

## Reading 2 — A Day at the Beach

My grandfather came from Australia to visit me last week. As my parents were unable to take leave from work, I was given the task of spending time with him. I was amazed by his boundless energy. He was already eighty-six years old but he was as energetic as a twenty-year-old. We went everywhere from the cinema to the games arcade. However, the most memorable time we had was at the beach.

On that day, we left for the beach after breakfast. I remembered wanting to prepare a picnic basket but my grandfather brushed aside my idea. He said that it would be more convenient to eat fast food instead. By then, I was used to my grandfather's impromptu suggestions so I did not bat an eyelid. When we arrived at the beach, my grandfather said that he needed to use the toilet. My jaw dropped when I saw him coming out of the toilet in a pair of bright orange swimming trunks. Knowing that I did not like to swim, he left me to laze on the bench and went into the sea himself. He did not venture far for the waves were big that day. I never lost sight of him for his swimming trunks were conspicuous in the light blue sea. After a short swim, my grandfather persuaded me to play Frisbee with him. My idea of a relaxing day lounging on the sand disappeared. Instead, I was goaded into running and leaping for the Frisbee. My grandfather was great at playing Frisbee.

After lunch, I decided to look for seashells. I had always liked to feel my toes sinking into the soft sand along the shore and the cool breeze blowing against my face. Later, I looked around for my grandfather. My face lit up when I saw a huge sandcastle that he had been building. There were three towers connected by a bridge. There was even a moat. Running up, I watched as his huge wrinkled hands moulded the sand into the shapes that he wanted. He used nothing but a simple spade and a bucket. He told me that it was a skill he had learnt when he was younger to impress my grandmother.

In no time, the outing came to an end. I was reluctant to leave the beach as I was having so much fun with my grandfather. He promised to take me to a beach in Australia when I visited him during the holidays.