

12. The Writing on the Wall

The king of Babylon only liked to have fun all the time. One day he had a big party and invited 1,000 guests. While they were drinking wine together, suddenly a hand appeared that wrote some words on the wall. The king and all his guests were very afraid. No one could read the words on the wall, because it was written in a strange language. Then the queen said, "Let us call Daniel. He has special wisdom from God and he can explain all kinds of difficult problems." So the king called for Daniel.

Daniel told the king, "You did not honour the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways. That is why God sent the hand to write on the wall these words:

mene, mene, tekel, parsin

It means, 'You have been weighed on the scales and you are too light. God will take away your kingdom and give it to the Persians.'

That same night king Darius of Persia came and attacked Babylon. The king of Babylon was killed and Darius became the new king. He was 62 years old.

Vocabulary

fun	สนุกสนาน	We had a lot of fun at the sea.
guests	แขก	I can't come, because we have guests.
suddenly	ทันใดนั้น	It suddenly started to rain.
to appear	ปรากฏ	You have to appear in court.
honour	ให้เกียรติ	We should honour the king.
to weigh	ชั่งน้ำหนัก	How much do you weigh?
scale	ตาชั่ง	We use a scale to weigh fruit at the market.
kingdom	ราชอาณาจักร	This Kingdom of Thailand is very big.

Comprehension

1. Why were the king and all his guests so afraid?.....
2. Why did the king call for Daniel?.....
3. Why did the king lose his kingdom and his life?.....

Quiz

Find the synonyms and antonyms to discover the name of the king of Babylon who saw the writing on the wall.

a	n	q	u	e	t	Synonym: party.	
a	s	y				Antonym: difficult.	
a	n	g	u	a	g	e	Synonym: dialect
t	r	a	n	g	e		Antonym: normal
o	n	o	u	r			Antonym: shame
p	p	e	a	r			Antonym: disappear
e	a	l	o	u	s		Synonym: eager
e	r	o					Synonym: none
n	s	w	e	r			Antonym: question
i	g	h	t				Antonym: wrong

