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关于台词的备注:

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Michael Sheen 迈克尔·辛

What I'm trying to do is look for something in a mannerism or a vocal thing that gives me some clue to what might be going on inside.

Neil: That's Michael Sheen talking to us on BBC Learning English. I'm Neil.

Yang Li: 大家好，我是杨莉。Michael Sheen 绝对可以算是 2006 年银幕和舞台上的一位风云人物。

Neil: He played Tony Blair in The Queen and Frost in the hit musical Frost and Nixon.

Yang Li: 他在影片《女王》当中扮演了托尼·布莱尔，还在《福斯特与尼克松》当中扮演了福斯特。

Neil: Both the film The Queen and the West End musical Frost and Nixon have been well received.

Yang Li: Well received 受到了欢迎。So how does he prepare for one of these biographical roles?

Neil: Biographical roles.

Yang Li: 传记性的角色。Let's hear what Michael has to say.

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If there is video footage available then I'll watch that, and then there'll be certain bits that I might find more useful than others, then I'll audio record those and listen to those over and over again. What I'm trying to do is look for something in a mannerism or a vocal thing that gives me some clue to what might be going on inside.

Neil: He watches video footage and listens to audio recordings.

Yang Li: 影像素材和录音 and audio recordings.

Neil: What he is looking for is a mannerism.

Yang Li: Mannerism 独特的气质作风。

Neil: Or a vocal thing.

Yang Li: 发声的方式。

Neil: For clues as to what's going on inside.

Yang Li: 寻找揭示内在东西的线索。那他饰演托尼·布莱尔这个角色主要靠的是发声方式还是面目表情呢？

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Well, vocally, before I ever worked on Tony Blair, I used to hear people talking about his Estuary English and that kind of stuff. And once I started working on him, you realise that actually the sounds that we tend to think of as being him trying to sound like a commoner, are actually Scottish sounds.

Neil: Michael says that people tend to think that Tony Blair speaks Estuary English.

Yang Li: Estuary English 是在英国东南部泰晤士河港湾一带当地人说的英语。可以管它叫“河口英语”。有这种口音的英国人给人的感觉是相当平凡的人，不怎么高贵。有些特意操这种口音的人就是为了让别人觉得他是个很普通的人。

Neil: But in fact those sounds are actually Scottish sounds.

Yang Li: 苏格兰口音。

Neil: There are other things he noticed too about Tony Blair's speech:

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And then little things that I noticed that he would do, like, in an interview situation when somebody asks him a question, that is a totally valid question, but is just a question he doesn't like the sound of, he'll react to it as if it's a completely invalid question. He'll sort of go 'oh I mean, you know, come on, that's ridiculous...' and he does that whole kind of thing, which is actually very clever because it sort of makes him seem like he's being incredibly spontaneous.

Yang Li: 好像每当托尼·布莱尔不喜欢那个问题的话，他的反应就好像是那个问题是完全不能成立的一样。

Neil: Yes, Tony Blair reacts to questions he doesn't like as if they are completely invalid questions.

Yang Li: Typical isn't it?

Neil: Yes indeed. So much for Tony Blair, now let's turn to the role of David Frost.

Yang Li: 迈克尔·辛成功扮演了福斯特，这个让尼克松在电视上当场承认错误的记者角色。

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It's very useful that my first scene in Frost Nixon is David Frost coming on at the beginning of his chat show and doing the whole "Hello, good evening" and all that

kind of stuff. What's great about it is that it gets that out of the way immediately, and then the rest of the play is one of trying to get the audience to think again maybe about how much they've underestimated him as a character. And so that by the end of the play, hopefully it's a three-dimensional person, as opposed to the two-dimensional person that people want him to be at the beginning of the play.

Neil: The audience underestimate him as a character at the beginning.

Yang Li: Underestimate 低估。以前人们都把他看作一个很单调的人。

Neil: But by the end of the play he is a three-dimensional person.

Yang Li: Three-dimensional 就是三度空间、很立体的一个人。因为福斯特最后终于取得了胜利。

Neil: Well, that's all we have time for today and hope you get to see the film or show for yourself. I am Neil.

Yang Li: 我是杨莉。下次节目再见。