

## BBC Learning English – Ask About Britain

### About this script

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### 关于台词的备注:

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### A Perfect Host 完美的主人

Helen: Hello everyone. Welcome to Ask About Britain. I'm Helen.

Li: 大家好，我是杨莉。欢迎收听英国问答 **Ask About Britain**。今天的问题来自 Kent Ho 朋友。

### Insert:

*Hello, this is Kent Ho from South Western University, Chongqing.*

Helen: I lived in Chongqing for five years and I love the food there. So Kent, what question have you got for us?

### Insert

*I have a question. The question is - I have an e-pal who comes from Bromley, West Midlands in England, and he'll come to China this year. He has agreed to come and visit my home, and I want to know how I could entertain him at my home. Please just tell me something that I can do and something that I can't do. Thank you very much.*

Li: Kent 要请客了，而且是一位来自英格兰中部的朋友。他想知道在家里他怎么可以招待这位客人。How can he entertain his guest?

Helen: Last Sunday, I invited two English friends Basil and Judy for lunch at home and I asked for their hosting tips. Let's start with conversation topics.

Li: 好的，让我们来听听英国人都会聊些什么样的话题。

### Insert

*Often being in England we talk about the weather, because usually there's something horrible to talk about the weather, particularly in the winter.*

Li: 天气是个热门话题，而且很中性。英国人往往都会对英国的天气发牢骚，所以聊聊天气肯定不会错。

Helen: Especially since the weather in China and the UK is so different. I'm sure there'll be lots of opportunities for comparison.

Li: Yes, 中国和英国的气候有很大的差异, 尤其是重庆的夏天, 45 度的高温在英国是从来没有过的。

Helen: Apart from the weather, you can talk about lots of other things.

### Insert

*Sport, depending on whether it's the World Cup or how people were interested in it. Or cricket, or holidays, where are you going, where you've been, how was it? Films, plays, books.*

Li: Sport 体育, 比如说世界杯 World Cup, 或者是板球 cricket.

Helen: One thing about sport is that a lot of British people are keen football fans and they can be knowledgeable about the Premier League. But they may not know much about football teams or leagues in other countries.

Li: That's right. 很多英国人对足球很有兴趣, 但是他们的兴趣范围只限于英超, 不像中国的球迷们对欧洲其他国家的足球也都很熟悉。

Helen: Also in China, young people love basketball and the NBA, but it's not very popular in the UK.

Li: 是的, 篮球和 NBA 在中国非常热门, 但在英国就算是冷门运动了。不过大家可以聊聊其他运动比如游泳, 骑车, 滑雪, 一级方程式赛车。

Helen: Some people are not interested in sports so maybe you can talk about hobbies or holidays people went on.

Li: That's right. Hobbies 兴趣爱好。书籍, 电影, 戏剧, 游戏等等, 或者是度假去过的地方。其实有很多话题都可以谈。

Helen: And when you're chatting to a friend, it's really good to talk about a variety of subjects, things that people are interested in or have experienced themselves.

Li: 聊天是一种享受, 所以轻松一点, 英语差一些也没关系。

Helen: Absolutely. Don't worry if your English isn't perfect, the important thing is about having a good time with a real Chinese family.

Li: Kent 说了他要邀请这位英国朋友到他家做客。那么在吃的方面, 他要注意些什么呢?

### Insert

*No, there shouldn't really be a problem, because there're so many Chinese restaurants in England, and it's a very, very popular meal for people to go and have in a restaurant. I should think most English people would be very pleased to have let's say a proper home-cooked Chinese meal.*

Li: Basil 觉得英国人吃中餐一点儿没问题, 因为在英国中餐馆到处都是 it's very popular 很流行, 所以大家对中餐已经非常熟悉了。

Helen: It's true, Chinese food is now the second most popular takeaway food in the UK.

Li: **Having said that.** 不过能吃辣的英国人还是比较少。重庆的川菜可是太有名了，我建议 Kent 请客的时候，除了辣菜之外，也需要几个不太辣的。

Helen: Also English people really appreciate home cooked meals. It's about freshness and we think anything that's cooked from scratch must be good.

Li: **Home-cooked** 自己家里做的菜， **cooked from scratch** 完全用基本原材料做出来的。英国人非常珍惜到别人家里做客的机会，而且又能吃到地道的家常菜，那就更完美了。

Helen: In order to make sure your guest will enjoy the food, it's a good idea to ask them what kind of things they like or don't like before they come.

**Insert:**

*I mean it's now regarded as quite good manners if a host enquires of the guest before they come whether or not there's anything they particularly don't eat.*

Li: **Enquire** 询问，打听。因为不少外国人有过敏症，所以为了保险起见，最好还是提前问问客人有没有什么不喜欢吃的东西。

Helen: Guests are usually very happy to be asked about their likes and dislikes beforehand, it's a reassurance for the host too.

Li: **Reassurance** 放心。我还想到了一点，中国人特别好客，而且帮客人加菜是有礼貌的表现。英国人能接受这个风俗吗？

Helen: Let's hear from Basil again.

**Insert:**

*Quite normally people would just put on the plate what they want to eat and no more, you might get some people in fact take some more, but generally they wouldn't. So you don't just put it on the plate, you ask first.*

Li: 看来，英国人不习惯别人帮他们加菜。

Helen: Don't be deceived by the size of someone; a lot English people look tall and big, but they have small appetites.

Li: **Appetite** 胃口。英国人吃得并不多，所以如果你看到他们的碗空了，可以问要不要再加点什么菜。如果回答是不需要，也不用担心他们是客气，其实他们真的就是吃饱了。

Helen: OK, it's time for us to end this programme. Just keep the conversation and drinks flowing, and make sure there's plenty of delicious food on the table.

**Li:** **Well good luck.** 好了，关于招待远方来客需要考虑的一些问题，我们今天就讨论到这儿，谢谢收听，我们下次节目再会。

**Helen:** **Bye.**

### **Glossary**

<b>entertain</b> 招待，款待	<b>hosting</b> 接待
<b>comparison</b> 对比	<b>Premier League</b> 英超
<b>chat</b> 聊天	<b>appreciate</b> 珍惜
<b>takeaway food</b> 外买食品	<b>manner</b> 礼仪
<b>enquire</b> 询问，打听	<b>in fact</b> 其实