

## 附 录：

### 全国总决赛说课课文

#### **I'm Proud to Say That I Am a Tradesman**

Parents often choose our future for us. But they sometimes may not really know what is really interesting or suitable for us, what we are good at and what we would really like to do when we leave school. My parents, that is my mother who works as a doctor in the same hospital as my sister who is training to become a doctor, and my father who is a history teacher at a local school, were of the opinion, just like most parents, that every waking moment should be spent studying. My marks were good but never good enough for my parents. They wanted me to go to university and study law when I left school. In fact they had even chosen the university for me. I wasn't interested in law but I found it difficult to talk to my parents about that. The subjects I really enjoyed at school were the ones that involved using your hands and solving problems, like design and technology, home economics and practical maths.

One day, after a long discussion with my careers teacher, I decided to tell my parents that I was not going to go to university but that I was going to become an electrician. But there never was a right moment and somehow, when

they looked at me so proudly during the school-leaving ceremony, I didn't have the heart to tell them of my plans. They wanted a lawyer in the family.

They had chosen that career path for me and I didn't know how to tell them that I really didn't want to study. I didn't want to go to university. And I really didn't want to become a lawyer. Then they went out and bought all the books necessary for my course of legal studies, a new leather bag for me to carry them in, enough empty folders to fill two shelves in my bookcase and a new laptop! So what choice did I have? I couldn't tell my parents now. So every morning I left the house at 8 o'clock to catch the bus that would take me to the university. But every morning I got off the bus at the vocational college next to the university to join my class where all of us were learning to become electricians.

I enjoyed myself at college where I learnt all the ins and outs of being an electrician. It was good that I had paid attention at school as it made the maths involved in this trade easier. After six months the college arranged an apprenticeship for me with a local electrician. It was never boring and every day I was given a new challenge to solve and learnt a lot of the practical side of the trade.

However, life at home was not easy, especially when my parents were so supportive of what they thought was an extremely difficult subject to study. When it came to what, according to the schedule, was semester exam time at university, my mother made me all my favourite cakes and cooked all my favourite food. I didn't even have to do my jobs around the house. That really gave me a bad conscience. But I couldn't say anything, otherwise my parents would know that I was not going to university.

Meantime, my sister had qualified as a doctor but could not get a job in any of the local hospitals. She wrote 50 letters of application and was invited to four interviews but was not offered a job. Finally, she had to accept the fact that she would have to look farther afield and eventually found a job 800 kilometres away in Texas.

Now, at the end of three years I am a fully qualified electrician. My parents still do not know that I had not gone to university. But the day has come to tell them. Today I am coming home not only with my leaving certificate from the college but also my electrician's qualifications AND a contract with a local firm that serviced all the hospitals and schools in the area. I am not only well qualified but I also have a job. I only hope my parents understand.

*(699 words)*