

## Cello

Have you ever read the story “Gauche the Cellist” by Miyazawa Kenji?

Gauche was a member of an orchestra in a small town, but he wasn't very good at the cello and was often criticized by his conductor. One night when he was practicing the cello, a cat came along. The cat asked Gauche if he would play the tune, “Träumerei”. He didn't want to play it, so he played “Hunting Tigers out in India” instead. After that, different animals came to him every night, one by one, and asked him to play for them. Even though he didn't always respond to the animals' requests, his skills improved through playing in front of them. Finally, at the next concert, Gauche received great applause from the audience. Even the conductor said Gauche had played very well.

The writer, Miyazawa Kenji, had an interest in the cello and played it himself. Though he wasn't as good at it as Gauche, he loved to play. That was probably the motivation for him to write the story.

But what kind of musical instrument is the cello?



## Expressions

- 1 **be good at** ~ 「～が得意[じょうず]だ」
  - a) I'm not **good at** tennis, but I can play.
  - b) I wish I **were good at** singing like you.
  - cf. Eddie Murphy **is great at** telling jokes.
- 2 **come along** 「やって来る, 現れる」
  - a) While he was planting the flowers in his garden, a bear **came along**.
  - b) Soon after I got on the train, a conductor **came along** to check tickets.
- 3 **have an interest in** ~ 「～に興味[関心]がある」
  - a) Tom **has an interest in** Edo culture.
  - b) Once everyone seemed to **have an interest in** that video game, but now no one does.

## Notes

**p.78** cello [tʃélou] 図 チェロ Gauche [góuʃ] 図 ゴーシュ (男性の名前) cellist [tʃélist] 図 チェロ奏者 Gauche the Cellist 「セロ弾きのゴーシュ」(実質的に宮沢賢治の最後の童話作品と言われており、死の数日前まで推敲していた。「チェロ」のことを当時は「セロ」と呼ぶこともあった) Miyazawa Kenji 宮沢賢治 (1896-1933. 詩人・童話作家) orchestra [ó:rkístɹə] 図 オーケストラ criticize [kritəsaiz] 動 ～をけなす, 批判する conductor [kəndáktə] 図 指揮者, (列車・バスなどの)車掌 Träumerei (ドイツ語) 「トロイメライ(夢)」(シューマン(1810-56)作曲。ピアノ組曲「子どもの情景」の中の1曲) Hunting Tigers out in India 「印度の虎狩」(昭和初期に流行したコミカルなダンス曲) respond [rispánd] 動 応じる, 答える request [rikwést] 図 リクエスト, 要請 applause [əplɔ:z] 図 拍手(喝采) audience [ó:diəns] 図 観客, 聴衆 motivation [moutəvේʃən] 図 動機 musical [mjú:zikəl] 図 音楽の musical instrument

**p.79** Eddie Murphy [édi má:rfi] 図 エディー・マーフィー (1961-。米国のコメディアン, 俳優) get on ~ (乗り物)に乗る