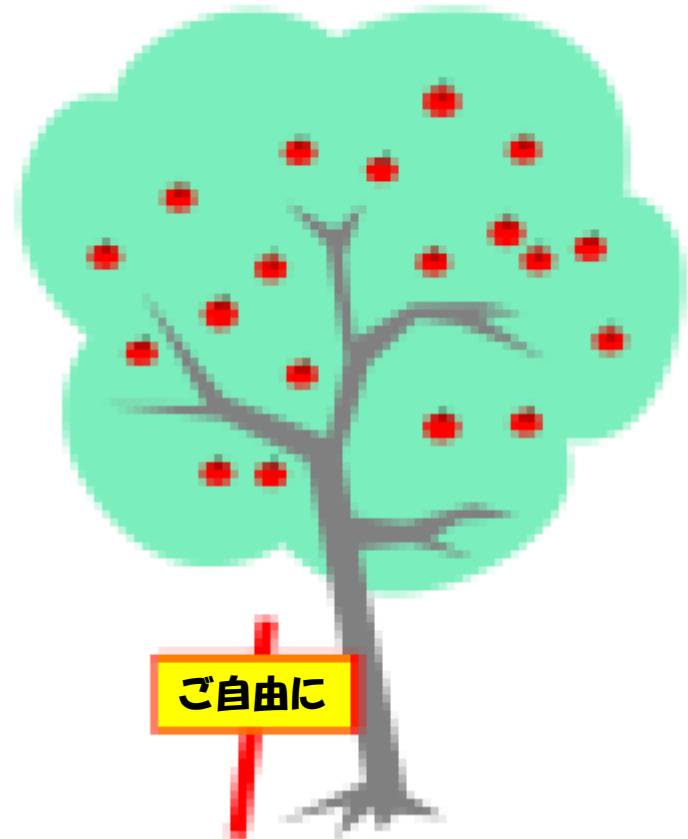


Chapter 2 : Add One Sentence On Notice Boards

Long time ago, in a field of grass near a village, there was a tree that bore delicious fruit. At first, the fruit didn't taste good. But many people took care of it and finally the fruit became so delicious.

Beside the tree, there was a sign board that said “Free”. Because many people took care of it together, anyone could take the fruit as much as they want.

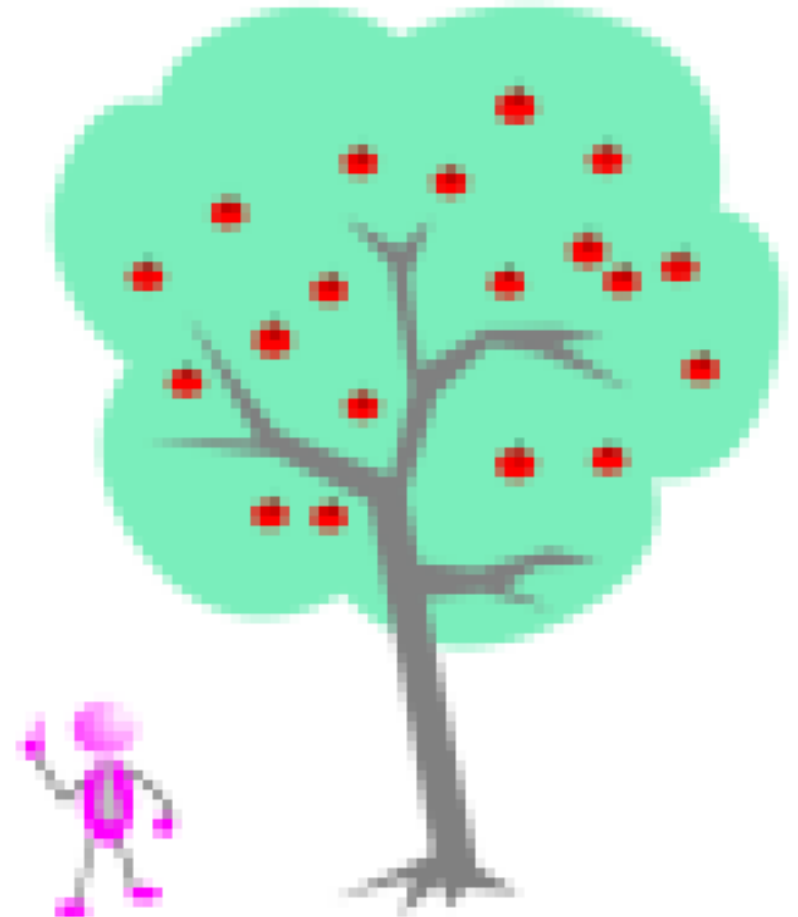
People who thought the fruit were not enough, they could graft the tree and grow their own one.



One day, one business man walked by the village and ate the fruit. “ It's very delicious !”

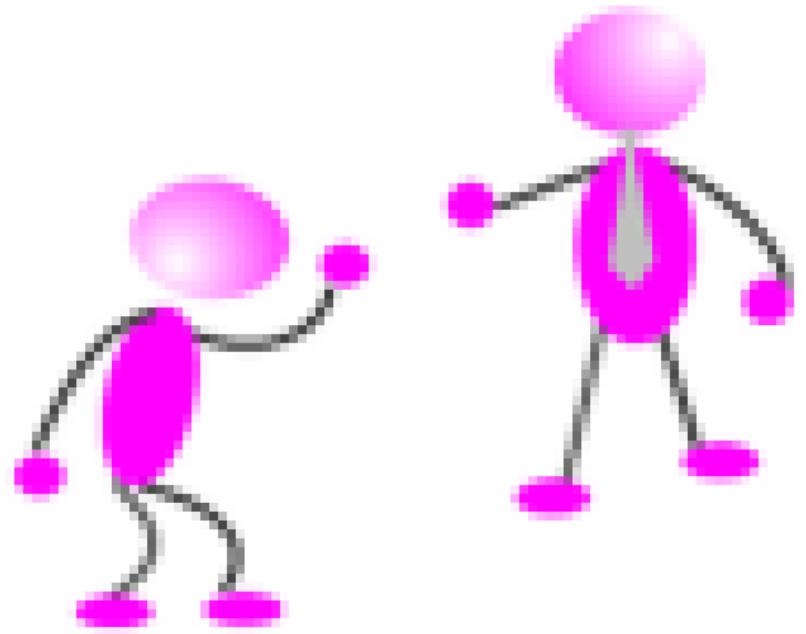
He was impressed by the taste so he grafted the tree. He fertilized the tree, cut off branch when it's too much. He took care of the tree for a long time.

After a few years this tree bore delicious fruit too.

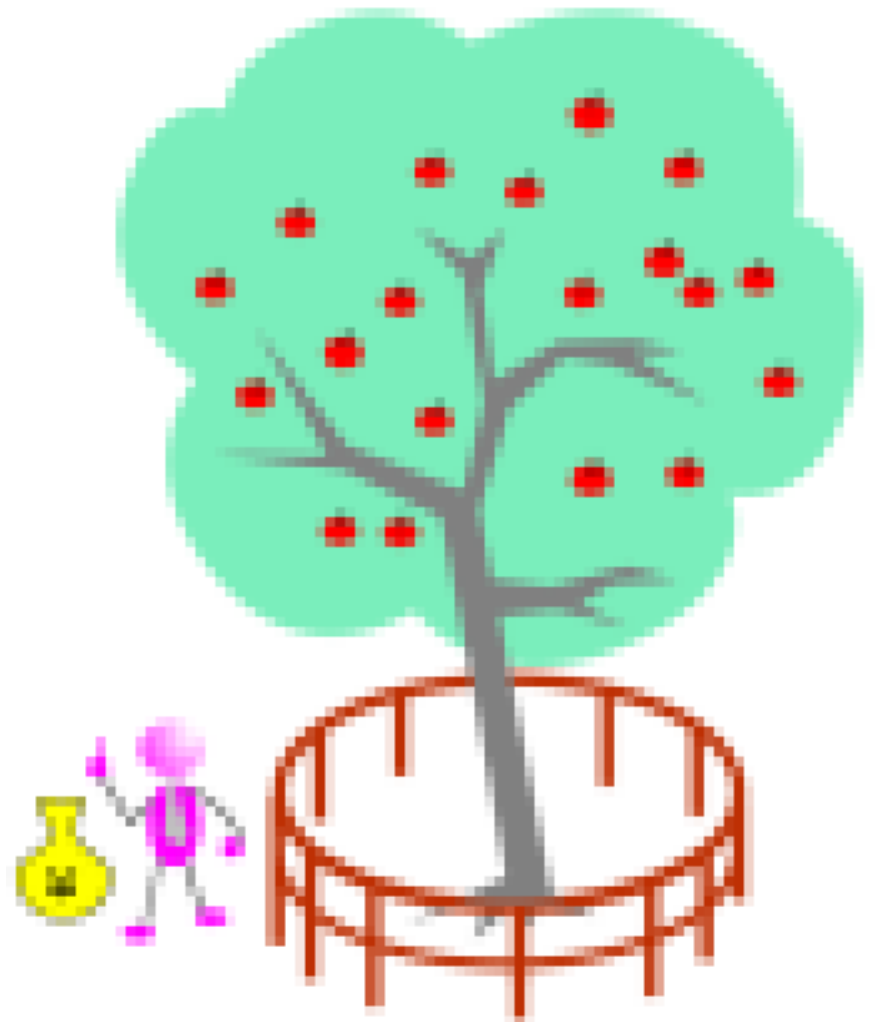


A young man who loves fruit thought “That fruit must be delicious because that man takes care of it so hard”, and went to the business man to ask him to share his fruit.

The business man said “ I took care of the tree, so I won't give you the fruit for free.” The young man complained “you took it from the free tree”, then the business man answered him back “ it was free and now it's mine. So I'm free to do anything.”



The business man fenced around his tree to stop people to take the fruit away without his permission.
Besides, he made big money from selling branch of his tree at a high price in far-off town.



The young man added a sentence to the sign board beside the tree he had been taking care of as below :

“ Free. However, when you grow trees, don't forget to put up the same sign board as this.”

And he took care of the tree very hard.

Some villagers said “ This new rule is complicated. It's a nuisance” and started to avoid the young man's tree.

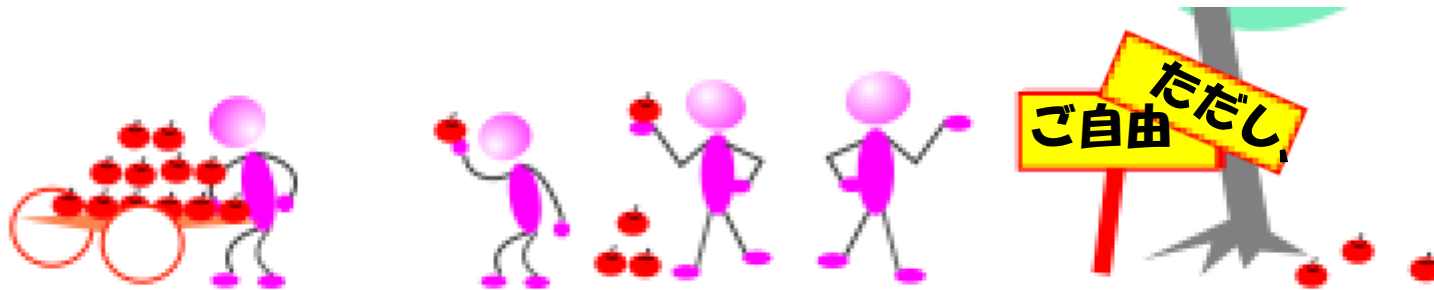
But people who heard about the business man's method said “ without the new rule, we will lost our free tree” and helped the young man more actively.



When people grow trees, they had to put up the same sign board as the young man's. But the number of the trees continued to increase. It never decreased.

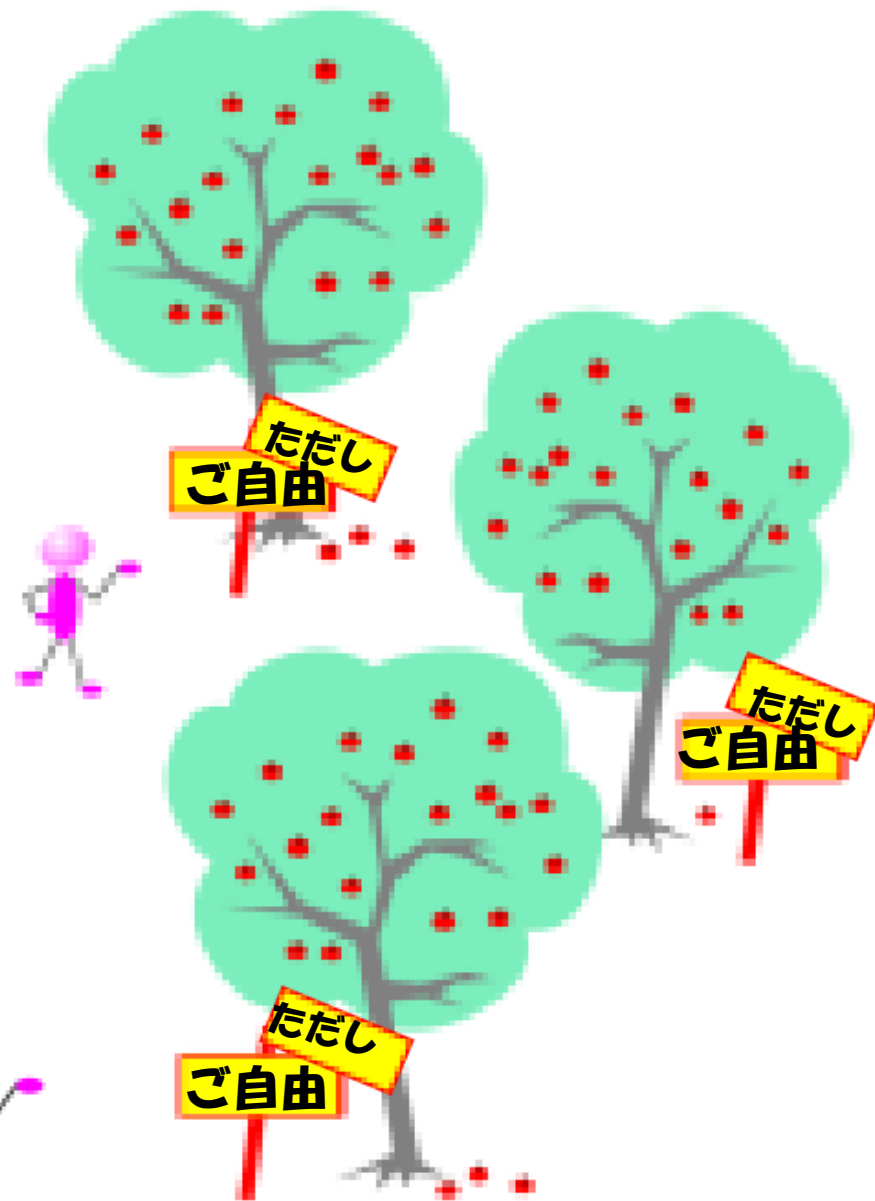
Therefore, the trees with a little complicated rule increased little by little. A few years later, the far-off town started to grow the trees with a little complicated rule.

One merchant delivered the fruit of this tree for free. He also made jam from the fruit, sold it, and spend part of sales on care of the trees.

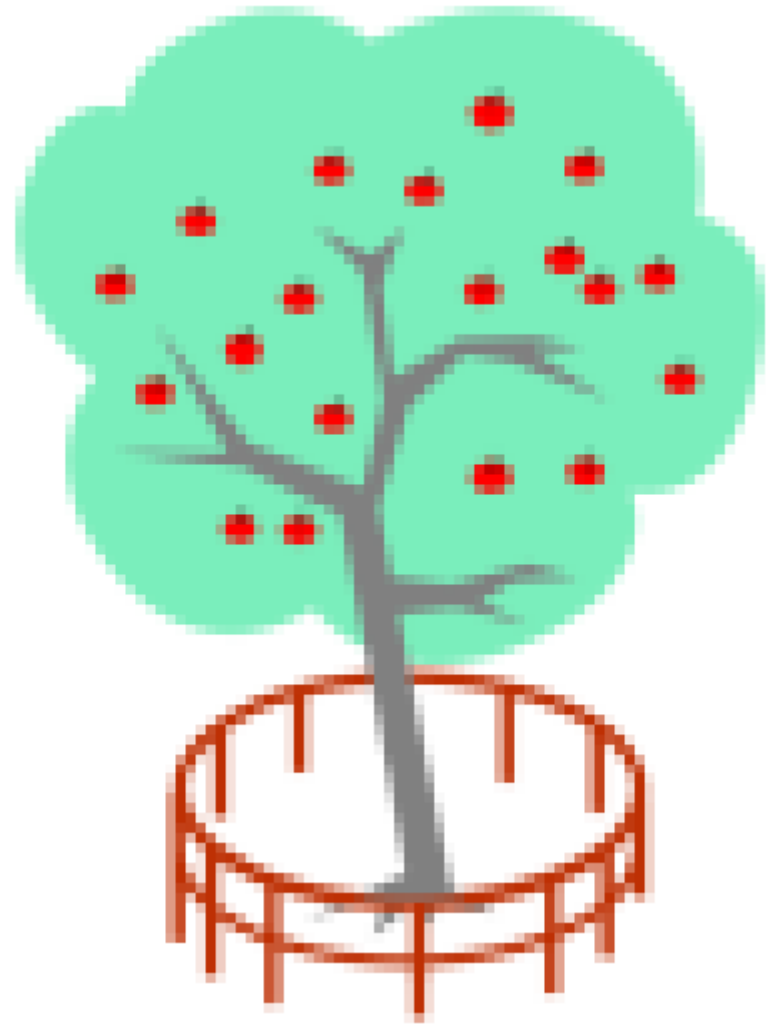


And when all the world started to grow the tree, anyone could take the fruit as much as they wanted.

People who wanted delivery of the fruit or jam said “if we buy them, we prefer to buy them from caretakers of the free trees rather than from the business man.”



And finally, all people stopped buying fruit or jam from the business man who had tried monopolize the result of the trees many people took care of all together.



Copyright Yutaka Kachi 2005-2006
Translated by Mikiko Kachi

Creative Commons

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.1/jp/>

