期里最快乐的十分钟。

The Rope Jumping Match at Recess

The end-of-class bell rang. The math teacher had barely said the two words class is over, but my mind had already flown to the playground. Last week, Wang Xiaohu and I made a promise with our fingers hooked together: during recess this week, we would have a rope jumping match, and the loser had to lend a favorite comic book to the other one for a whole week.

When I reached the playground, many classmates were already gathered there. Monitor Li Le volunteered to be the referee. He took a small stopwatch out of his pencil case and shouted: Get ready! Wang Xiaohu held his rope handles and swung it twice first. The rope made a whooshing sound in the air. I gripped my own handles tightly, planted both feet on the ground, and bent my knees a little.

Go! The moment Li Le pressed the stopwatch, both ropes began to slap the ground

at the same time. Smack, smack, smack. The tip of the rope hit the playground one beat after another, and wind brushed past my ears. I stared at the patch of ground in front of my toes. Jump up, land, jump up, land again. My ponytail swung up and down behind me. One, two, three. I counted in my heart. When I reached eighty, my legs began to feel heavy, and every jump had to be a little higher than the one before. The classmates around us started cheering. Their voices were so loud that they almost covered the sound of the rope.

Suddenly, the rope caught on my shoe lace. I stumbled and almost fell on my bottom. I looked up and saw that the stopwatch in the hand of Li Le already showed fifty-three seconds. I started the rope again as fast as I could. When the stopwatch beeped, Li Le announced loudly: One hundred and twenty-three! On the side of Wang Xiaohu it was one hundred and thirty-one. I lost the first round by eight.

Second round, three minutes of continuous jumping! Li Le announced the new rule. This time I did not rush. I kept my own steady pace, and the rope made a regular smacking sound. Xiao Man stood next to me and counted for me. Her voice climbed higher and higher: two hundred and one, two hundred and two. The back of my shirt was completely wet, and drops of sweat flew off my fingertips onto the ground.

Just when I reached two hundred and fifty, the start-of-class bell rang. The bell was sharp and loud, and it pushed the cheering down. Nobody wanted to leave. Li Le stuffed the stopwatch into his pencil case and said: We stop here for today, and we continue tomorrow at recess! Wang Xiaohu walked toward the teaching building and waved his rope at me: Tomorrow you will still lose! I ran back to class with my calves sour and aching, but I could not stop smiling.

Back at my seat, I opened the textbook, and my ears were still full of the smacking of the rope and the cheering of our classmates. Recess is only ten minutes long, but these ten minutes were the happiest ten minutes of my whole week.