**Text 1.**

**RISE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE SETS THE FASHION TREND IN BOLIVIA**

For centuries the traditional dress of South America's indigenous people has been mocked as the garb of losers. The Indians lost power to the conquistadors, they lost land and wealth to waves of European settlers, and eventually they lost pride.

The bright tunics and unusual hats were belittled by the pale-skinned elites as the uniform of marginalized peasants in the highlands and shanty-dwellers in the cities.

But in a dramatic turnaround, the style has now become synonymous with authority. Evo Morales, the ex-president of Bolivia and a figurehead for the indigenous movement, has led the way by turning traditional dress into a statement that the natives are back in the game. The outfit he wore on the eve of his January 2006 inauguration — a multi-coloured tunic and an alpaca-wool sweater with a four-pointed hat, and a garland of coca leaves — is to be officially declared a national treasure.

"It was one of the most important moments. Those clothes were symbols. Right there was contained our history and patrimony," said Juan Ramon Quintana, the former Minister to the Presidency, when he unveiled the plan to immortalise the clothes. Just a few years ago, the outfit, which Morales wore at an indigenous ceremony in the sanctuary of Tiawanacu, would have been seen only in remote villages or in displays for tourists.

That it should now be elevated to a totem of national pride reflects the ascendancy of Morales, a former coca-grower and radical left-winger, over the economic and political establishment that used to run the country.

Indigenous people are still economically marginalised and often the victims of racism, but in the past decade they have emerged as a formidable political force. To protest against crushing poverty and neglect, they have blocked motorways, clashed with police and even swung elections. Bolivia led the way. Morales swept to power in 2005 by mobilizing indigenous voters, previously neglected by the European-influenced elite. As his clout has grown, so has the visibility of traditional dress.

The costumes, once largely confined to peasants, have become prominent and even hip. Earlier this year the capital, La Paz, hosted a glitzy fashion show in which models wore the bowler hats and flared skirts of highland women. Increasing numbers of shops are stocking traditional outfits, and newspapers and magazines are publishing more pictures of people wearing such clothes.

TV stations, which used to ignore or play down celebrations of the Bolivian Aymara people's New Year, devoted lengthy shows to the spectacle.

With talk of Morales amending the constitution to run again, there is growing realisation that his radical — and supporters would add, belated — push for indigenous rights may be here to stay. Many pale-skinned city dwellers are learning Quechua now that the language can help get jobs in government.

Rising indigenous influence across the Andean region is both a cause and a consequence of the "pink tide" of left-wing governments. For example, Ecuador's President Rafael Correa owed much to indigenous support, and in Venezuela the Indians found a champion in President Hugo Chavez, himself a mix of European and Indian blood.

Much of Latin America still celebrates October 12 as Christopher Columbus Day, but in Venezuela it has been renamed Indigenous Resistance Day.

**Text 2.**

**Little Things** by Julia A. Fletcher Carney

Little drops of water,  
Little grains of sand,  
Make the mighty ocean  
And the beauteous land.  
  
And the little moments,  
Humble though they be,  
Make the mighty ages  
Of eternity.  
  
So our little errors  
Lead the soul away,  
From the paths of virtue  
Into sin to stray.  
  
Little deeds of kindness,  
Little words of love,  
Make our earth an Eden,  
Like the heaven above.

**No Enemies** by Charles Mackay

You have no enemies, you say?  
Alas! my friend, the boast is poor;  
He who has mingled in the fray  
Of duty, that the brave endure,  
Must have made foes! If you have none,  
Small is the work that you have done.  
You've hit no traitor on the hip,  
You've dashed no cup from perjured lip,  
You've never turned the wrong to right,  
You've been a coward in the fight.