

BBC Learning English – Ask About Britain

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White Socks 白袜子

Helen: Hello. Welcome to another BBC Learning English programme. I'm Helen.

Li: 我是杨莉，大家好。欢迎收听英国问答 **Ask About Britain**，我们在这个节目中专门回答有关英国文化习俗方面的各种提问。

Helen: And our question today is very interesting.

Li: What is it?

Helen: It's about dress code.

Li: Dress code 衣着规则。那么是有关哪方面的衣着规则呢？

Helen: Eric Wu wrote in to say that he read an article on business etiquette and it mentioned that in business situations, men should not wear white socks. And Eric wonders why?

Li: 今天的问题的确很有意思，Eric Wu 在一篇介绍商务礼仪的文章中看到男士们穿西装的时候不要穿白袜子，但是为什么不可以呢？

Helen: Well, we lets see if any of our male colleagues are wearing white socks with their suits.

Insert

Grey.

They're black ones with stripes worked in.

Grey, that's easy.

I'm wearing black socks.

Li: Grey 灰色的，black 黑色的，stripes 有条纹的。好像没人穿白色的袜子。

Helen: So far no one seems to wear white socks to work, so what do people think of white socks? When can we wear white socks?

Li: 让我们来听听著名高中哈罗中学的校长 Barnaby Lenon，对白袜子的看法吧。

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In this country, everybody wears white socks with trainers, because white socks are a sportswear item, so you wear white socks if you're going to play tennis or go running.

Li: 刚才我们听到的校长说在英国白袜子和运动鞋是配套的。

Helen: People wear white socks with trainers, trainers are sports shoes.

Li: 所以如果去锻炼，打网球 **play tennis** 或者是跑步 **go running** 就应该穿白袜子。

Insert

If you wore white socks with dark shoes or with a suit, it would be regarded as slightly foolish, definitely a business no no. I mean you can wear coloured socks but white is for sport, only for sport.

Helen: So for Barnaby, he thinks wearing white socks with a suit is a business no no.

Li: 校长认为西装配白袜子在正式场合下是绝对应该避免的， **it's definitely a business no no.**

Helen: It would make the person look foolish.

Li: 愚蠢的 **foolish**. 在商场上被人认为是愚蠢的话，那可不是件好事儿。不过其他颜色的袜子就没有问题。

Helen: And I asked my boss Andrew, would he ever wear white socks with his suit?

Insert

With a suit, I think it doesn't work, I think it looks kind of weird.

Li: **Weird** 奇怪的。我们的领导 **Andrew** 每天都是西装革履，他说他不会穿白袜子上班，因为自己会感觉很奇怪。

Helen: And what about the ladies, what do they think of businessmen with white socks?

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If you saw somebody sitting with white sport socks and a suit, you'd kind of think maybe they couldn't find a clean pair of socks that day or something.

Li: 这位女士说如果她看到有人西装配白袜，那么她想到的会是这个人家里没有干净袜子穿了，所以才会穿白袜子。

英国难道所有人都会遵守这条西装衣着规则吗？

Helen: Well, not everyone. Abdul has worn a pair of white socks, although he wasn't wearing a suit. He defended wearing white socks in business or formal situations.

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Yes, of course, I regularly wear white socks with suits, because it makes me stand out and look as if I'm an individual who does not follow the trend and the fashion consensus.

Li: Abdul 算是一个另类，他自己经常穿白袜子，而且也不介意和西装搭配。

Helen: No, he's not afraid of the conventional view that white socks with suits makes you look foolish. He's proud to wear white socks because it makes him stand out.

Li: 让他与众不同 stand out.

Helen: To show that he's an individual who doesn't follow trends.

Li: 潮流 trends. 他不会追随潮流。

Helen: Or the fashion consensus.

Li: 或者是时装舆论 fashion consensus. 他就是要和别人不一样。

Helen: So Li, what do you think about Eric's question? No white socks with suits?

Li: 从工作角度来说，配西装还是穿深色袜子比较保险一点，因为白袜子在很多西方人的眼里只是在运动时才穿。不过从个人喜好来说，那就随意吧。

Helen: Ok, that's all from us. Please visit our website: www.bbcukchina.com for more Ask About Britain programmes.

Li: 我们下次节目再见。

Helen: Bye bye.

Glossary

stripes 条纹	foolish 愚蠢的
formal 正式的	trend 潮流
stand out 与众不同，突出的	consensus 一致同意
fashion 时尚，时装	style 风格
colour coordination 颜色搭配	attention to detail 注意细节