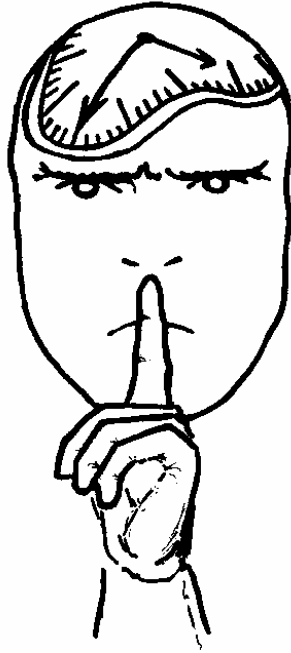


SILENCE

Beryl Narkham



Born • What is your own characteristics of silence?

Writing Assignment

- What kind of a person you are. Do you like everything connected with sounds or you like silence. What kinds of sounds you like most. Describe your everyday life.

the paragraph below a young Chinese man tells about his daring attempt to escape from a country where he felt oppressed to a place where he could be free. Although this attempt failed, Iu-choi Chan has since managed to come to

the United States. He wrote this paragraph while he was a student at California State University in Bakersfield.

Two years ago I attempted to escape from Mainland China to Hong Kong. I planned and prepared well. I dressed up like a farmer and walked for t days from my village to the border between China and Hong Kong. That night I was very excited and nervous, but I tried to keep calm. At the border there were a lot of sentries who tried to catch people like me, so I put some mud on myself to avoid being noticed. It was not easy for me to pass through the sentries but I bit my tongue and climbed across the swampy area. Finally, I reached the river that runs across the border. I plunged into it. It was icy cold and I used all my strength to swim as fast as I could. In about twenty minutes, I touched land. I had made it! My happiness was beyond description. But when I stood up, a Hong Kong policeman was immediately beside me. My dream was shatered. I was taken to a police station to wait for a truck that takes unsuccessful refugees back to China. The police put me in the truck with a great many other people, and we were driven like a herd of buffalo back to China. I had lost my freedom again.

- **sentries** - вартові
- **shatter** - розбивати вщент; руйнувати (надії)
- **refugee** - емігрант, біженець
- **herd** - череда, гурт

Questions about the reading