

About this script

Please note that this is not a word for word transcript of the programme as broadcast. In the recording and editing process changes may have been made which may not be reflected here.

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。

Shy 差一点点

Li: 大家好, 欢迎收听你问我答节目, 这是一个专门的有关英语用法的解答栏目。Today I'm joined by a new member of the China Team, Natalie. Hi Natalie.

Natalie: (*In shy voice*) Hi Li.

Li: What's wrong Natalie? You seem very quiet.

Natalie: I am well I am....

Li: Come on Natalie. What's wrong?

Natalie: Well Li... I am feeling... well... shy...

Li: Don't be shy, Natalie. Everyone listening is very friendly and eager to hear this week's Question and Answer of the Week.

Natalie: Ok ok Li, I'm feeling more confident now. Well this week's question is from Tina in Nanjing and she has asked a question about the word shy.

Li: Let's hear from Tina.

Insert

Hi, I recently read this sentence: "...has ceased one year shy of its 120th anniversary". What does shy mean in this sentence? And is that a special usage of the word shy? Kind regards, Tina from Nanjing.

Li: Tina 想知道英语单词 shy 在 "has ceased one year shy of its 120th anniversary" 这句话里的意思。So can we help, Natalie?

Natalie: I think we can help with this question. First let's start by explaining the most common use of the word shy.

Li: 好我们先来解释一下 shy 这个词的最常见的用法。

Natalie: Shy is usually used as an adjective to describe a person. To be shy is to be nervous or afraid to speak to other people. Often when someone is

described as shy they are very quiet and timid and are lacking in confidence.

Li: 大家都知道汉语里的腼腆这个词，英语里就是 **shy**，害羞的，腼腆的。对吧，Natalie? Just like you at the start of the programme.

Natalie: Yes Li. I'm feeling a lot more confident now. So in Tina's question shy is used in a different way. Instead of being used to describe a person, the word shy is used to describe something that is slightly less than something.

Li: What do you mean slightly less than something Natalie?

Natalie: So in the sentence "...has ceased one year shy of its 120th anniversary", it has ended one year before its 120th anniversary.

Li: 差一点就到了 120 周年纪念日。换句话说就是 120 周年纪念日的前一年。

Natalie: This way of using the word shy is frequently used in English. Let's look at some more examples.

Insert

The football team scored 50 goals this season, just shy of the club record of 51 goals.

I'm one year shy of getting a pay rise

We're two players shy of a full team.

Natalie: So let us go through these three examples.

Insert

The football team scored 50 goals this season, just shy of the club record of 51 goals.

Natalie: So in the first example the football team was 'just shy of a club record', so it nearly reached its goal record.

Li: Just shy of its club record 差一点就达到俱乐部的记录了。

Insert

I'm one year shy of getting a pay rise.

Natalie: So this person has one more year before they get a pay rise.

Li: One year shy of getting a pay rise, 这句话的意思就是他们离提薪的时间就差一年了。

Insert



We're two players shy of a full team.

Natalie: Here they are two players short of a full team. The team is lacking two players.

Li: 差两个队员，这支团队还少两个队员。

FX - CLIP CLOP CLIP CLOP

Li: What is a horse doing in the studio?

Natalie: Where did that come from!

FX - NEIGH

Natalie: It does seem scared; it's shying away from us!

Li: Shying away? 避开? 畏缩?

Natalie: Yes, this is what we use to describe a horse that is afraid and backing away from something.

Li: Shying away 形容一匹马畏缩不敢上前。

FX - CLIP CLOP CLIP CLOP

Natalie: That was really strange.

Natalie: I think he's left now. Well Li, we don't usually use this term shying away unless we are talking about a horse but we often used the phrase shy away from which is a phrasal verb.

Li: 'Shy away from' 是一个短语动词。

Natalie: To shy away from something is to avoid doing something or being involved in something.

Li: To shy away from something 就是回避做某事。Like at the start of the programme I thought you were going to shy away from answering this week's question Natalie.

Natalie: I know, I was very quiet.

Li: You know what I would shy away from Natalie?

Natalie: What Li?

Li: Getting my photo taken! I hate getting my photo taken! I would shy away from that situation.



STUDIO DOOR OPENS....WILLIAM ENTERS.

William: Hello.

William: Hi guys.

Li: William, what are you doing here?

William: Well I'm here to take a photo of you and Natalie, to capture Natalie's first Question and Answer programme on camera.

Li: Oh no, not for me.

William: Why not?

Natalie: I don't know if this is the right time William.

William: Hang on, let me just, just....smile!

STARTS TAKING PHOTOS

William: Smile!

Li: 别照，别照，我最不喜欢照相了!

Natalie: Oh no.

William: Take one from above, Li look at the camera.

Li: Oh no!

William: Oh Li, stop being camera shy.

Li: Camera-shy? 怕照相?

William: Smile!

Natalie: Ok Li, let's get one photo then we can get on with things.

Li: Oh ok Natalie.

William: Ok.

(WILLIAM TAKES PHOTO)

William: Perfect. I will have to put that on the website. See you.

Natalie: Bye.

Li: Bye. Bye bye.



(HEAR DOOR CLOSE)

LI: That was strange.

Natalie: Yes but William did come up with another use of the word shy, by using it as a compound adjective in the term camera-shy

Li: Camera-shy 这是由两个词组成的复合形容词。

Natalie: So Li, as you don't like getting your photo taken and you avoid it, William called you camera-shy.

Li: Yes, I don't like getting my photo taken, 我总是回避照相, 所以 William 就形容我是一个怕照相的人。

Natalie: So when shy is used in a compound adjective like this, it is describing something specific that you avoid doing or being involved in.

Li: 也就是说它用来形容一个人回避做某件事情。

Natalie: Shy can also be used in other compound adjectives such as work-shy and publicity-shy.

Li: 回避工作, 回避公开宣传的, let's hope no one describes us as work-shy
Natalie.

Natalie: I know Li, I don't think they could say that. So let us hear again the different ways shy can be used.

Insert

My sister is a very shy person.

She is just shy of her 18th birthday.

I shy away from singing, I'm a terrible singer!

I'm camera-shy, I hate getting my photo taken.

Natalie: Well Tina, I hope that answered your question.

Li: 是的, 如果你碰到英语学习上的问题请随时给我们发电子邮件, 我们的邮箱是 chinaelt@bbc.co.uk.

Natalie: Yes we love hearing from you and answering any of your English language questions!

Li: Bye Natalie.

Natalie: Bye Li.

