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关于台词的备注:

请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。

London Accent 伦敦口音

Neil: Alright Feifei me ol' china, 'ow's it goin'?

Feifei: Old china? What happened to you, Neil? Neil 他今天操着一个怪怪得口音，我实在是不知道他在说什么。不过我相信他会在节目中告诉我们的。

Neil: Hello and welcome to Ask About Britain from BBC Learning English, I'm Neil. In this programme we answer your questions about British life and culture. With me today is Feifei.

Feifei: 大家好，我是冯菲菲。在英国问答节目里我们为您解答有关英国生活与文化方面的问题。

Neil: Erin from Beijing has a very interesting question about accents.

Insert

My name is Erin. I want to know more about the British accent, especially the London accent.

Feifei: 来自北京的 Erin 想了解英国人的口音尤其是伦敦地区人们的口音。So, Neil, why did you call me 'old china' earlier? 刚刚 Neil 叫我 old china, 老中国，这是什么意思呢？

Neil: 'China' is short for 'china plate', and 'plate' sounds like 'mate', which means 'friend'. Feifei, haven't you ever heard of cockney rhyming sang?

Feifei: Well, I've heard of it, but can you explain some more? Neil 说的这个 Cockney Rhyming Slang 是发源于伦敦东区的押韵俚语；a cockney 就是指伦敦东区的人。

Neil: Well, let's hear some cockneys explaining how it works. They're talking about the expression 'the crown jewels', which in cockney rhyming slang means 'tools'.

Feifei: 接下来我们要听到的是地道的 cockney 给我们讲什么叫做 'the crown jewels' 字面意思是皇冠宝石，其实这个俚语的意思是工具 tools. 这段话的语速非常快，但是别担心，我们会给大家做以解释的。

Insert

Crown jewels. You never use the second word... the crowns... they shorten it... builders. I got a few mates, builders you know and they just, they just... in their flow of conversation: "The crowns went". You know, you know, if the car's - the van's been broken into: "The crowns went missing", you know, straight away.

Neil: So, in cockney rhyming slang, you say 'crown jewels' to mean 'tools'. Why's that Feifei?

Feifei: Because 'jewels' rhymes with 'tools'. Rhymes with 和什么押韵。

Neil: That's right. But it's more complicated because you usually drop the second word of the slang and only use the first. In this case, 'crown'.

Feifei: 这些押韵俚语非常复杂的原因是由于每个俚语的第二个词通常会被省略。所以我们不说 'the crown jewels', 而只说 'crown'.

Neil: Therefore, in cockney rhyming slang, 'crowns' means 'tools'.

Feifei: 那么在押韵俚语里如果我们说 'crowns', 那意思就是 'tools'. 再来听一遍这段话。

Insert

Crown jewels. You never use the second word... the crowns... they shorten it... builders. I got a few mates, builders you know and they just, they just... in their flow of conversation: "The crowns went". You know, you know, if the car's - the van's been broken into: "The crowns went missing", you know, straight away.

Feifei: Can you give me some more examples?

Neil: OK. 'Butcher's hook' means 'look'.

Feifei: 屠夫的钩子 butcher's hook 的意思就是看 look.

Neil: Dog and bone - phone.

Feifei: 狗和骨头 dog and bone 的意思就是 phone 电话。So Neil, are you telling me that all people in London speak like that - in cockney rhyming slang?

Neil: No, not at all! It's quite old fashioned but one of the things Londoners are famous for. Here are some people from East London. They think rhyming slang is a bit embarrassing.

Feifei: 以下我们听到的这些来自伦敦东区的人说提起这些押韵俚语他们多少有一些不好意思 embarrassing 不好意思。我们一起来听听是为什么。

Insert

- I've got a cousin called Brian who uses it.
- Oh, it's embarrassing.

- *It is, yeah.*
- *I find it very embarrassing.*
- *Yeah, cos it's a bit, you know...*
- *It's a bit old hat, isn't it?*
- *The East End's a bit multicultural now. Everyone looks at him as if... there's only about three people in the world who know what he's talking about, you know?*

Neil: They think it's embarrassing and old hat.

Feifei: Old hat? 旧帽子?

Neil: It means not modern or not exciting.

Feifei: But she didn't say 'hat', she said 'at'.

Neil: That's right. Lots of Londoners drop the 'h' sound at the beginning of a word, so 'hotel' becomes...

Feifei: 'otel'

Neil: And 'hello' becomes...

Feifei: 'ello'.

Neil: Feifei, you're becoming a Londoner already! If you want to find out more about Britain, visit our website.

Feifei: 更多的英国问答节目在我们的网站上可以听到，网址是 www.bbcchina.com.cn；如果你有问题的话，也可以写信到 chinaelt@bbc.co.uk.

Neil: Bye for now.

Feifei: Bye.

Glossary

slang 俚语	rhyme 押韵
jewel 宝石	tool 工具
butcher 屠夫	the East End 伦敦东区
embarrassing 令人尴尬的	multicultural 多文化的