



THE LEGEND OF MULAN

mù lán de chuán shuō
木 兰 的 传 说

This is a line-by-line rendition of the Legend of Mulan. This legend should be presented in a storytelling format, with students taking turns to say the lines. Any number of students from two to twenty-four can participate.

mù lán shì yí ge nǚ hái zi
一、木 兰 是 一 个 女 孩 子。

Mulan was a girl.

mù lán shí bā suì
二、木 兰 十 八 岁。

Mulan was eighteen years old.

mù lán shì zhōng guó rén
三、木 兰 是 中 国 人。

Mulan was Chinese.

mù lán zhù zài zhōng guó
四、木 兰 住 在 中 国。

Mulan lived in China.

mù lán yǒu yì pǐ mǎ
五、木 兰 有 一 匹 马。

Mulan had a horse.

mù lán yǒu yì zhī xiǎo gǒu
六、木兰有一只小狗。

Mulan had a little dog.

mù lán yǒu mù shù
七、木兰有木术。

Mulan had Mushu.*

mù shù shì mù lán de hǎo péng you
八、木术是木兰的好朋友。

Mushu was Mulan's good friend.

mù lán yǒu yì zhī fú guō guo
九、木兰有一只福蝈蝈。

Mulan had a lucky cricket.

fú guō guo hěn xiǎo hěn kě ài
十、福蝈蝈儿很小，很可爱。

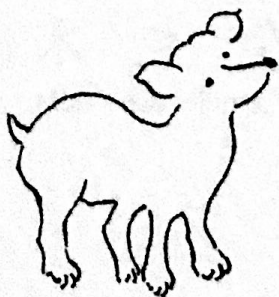
The lucky cricket was very small and cute.

mù lán xǐ huan fú guō guo
十一、木兰喜欢福蝈蝈。

Mulan liked the lucky cricket.

mù lán yǒu bà ba mā ma hé pó po
十二、木兰有爸爸，妈妈和婆婆。

Mulan had a father, mother, and grandmother.



*Mushu is the little dragon in the movie version of the legend.

mù lán méi yǒu gē ge hé dì dì
十三、木兰没有哥哥和弟弟。

Mulan had no older brothers or younger brothers.

mù lán yě méi yǒu jiě jie hé mèi mei
十四、木兰也没有姐姐和妹妹。

Mulan had no older sisters or younger sisters either.

mù lán de bà ba děi qù dǎ zhàng
十五、木兰的爸爸得去打仗。

Mulan's father had to go fight in the war.

mù lán de bà ba lǎo le
十六、木兰的爸爸老了。

Mulan's father was getting old.

mù lán huì qí mǎ huì wǔ shù
十七、木兰会骑马，会武术。

Mulan knew how to ride a horse and perform martial arts.

mù lán nǚ bàn nán zhuāng qù dǎ zhàng
十八、木兰女扮男装去打仗。

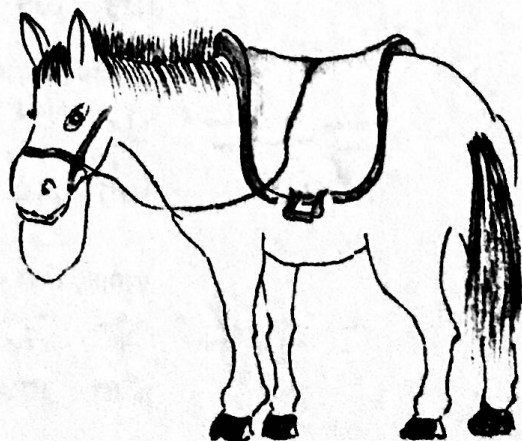
Mulan dressed as a man and went to fight in the war.

mù lán hěn yǒng gǎn
十九、木兰很勇敢。

Mulan was very brave.

mù lán shòu shāng le
二十、木兰受伤了。

Mulan was injured.



mù lán lì zhàn gōng
二十一、木兰立战功。

Mulan was honored in the war.

mù lán yào huí jiā zhào kàn bà ba
二十二、木兰要回家照看爸爸

Mulan wanted to return home and take care of

mā ma

妈妈。

her parents.

mù lán de jiǎ míng jiào píng
二十三、木兰的假名叫“平”。

Mulan's fake name was Ping.

mù lán shì zhōng guó gǔ dài de
二十四、木兰是中国古代的

Mulan was a heroine of ancient China.

nǚ yīng xióng

女英雄。

THE END



Example of a Cross-talk Performance

(Note to Teachers: In this optional cross-talk performance, four students take roles and improvise their own lines and humor while presenting the story. See the Teaching Reference pages for more ideas about cross-talk performances.)

A: Have you ever heard the English song "Reflection" in the movie *Mulan*?

B: Of course, I can sing it. *(sings it with a terrible tune)*

C: Ow! My ears! Why don't you say something about *Mulan* in Chinese instead?

mù lán

B: Okay. *Mulan* is 木兰. *(laughs)*

A: Right. Can you say, "*Mulan* was a girl and she lived in China"?

mù lán shì yí ge nǚ hái zi tā zhù zài zhōng guó

B: 木兰是一个女孩子，她住在中国。

C: Can you say, "*Mulan* is eighteen years old"?

mù lán shí bā suì

B: 木兰十八岁。 Why are you asking me? You do some work.

Do you know the name of *Mulan's* good friend?

mù shù

D: Do you mean the little dragon in the movie? It is 木术。

B: Say it in Chinese. "*Mushu* is *Mulan's* good friend."

mù shù shì mù lán de hǎo péng yǒu

D: 木术是木兰的好朋友。

C: How about "*Mulan* had a lucky cricket"?

mù lán yǒu yì zhī fú guō guo

D: 木兰有一只福蝈蝈。

A: Say, "*The lucky cricket* is small and cute."

fú guō guo hěn xiǎo hěn kě ài

D: 福蝈蝈很小，很可爱。

See, it's easy. I have an easy one for you to try: "*Mulan* has a mom, dad and grandmother."

C: mù lán yǒu bà ba mā ma hé pó po
木兰有爸爸，妈妈和婆婆。

Give me something more difficult.

A: Okay. "Mulan's father is old."

C: mù lán de lǎo bà
木兰的老爸。 Why do I always get the hard questions?

A: I can tell that you don't know the answer to this question. You should say:

mù lán de bà ba lǎo le
木兰的爸爸老了。

C: Not that much difference. bà lǎo lǎo bà
爸老，老爸。 Same thing.

A: No, it isn't. Let me give you an easy one: "Mulan doesn't have any brothers."

C: No problem: mù lán méi yǒu gē ge hé dì dì
木兰没有哥哥和弟弟。

D: That's an easy one, too. How about: "Mulan knows how to ride a horse and how to perform martial arts."

C: mù lán huì qí mǎ mù lán huì wǔ shù
木兰会骑马，木兰会武术。 Now it's my turn. (say to B) I'll bet you can't say: "Mulan pretended to be a man and went to fight."

B: mù lán nǚ bàn nánzhuāng qù dǎ zhàng
木兰女扮男装去打仗。

(say to A) It's your turn now.

C: (say to A) How about you say: "Mulan was very brave."

A: Try me: mù lán hěn yǒng gǎn
木兰很勇敢。 (with great confidence)

B: Mulan was honored after the war.

A: mù lán lì zhàn gōng
木兰立战功。

C: Mulan was injured.

A: mù lán shòu shāng le
木兰受伤了。

D: Mulan did not want to be a high-ranking official. How about you say: "she wanted to return home and take care of her parents?"

A: mù lán yào huí jiā zhào kàn bà ba mā ma
木兰要回家照看爸爸妈妈。

B: Mulan's fake name was Ping.

A: mù lán de jiǎ míng jiào píng
木兰的假名叫“平”。

ABCD: Mulan was a heroine of ancient China.

mù lán shì zhōng guó gǔ dài de nǚ yīng xióng
木兰是中国古代的女英雄。

xiè xie
谢谢。 (bow to audience)

Note: Create your own cross-talk and make it funny and entertaining.