I am late!, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Lín Fēng wakes up at eight, and his class starts at eight. Will he make it?

你早上起得早吗？我有一个早上的故事！
Nǐ zǎoshang qǐ de zǎo ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge zǎoshang de gùshi!
Do you get up early? I have a story about one morning!

我是学生。每天早上八点，我有课。
Wǒ shì xuésheng. Měi tiān zǎoshang bā diǎn, wǒ yǒu kè.
I am a student. Every day I have class at eight in the morning.

一天早上，我醒了，看了看手机：八点了！我迟到了！
Yì tiān zǎoshang, wǒ xǐng le, kànle kàn shǒujī: bā diǎn le! Wǒ chídào le!
One morning I woke up and looked at my phone: eight o'clock! I am late!

我跑了！没吃早饭，没喝茶，一只鞋还在手里！
Wǒ pǎo le! Méi chī zǎofàn, méi hē chá, yì zhī xié hái zài shǒu li!
I ran! No breakfast, no tea, and one shoe still in my hand!

我跑到车站。没有公共汽车！你猜，我怎么去学校？
Wǒ pǎo dào chēzhàn. Méiyǒu gōnggòng qìchē! Nǐ cāi, wǒ zěnme qù xuéxiào?
I ran to the bus stop. No bus! Guess how I got to school?

我坐了出租车。二十块钱！我是学生，太贵了！
Wǒ zuòle chūzūchē. Èrshí kuài qián! Wǒ shì xuésheng, tài guì le!
I took a taxi. Twenty kuài! I'm a student. Too expensive!

我对司机说：“快一点儿！快一点儿！”
Wǒ duì sījī shuō: “Kuài yìdiǎnr! Kuài yìdiǎnr!”
I said to the driver: “Faster! Faster!”

在出租车上，我穿上了那只鞋。
Zài chūzūchē shang, wǒ chuān shangle nà zhī xié.
In the taxi I put on the other shoe.

我想：老师会不高兴。
Wǒ xiǎng: lǎoshī huì bù gāoxìng.
I thought: my teacher will not be happy.

八点二十，我到了学校。我跑到教室。
Bā diǎn èrshí, wǒ dàole xuéxiào. Wǒ pǎo dào jiàoshì.
At eight twenty I was at school. I ran to my classroom.

我开门说：“对不起！我迟到了！”
Wǒ kāi mén shuō: “Duìbuqǐ! Wǒ chídào le!”
I opened the door. I said: “Sorry! I am late!”

没有人说话。
Méiyǒu rén shuōhuà.
Nobody said anything.

我看了看。没有老师，没有学生。一个人也没有。
Wǒ kànle kàn. Méiyǒu lǎoshī, méiyǒu xuésheng. Yí ge rén yě méiyǒu.
I looked. No teacher. No students. Nobody.

大家在哪儿？你猜！
Dàjiā zài nǎr? Nǐ cāi!
Where was everyone? Guess!

我坐下了。我等了十分钟。没有人来。
Wǒ zuò xià le. Wǒ děngle shí fēnzhōng. Méiyǒu rén lái.
I sat down. I waited. Ten minutes. Nobody came.

我想：大家也迟到了吗？
Wǒ xiǎng: dàjiā yě chídào le ma?
I thought: is everyone late too?

然后，我给朋友打电话。我问：“你在哪儿？大家在哪儿？”
Ránhòu, wǒ gěi péngyou dǎ diànhuà. Wǒ wèn: “Nǐ zài nǎr? Dàjiā zài nǎr?”
Then I called my friend. I asked: “Where are you? Where is everyone?”

他说：“我在睡觉。你为什么给我打电话？”
Tā shuō: “Wǒ zài shuìjiào. Nǐ wèi shénme gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà?”
He said: “I am sleeping. Why are you calling me?”

我说：“八点半了！我们有课！”
Wǒ shuō: “Bā diǎn bàn le! Wǒmen yǒu kè!”
I said: “It's eight thirty! We have class!”

他说：“林峰，今天是星期天。”
Tā shuō: “Lín Fēng, jīntiān shì xīngqītiān.”
He said: “Lín Fēng. Today is Sunday.”

Words in the story

学生
xuésheng
student

课
kè
a class, a lesson

醒了
xǐng le
woke up

迟到
chídào
to be late

跑
pǎo
to run

早饭
zǎofàn
breakfast

鞋
xié
a shoe

车站
chēzhàn
bus stop

公共汽车
gōnggòng qìchē
bus

出租车
chūzūchē
taxi

司机
sījī
driver

穿上
chuān shang
to put on (shoes, clothes)

太贵了
tài guì le
too expensive

教室
jiàoshì
classroom

对不起
duìbuqǐ
sorry

大家
dàjiā
everyone

打电话
dǎ diànhuà
to call (on the phone)

睡觉
shuìjiào
to sleep

星期天
xīngqītiān
Sunday

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/i-am-late