Rice for one, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Lín Fēng can't cook, so one Monday he decides to make rice. How much rice does one person need?

你会做米饭吗？我有一个米饭的故事！
Nǐ huì zuò mǐfàn ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge mǐfàn de gùshi!
Can you cook rice? I have a story about rice!

以前我不会做饭，每天都在外面吃。
Yǐqián wǒ bú huì zuò fàn, měi tiān dōu zài wàimiàn chī.
I used to not cook at all. I ate out every day.

有一个星期一，我想：今天我来做饭！米饭很容易。
Yǒu yí ge xīngqīyī, wǒ xiǎng: jīntiān wǒ lái zuò fàn! Mǐfàn hěn róngyì.
One Monday I thought: today I'll cook! Rice is easy.

我有一大包米。可是一个人吃多少米？我不知道。
Wǒ yǒu yí dà bāo mǐ. Kěshì yí ge rén chī duōshao mǐ? Wǒ bù zhīdào.
I had a big bag of rice. But how much rice does one person eat? I didn't know.

一杯？太少了吧。你猜，我放了几杯？
Yì bēi? Tài shǎo le ba. Nǐ cāi, wǒ fàngle jǐ bēi?
One cup? That's too little, surely. Guess how many cups I put in?

我放了五杯！
Wǒ fàngle wǔ bēi!
I put in five cups!

我加了水，等了半个小时。
Wǒ jiāle shuǐ, děngle bàn ge xiǎoshí.
I added the water and waited half an hour.

我打开了。好多米饭！十个人的米饭！
Wǒ dǎkāi le. Hǎo duō mǐfàn! Shí ge rén de mǐfàn!
I opened it. So much rice! Rice for ten people!

星期一晚上，我吃了三碗。很好吃！
Xīngqīyī wǎnshang, wǒ chīle sān wǎn. Hěn hǎochī!
On Monday evening I ate three bowls. It was good!

我看了看：米饭还有很多。
Wǒ kànle kàn: mǐfàn hái yǒu hěn duō.
I looked. There was still so much rice.

星期二，早上吃米饭，中午吃米饭，晚上还是米饭。
Xīngqī'èr, zǎoshang chī mǐfàn, zhōngwǔ chī mǐfàn, wǎnshang háishi mǐfàn.
On Tuesday: rice in the morning, rice at noon, and rice again in the evening.

星期三吃米饭，星期四也吃米饭。
Xīngqīsān chī mǐfàn, xīngqīsì yě chī mǐfàn.
Wednesday, rice. Thursday, rice too.

我给朋友们送米饭。他们说：“谢谢……可是我们不要米饭了。”
Wǒ gěi péngyoumen sòng mǐfàn. Tāmen shuō: “Xièxie…… kěshì wǒmen bú yào mǐfàn le.”
I took rice to my friends. They said: “Thank you... but no more rice for us.”

到了星期五，还有米饭。
Dàole xīngqīwǔ, hái yǒu mǐfàn.
On Friday there was still rice.

星期五晚上，我的朋友大伟来广州看我。他很饿。
Xīngqīwǔ wǎnshang, wǒ de péngyou Dàwěi lái Guǎngzhōu kàn wǒ. Tā hěn è.
On Friday evening my friend Dàwěi came to Guǎngzhōu to see me. He was very hungry.

他看见我在厨房，很高兴：“你会做饭了！”
Tā kànjiàn wǒ zài chúfáng, hěn gāoxìng: “Nǐ huì zuò fàn le!”
He saw me in the kitchen and was happy: “You can cook now!”

他问：“今天晚上吃什么？”
Tā wèn: “Jīntiān wǎnshang chī shénme?”
He asked: “What's for dinner tonight?”

我看着他。我能说什么呢？你知道的。
Wǒ kànzhe tā. Wǒ néng shuō shénme ne? Nǐ zhīdào de.
I looked at him. What could I say? You know.

他又问："吃什么呀？"
Tā yòu wèn: "Chī shénme ya?"
He asked again: "So what are we eating?"

我说："米饭。很多很多米饭。"
Wǒ shuō: "Mǐfàn. Hěn duō hěn duō mǐfàn."
I said: "Rice. Lots and lots of rice."

Words in the story

米饭 mǐfàn *rice (cooked)*	米 mǐ *rice (uncooked, in the bag)*	做饭 zuò fàn *to cook*
在外面吃 zài wàimiàn chī *to eat out*	容易 róngyì *easy*	一大包 yí dà bāo *a big bag*
杯 bēi *cup (a measure)*	放 fàng *to put in*	加水 jiā shuǐ *to add water*
半个小时 bàn ge xiǎoshí *half an hour*	碗 wǎn *bowl*	中午 zhōngwǔ *noon*
送 sòng *to take (to someone), to give*	饿 è *hungry*	厨房 chúfáng *kitchen*
星期一 xīngqīyī *Monday (星期二 Tuesday … 星期五 Friday)*		

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/rice-for-one