

## 高雄市 109 年度國民中學英語文競賽【英語朗讀文章第一篇】

### **Pao-Chun Wu: Master Baker and Dream Chaser**

The smell of delicious fresh bread is in the air. This bread came from the hands of Pao-chun Wu, the winner of the “World Cup of Baking.” Master Wu was born into a poor family with eight children in Pingtung County. His father died when he was just 12, and his mother had to work very hard to make ends meet. In school, Wu did not perform well. After he finished middle school, he decided not to continue his studies.

When Wu was 16, he began the next stage of his life. His mother gave him 50 dollars and a train ticket to Taipei. Then he started to work in a small bakery in Muzha. Wu did not have much education, and this made things very hard for him. However, he did not give up. When other young guys of his age relaxed or dated girls during their free time, he put in extra working hours and sent most of his money home to his mother.

After years of practices, Wu finally became a baker. At first he did well, but his success did not last long. Customers soon got tired of ordinary bread and wanted something different. Fortunately, Wu met a true baking master, Fu-guang Chen. Chen helped him develop a different attitude toward baking, and he started using special ingredients, such as

red wine, roses, and lychees. Because he wanted to get better at baking, he even went to Japan to learn more. Over time, his hard work paid off, and he finally became an international baking master.

Although Master Wu did not enjoy a smooth start in life, he overcame many difficulties and fulfilled his dream. This is why he is not only a master baker but also living proof that hard work is the number one ingredient for success.