BBC LEARNING ENGLISH Authentic Real English 地道英语 Bite your tongue 缄口不语

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH 英语教学

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Jiaying

大家好,欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的"地道英语"节目。我是佳莹。

Rob

... and hello, I'm Rob.

Jiaying

Rob, what are you doing?

Rob

I am biting my tongue!

Jiaying

Rob! 虽然 "bite your tongue"是这期节目中要教给大家的表达,但不需要真的 "bite your tongue (咬舌头)"。

Rob

Oh, phew! Biting my tongue was painful, and it was very hard to speak.

Jiaying

这就是为什么我们用"bite your tongue"来表示"缄口不语"。当我们"bite our tongue (咬着舌头)",闭起嘴不说话的时候,我们是在阻止自己说一些可能会冒 犯别人或让别人难过的话。当然,我们也可以对别人说"bite your tongue",意思 就是"忍住别说,保持沉默"。But, Rob, we don't physically bite our tongues.

Rob

Right. So, for example, I shouldn't tell someone they've put on weight? I should bite my tongue?

Jiaying

Exactly. Just like the people in these examples...

Examples

I wanted to tell him his new shirt looked awful, but I decided to bite my tongue!

I know the food's not great, but please bite your tongue and just eat it.

I had to bite my tongue when my friend kept bragging about her 'great' exam results.

Jiaying

你正在收听的是 BBC 英语教学的"地道英语"节目。我们正在学习表达"bite your tongue"的用法。在日常交流中,我们想表达"忍住不说,保持沉默"的时候,就可以说"bite your tongue"。So, Rob, we shouldn't tell people we think they've gained a bit of weight, should we?

Rob

No, we should bite our tongue.

Jiaying

Good. And I will bite my tongue about your weight.

Rob Excuse me? What about my weight?

Jiaying

Sorry, Rob, I am biting my tongue.

Rob

Hmm. Maybe saying nothing at all is better than saying something. Now, do you fancy a biscuit?

Jiaying

Thanks, Rob.

Rob

Bye. Ouch, I've bitten my tongue!