

Read the Chinese story and answer the following questions.

### **Pulling up the Crops to Help Them Grow**

1. Once upon a time, there was a farmer who was worried about how slowly his crops grew. He went to his field every day to check his crops and found that they still grew very slowly, not as quickly as he expected. The more he watched, the less patient he became. Feeling very frustrated, he wondered how the crops could grow faster until one day he came up with an idea.
2. The farmer rushed to the field excitedly, bent down, and one by one pulled all the crops up an inch. He was as busy as a bee. He felt very tired at the end of the day. Nevertheless, he thought that his hard work would pay off. He noticed that all his crops were taller than before. "What a wonderful idea! Look, how much taller the plants have grown!" he said.
3. With great satisfaction, the farmer went back home and told his family what he had done. "I worked for the whole day. How exhausted I am now! But all my crops in the field have grown a lot taller."
4. When the family heard this, they were stunned and speechless. They hurried to the field immediately. However, it was already too late. The farmer and his family were heartbroken to see that all the crops were dead. All the villagers learnt about the incident and felt sorry about it. The farmer finally blamed himself for being so stupid.

