

BBC Learning English – Ask About Britain

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Swine Flu 猪流感

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People in China are very concerned with swine flu, how about people in Britain?

Neil: That's Michael from Tianjin asking about how British people look at swine flu. I'm Neil and you're listening to BBC Learning English.

Yang Li: 我是杨莉，大家好。今天的英国问答节目我们一起来看看英国人对猪流感是什么态度。

Neil: There's been a sharp increase in swine flu cases in the UK recently. So what do people think about it?

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Well I've had swine flu and you can probably still hear it a little bit in my throat so it was not too bad.

Neil: That's our editor Alison. She has been a recent victim of the virus. But she said it wasn't too bad when compared with tonsillitis which she had before.

Yang Li: Tonsillitis 就是扁桃腺炎。

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I've had tonsillitis before and that was much much worse for me, I was iller for longer and I had more of a temperature. But this time with swine flu I had about a week of feeling quite ill but I didn't feel like I was dying, I just felt rotten. My throat hurt, I had a cough, I had a terrible headache and a bit of a temperature. But I've had worse before and actually I'm quite pleased I've had it now because maybe it will boost my immunity.

Yang Li: 她说猪流感远远没有扁桃腺炎那么严重。With tonsillitis she felt much worse, she was sick for longer and she had more of a temperature. 其中，much worse, longer 和 more 都是形容词的比较级。

Neil: So how did she feel this time with swine flu? She said she was quite ill but not dying.

Yang Li: 就是相当不舒服，但不是死去活来的那种难受。

Neil: She just felt rotten.

- Yang Li: To feel rotten 感觉很糟, 很不舒服。What were her symptoms?
- Neil: She had a sore throat, a cough, a terrible headache and a bit of a temperature.
- Yang Li: 嗓子疼 a sore throat, 咳嗽 a cough, 极度的头痛 a terrible headache 和低烧 a bit of a temperature. 不过她很高兴, 因为这次生病可能提高了她的免疫力。It will boost her immunity.
- Neil: As swine flu is a respiratory disease and can be spread by coughing and sneezing, some people are trying not to go to crowded places.
- Yang Li: Respiratory disease 呼吸道疾病, coughing 咳嗽, sneezing 打喷嚏。Now listen to Vicky talking about her friends.

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Yeah some friends of mine who live outside of London recently were really scared about coming to London and especially about going on public transport and the tube.

They actually decided instead of going by public transport to actually drive up to London. And I was kind of not worried at all because I come to London all the time. But they were all a bit nervous, especially because one of them's pregnant so that's why she's especially nervous about it.

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People in China are very concerned with swine flu, how about people in Britain?

- Yang Li: In Ask about Britain today we'll continue to answer Michael's question on swine flu. So stay tuned.
- Neil: I'm not surprised that a pregnant woman should be scared about going on public transport in London. It's overcrowded.
- Yang Li: However, for most people living and working in London, life just goes on as usual.

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Well I think like most Londoners we just get on with it. We've had so many things to worry about before, one more isn't really going to move us. Everyone comes to work, everyone gets on with it, that's it. When we get it we'll just have to go to bed and have a nice lie down, that's all there is to it.

- Neil: It's true, we have so many things to worry about, one more isn't going to move us.
- Yang Li: So everyone comes to work, everyone gets on with it.
- Neil: To get on with something here means to stick to your normal routine.

Yang Li: 照旧做某事。Next we hear from a few more Londoners whether they are scared of swine flu.

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I'm not that worried about swine flu, I think if people are just careful, they wash their hands, they cover their mouths when they sneeze, wash their hands after that, throw away their tissues, it should be fine. There's no need to panic.

I'd say that I am not really that scared because it's just as bad as normal flu. And because I am a student I reckon I've got a good immune system so I don't think it will bother me that much.

I'm not really worried about it right now, not very much. I see other people are though; I can't fault them for that, I think there is reason to be worried. But personally I'm not so worried.

I think in general there's no need to panic that much. I think the press might be blowing it out of proportion slightly. But in general people are taking care about washing their hands after they've been on public transport, trying to stay healthy, eat lots of fruit and vegetables. So I think in general prevention is better than cure so people are trying not to contract the disease in the first place and that's the best policy I think.

Neil: Let's look at some of the key words and expressions we've just heard: There's no need to panic.

Yang Li: 没必要惊慌。

Neil: Good immune systems.

Yang Li: 良好的免疫系统。

Neil: They might have blown it out of proportion slightly.

Yang Li: To blow something out of proportion 夸大事实，过分渲染。

Neil: Finally prevention is better than cure.

Yang Li: 这一点最重要，就是预防为主，防病走在治疗前。Prevention is better than cure.

Neil: Okay, well I hope we've helped Michael with his question; do email us with any other queries. Our email address is chinaelt@bbc.co.uk

Yang Li: 感谢大家收听，我们下次节目再会。

Neil: Goodbye.

Glossary

swine flu 猪流感	tonsillitis 扁桃腺炎
to feel rotten (身体) 很不舒服	symptoms 症状
a sore throat 嗓子疼	a bit of temperature 低烧
to boost one's immunity 提高免疫力	respiratory disease 呼吸道疾病
a cough 咳嗽	sneeze 打喷嚏
to get on with something 照例不误	good immune systems 良好的免疫系统
to blow something out of proportion 过分夸张/渲染	prevention is better than cure 预防为主; 预防为上策