Too Much Noise

Narrator 1: Once there was a farmer. He lived in one room of his small hut with his wife and her mother and his three small children.

Narrator 2: He worked hard on his farm all day.

Narrator 3: When he came home at night, the noises in his house drove him crazy.

Narrator 4: His wife talked to him.

Narrator 5: His mother-in-law talked to him.

Narrator 6: His three small children talked to him.

Children: And they all talked at the same time!

Narrator 1: The poor farmer put his hands over his ears and cried,

Farmer: "Too Much Noise!! Please, please, quiet, please!"

All: But they went right on talking.

Narrator 2: At last, in desperation, he asked the advice of a wise man.

Farmer: "What shall I do? The noise is driving me crazy!"

Wise Man: "Will you follow my advice?"

Narrator 3: the wise man asked, and the farmer answered,

Farmer: "Yes."

Wise Man: "Good,"

Narrator 4: the wise man said.

Wise Man: "Go home and bring one cow into the house with you."

Narrator 5: Alarmed, the farmer asked

Farmer: "A cow in the house! How could that help?"

Wise Man: "Well, if you don't want my advice..."

Narrator 6: the wise man said.

Narrator 1: So the farmer went home and brought the cow into his house.

Wife: "A cow in the house!"

Narrator 2: Exclaimed his wife

Mother in Law: "A cow in the house!"

Narrator 3: said his mother-in-law.

Children: "A cow in the house!"

Narrator 4: said the children.

Narrator 5: And they all said it at once.
All: "A cow in the house!"
Cow: "Moooooo,"
Narrator 6: said the cow, bewildered by the noise.
Narrator 1: The poor man just held his head and cried out,
Farmer: "Quiet, please, quiet, all of you!"
Narrator 2: The next day he went back to the wise man.
Wise Man: "Well, how is it?"
Narrator 3: The wise man asked.
Farmer: "Worse than ever; while they talk, the cow moos. It's terrible!"
Wise Man: "Good. You have a dog?"
Farmer: "Yes, two of them."
Wise Man: "Good. Tonight bring the dogs into the house, too."
Narrator 4: advised the wise man, and the farmer shouted in dismay,
Farmer: "Bring the dogs into the house!"
Wise Man: "Well--if you don't want my advice..."
Narrator 5: said the wise man.
Narrator 6: So the farmer went home and brought the two dogs into the house, too.
Wife: "A cow and two dogs!"
Narrator 1: said his wife.
Mother-in-Law: "A cow and two dogs in the house!"
Narrator 2: said his mother-in-law, and his children repeated,
Children: "A cow and two dogs!"
Cow: "MOoooo!"
Narrator 3: said the bewildered cow.
Narrator 4: And the two dogs barked at being locked up inside.
Narrator 5: The poor farmer just held his head and moaned,
Farmer: "Quiet, please, all of you!"
Narrator 6: The next day the farmer went back to the wise man, who asked,
Wise Man: "How is it now?"
Farmer: "Worse, worse than ever. Are you sure you know what you are doing?"
Narrator 1: asked the unhappy farmer. The wise man looked at him and said,
Wise Man: "Yes. Tonight I want you to be sure to bring indoors your rooster and all the hens.
Farmer: "My rooster and all the hens! How will that help?"
Narrator 2: cried the farmer in alarm, and the wise man said,
Wise Man: "Well-- if you don't want my advice..."
Narrator 3: So the farmer went home and brought his rooster and all the hens into his house.

Wife: "A cow, two dogs, a rooster and all these hens in our house!"

Narrator 4: said his wife.

Wife: "Are you crazy?"

Mother-in-Law: "A cow, two dogs, a rooster and all our hens! Are you crazy?"

Children: "A cow two dogs, a rooster and all our hens!"

Narrator 5: cried the children.

Cow: "MOoooo...,"

Narrator 6: went the cow.

Dogs: "Woof woof woof,"

Narrator 1: went the dogs

Hens: "Cackle cackle cackle,"

Narrator 2: went the hens, and the rooster crowed,

Rooster: "Cocka doodle doooooo"

Farmer: "Quiet, oh, please be quiet."

Narrator 3: moaned the poor man.

Narrator 4: The next day the farmer went back to the wise man, who asked,

Wise Man: "Well, how is it now?"

Farmer: "Terrible, terrible! I cannot last another night like this."

Wise Man: "All right,"

Narrator 5: said the wise man.

Wise Man: "Now listen with care. Tonight, go home and be sure to put the cow back in the barn."

Narrator 6: The farmer did, and while there was still a lot of noise, at least the cow was not there to moo at him.

Narrator 1: The following night he went to the wise man again, and the wise man asked,

Wise Man: "How was it?"

Farmer: "Better, better than the night before."

Narrator 2: said the farmer with a sound of relief in his voice, and the wise man said,

Wise Man: "Good. Tonight go home and be sure to put the two dogs back in the barn."

Narrator 3: That night there was a lot of noise. But at least there was no cow moaning and no dogs barking.

Wise Man: "How was it?"

Narrator 4: the wise man asked the next night, and with a smile on his face, the man said,

Farmer: "Better."

Wise Man: "Fine. Tonight go home and put out the rooster and the hens."
Narrator 5: And the farmer did.

Narrator 6: No cow mooed at him.

Narrator 1: No dogs barked.

Narrator 2: No rooster crowed.

Narrator 3: No hens cackled.

Narrator 4: It was wonderful!

Narrator 5: The next night he went back to the wise man, who again asked,

Wise Man: "How is it now?"

Farmer: "Last night it was so wonderful, so quiet...so quiet; no mooing, no barking, no crowing, no cackling."

Narrator 6: Said the farmer in a very happy voice.

Wise Man: "Good, I told you it would be better."

Narrator 1: said the wise man, with satisfaction in his voice.

Narrator 2: And the farmer went home.

Narrator 3: His wife and mother in law and three children said,

Wife:
Mother-in-Law:
Children: "At last, you have come to your senses again."

Narrator 4: But the farmer only smiled to himself.

Narrator 5: For without the cow and the two dogs, and the rooster, and the hens, their voices seemed very quiet indeed.

All together:

Cow: Mooo Moooo Moooo.
Rooster: Cockadoodledoo Cockadoodledoo
Dogs: Woof Woof Woof Woof Woof Woof
Hens: Cackle Cackle Cackle Cackle Cackle Cackle
Humans: Chatter Chatter Chatter Chatter Chatter Chatter Chatter Chatter

First Cow drops out
Then Rooster drops out
Then Dogs drop out
Then Hens drop out
Then Humans says 5 more chatters and then drop out

All. And never again did the farmer say "Too Much Noise!!"