

Ikan Kekek

Malay children's song
arr. Tracy Wong

Vivace ♩ = 120

S1
S2
A1
A2

p hoi hoi

p pony-fish i-loi, i-loi i-lai, i-lai

mp I - kan ke - kek I - k - kek I - *mf*

5

S1 *mp* hoi *mf* hoi I -

S2 *mp* hoi *mf* hoi I -

A1 *mp* hoi *mf* i-lai, i-lai

A2 *f* kan ke - kek I - kan ke - kek *mf* I -

9 **A** pony-fish croaker fish

S1 kan ke - i-loi, i-loi i-kan ge-la- ma_ mak i-lai, i-lai Sung

S2 kə .ek_ mak i-loi, i-loi i-kan ge-la- ma_ mak i-lai, i-lai Sung

A1 i-loi, i-loi i-lai, i-lai

A2 kan ke - kek i-kan ke - kek i -

13

my dear is very beautiful

but her laugh is loud (and not graceful)

S1
guh can - tik sa-yang - ku am-boi Ta - pi ke-ta-wa men-gi - lain - si - lai.

S2
guh can - tik sa-yang - ku am-boi Ta - pi ke-ta-wa men-gi - lai. I -

A1
i - loi i - loi i - lai i - lai

A2
kan ke - kek I - kan

17

B

S1
[Musical staff with rests]

S2
kan ke - kek an ke - kek i - loi i -

A1
na na na na na na na i - loi na na na na na na na i - lai i - lai

A2
na na na na na na na loi i - loi na na na na na na na i - lai i - lai

21

S1
ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in,

S2
kan ke - - kek i - loi i -

A1
na na na na na na na i - loi i - loi

A2
na na na na na na na i - loi i - loi

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23

S1 ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in, ting - in,

S2 loi ke - - kek - lai I -

A1 na na na na na na na i - lai ai I -

A2 na na na na na na na i - lai i - lai I -

C

25

S1 *f* ting *mf* i - loi, i - loi i - lai, i - lai

S2 kan ke - kek i - kan ke - kek i - lai, i - lai I -

A1 kan ke - kek_ mak i - loi, i - kan ge-la- ma_ mak i - lai, i - lai Ka-

A2 kan ke - kek_ mak i - loi i - kan ge-la- ma_ mak i - lai, i - lai Ka-

29 *if you (little one) ase* *come learn (study hard), don't be lazy*

S1 i - loi, i - loi i - lai, i - lai I -

S2 - kek i - loi, i - loi I - kan ke - kek i - lai, i - lai I -

A1 u a - dik_ nak ja - di pan-dai Ma - ri be-la- jar_ jan-gan- lah la - lai I -

A2 lau a - dik_ nak ja - di pan-dai Ma - ri be-la- jar_ jan-gan- lah la - lai I -

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D

33

S1 kan ke - kek mak i - loi, i-loi i - kan ge-la- ma mak i - lai i - lai Sung

S2 kan ke - kek mak i - loi, i - loi, i-loi i - kan ge-la- ma mak i - lai, i-lai Sung

A1 kan ke - kek mak i - loi, i - loi i - kan ge-la- ma i - lai Sung

A2 kan ke - kek mak i - loi, i - loi, i-loi i - kan ge-la- ma mak i - lai i - lai, i-lai Sung

37 *my dear is very beautiful*

but not so loud (and not graceful)

S1 guh. can - tik sa-yang - ku am boi oi ke-ta-wa men-gi - lai - ngi - lai *mp*

S2 guh. can - tik sa-yang - ku am - oi Ta - pi ke-ta-wa men-gi - lai - ngi - lai, ngi-lai I- *mp*

A1 guh. can - tik sa-yang - ku ooi Ta - pi ke-ta-wa men-gi - lai - ngi - lai I- *mp*

A2 guh. can - tik sa-yang - ku am - boi, am-boi Ta - pi ke-ta-wa men-gi - lai - ngi - lai, ngi-lai I-

E

41

S1 I - kan ke - kek mak i - loi, i-loi, i- *f*

S2 - kek, i - kan ke - kek i na na na na na na i-loi, i-loi, *f*

A1 an ke - kek, i - kan ke - kek I - kan ke - kek mak i - loi, i-loi, i- *f*

A2 kan ke - kek, i - kan ke - kek I - kan ke - kek i-loi, i-loi, i- *f*

45 *if you (little one) want to be wise*

S1 kan ge-la- ma_ mak i - lai, i - lai Ka-lau a - dik_ nak ja - di pan-dai Ma-

S2 na na na na na na na i-lai, i-lai na na na na na na i - loi

A1 kan ge-la- ma_ mak i - lai, i - lai Ka-lau a - dik_ pan-dai Ma-

A2 kan ke - kek i - lai, i-lai i - kan k' i - loi, i-loi i -

49 *come learn (study hard), don't be lazy* **F** *rit.* *n*

S1 ri be-la- jar_ jan-gan-lah la - lai Te - nang_ a-ir di_ la-ut Sam-

S2 na na na na na na na i-lai i-lai nang, te - nang_ a-ir di la - ut, la-ut Sam-

A1 ri be-la- jar_ jan-gan-lah Te- nang, te - nang_ a-ir di la - ut Sam-

A2 kan ke - kek i-lai, i-lai Te- nang, te - nang_ a-ir di la - ut, la-ut Sam-

53 *the boat floats to'* *ff* *the heart recalls, the mouth smiles* *rit.*

S1 pan au-dik ke_ tan-jung Ha - ti_ ter-ke- nang_ mu-lut ter - se - nyum

S2 - lek_ mu-dik ke tan - jung, tan-jung Ha - ti_ ter-ke- nang_ mu-lut ter - se-nyum Bu - *solo*

A1 pan go - lek_ mu-dik ke ran-jung Ha - ti ter-ke- nang_ mu-lut ter - se - nyum

pan. go - lek mu-dik ke tan-jung, tan-jung Ha - ti_ ter-ke- nang_ mu-lut ter - se - nyum

57

S1 kindness is alway encouraged Hoi!

S2 - di yang ba - ik ra - sa i - jung!

A1 Hoi!

A2 Hoi!

60 **G**

S1 *f* ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-in,

S2 *f* hoi hoi hoi hoi hoi hoi

A1 *f* na na na na na r - loi, i - loi na na na na na na

A2 *f* kan ke - i - loi, i - loi i - kan ke - kek

63

S1 *p* ting-in, ting-in, ting-in, ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting-ting

S2 *p* hoi hoi hoi hoi hoi hoi

A1 *p* i - loi, i - loi na na na na na na i - loi, i - loi

A2 *p* i - loi, i - loi i - kan ke - kek i - loi, i - loi i -

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66

S1
ting ting ting ting ting ting ting ting ting ting ting ting HOI

S2
hoi hoi hoi HOI

A1
na na na na na na na i - lai HOI

A2
kan ke - kek i - lai HOI

f



Tracy Wong hails from Malaysia and is a choral conductor, music educator, vocalist, and pianist. She is completing her Bachelor of Music (Musical Arts) degree in Musical Arts (Choral Conducting) at the University of Toronto under the tutelage of Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt after obtaining a Master in Music Pedagogy (Choral Conducting) at the same institution. At the Faculty of Music, she is the Assistant Conductor of the Women's Chorus (2015-16, 2017-18). She is also a recipient of the Elmer Iseler National Graduate Fellowship in Choral Conducting (2016-17). Tracy's choral works have been published and performed by Malaysian, European, and American choirs at international competitions and festivals. She has recently completed the compilation of Canadian composer Nancy Telfer's compositions, a resource for music educators and choral directors.

Children's songs in Malaysia are often taught by rote and passed down from generation to generation. As with children's songs from other countries, many children's songs consist of simple, catchy, and repetitive melodies. These tunes, usually lively and festive, introduce new vocabulary and encourage children to sing freely. The lyrics often tell a story or bear advice which is useful for young people, although some are humorously written and are meant to entertain.

"Ikan Kekek", like many other Malay folk and children's songs, is composed based on the Malay Pantun - a form of Malay poetry that is made up of four rhyming lines with an ABAB rhyming scheme. The pantun is divided into two parts - the "prelude" (lines 1 and 2), and the "meaning" (lines 3 and 4). The former is usually a preamble ("ikan kekek" and "ikan kekek" are types of fishes found in Malaysia) and sometimes has little relation with the latter, besides rhyming. The "meaning" delivers the true message of the pantun (in this song, it's either a tease or an advice).

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