塞翁失馬

戰國時期，靠近北部邊城，住著一個姓塞老人, 他養了許多馬。

一天，他的一匹走失了，人們聽說這件事，跑來安慰他。

塞翁說：“沒準會帶來什麽福氣呢。”

過了幾個月，丟失的馬不僅自己回了家，還帶回一匹匈奴的駿馬。

所有人都來祝賀塞翁。

塞翁反而說：“這或許會帶來不幸呢。”

因為塞翁很富有，並且養馬養得很好，所以他的兒子也十分喜愛騎馬。但沒想到有一次騎馬時，他的兒子從馬上掉了下來，摔斷了腿。

人們於是又去安慰塞翁。但塞翁卻說：“也許這次又會帶來好運呢。”

一年以後，匈奴入侵邊境。

但是塞翁的兒子因為腿斷了便沒有被征入當兵隊伍之中，而其他很多當兵的青年都戰死在了沙場，塞翁的兒子因此保住了性命。

塞翁失马

战国时期，靠近北部边城，住着一个姓塞老人, 他养了许多马。

一天，他的一匹走失了，人们听说这件事，跑来安慰他。

塞翁说：“没准会带来什么福气呢。”

过了几个月，丢失的马不仅自己回了家，还带回一匹匈奴的骏马。

所有人都来祝贺塞翁。

塞翁反而说：“这或许会带来不幸呢。”

因为塞翁很富有，并且养马养得很好，所以他的儿子也十分喜爱骑马。但没想到有一次骑马时，他的儿子从马上掉了下来，摔断了腿。

人们于是又去安慰塞翁。但塞翁却说：“也许这次又会带来好运呢。”

一年以后，匈奴入侵边境。

但是塞翁的儿子因为腿断了便没有被征入当兵队伍之中，而其他很多当兵的青年都战死在了沙场，塞翁的儿子因此保住了性命。

[**blessing**](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/blessing)**or**[**bane**](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/bane)

Near China's northern borders lived a man called Sai Weng. He raised a lot of horses.

One day, he lost one of his horses. Everyone commiserated with him.

"Perhaps this will soon turn out to be a [blessing](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/blessing)," said Sai Weng.

After a few months, his horse came back, leading a fine horse from the north.

Everyone congratulated him.

"Perhaps this may turn out to be a cause of [misfortune](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/misfortune)," said Sai Weng.

Since he was [well-off](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/well-off) and kept good horses, his son became fond of riding and [eventually](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/eventually) broke his leg for falling from a horse.

Everyone commiserated with him. "Perhaps this will soon turn out to be a blessing," said his father.

One year later, the northern tribes started a big [invasion](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/invasion) of the border regions.

This man's son did not join in the fighting because he was crippled and so he survived.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 邊城 | biānchéng | border town / remote town |
| 走失 | zǒushī | lost / missing / to lose (sb in one's charge) / to get lost / to wander away / to lose (flavor, freshness, shape, hair, one's good looks etc) / to lose meaning (in translation) |
| 福氣 | fúqi | good fortune / a blessing |
| 駿馬 | jùnmǎ | fine horse / steed |
| 騎馬 | qímǎ | to ride a horse |
| 沒想到 | méixiǎngdào | didn't expect |
| 摔斷 | shuāiduàn | to fall and break / to break (bones) by falling |
| 好運 | hǎoyùn | good luck |
| 入侵 | rùqīn | to invade |
| 邊境 | biānjìng | frontier / border |
| 當兵 | dāngbīng | to serve in the army / to be a soldier |
| 沙場 | shāchǎng | sandpit / battleground / battlefield |
| 保住 | bǎozhù | to preserve / to save |
| 性命 | xìngmìng | life |