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Universities: Oxford 牛津大学

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It's a little bit of glamour. It's very hard work. It's an intense experience. It's part of the UK's historical legacy.

Andrea: Can you guess which university Dominic Scott is talking about?

Jean: 刚才是英国国际学生事务委员会的 CEO Dominic Scott 给我们介绍英国著名的牛津大学。

Andrea: And today we're going to be hearing a little more about a university that is glamorous.

Jean: 这可是一个魅力无限的经典大学。

Andrea: Hard work and an intense experience.

Jean: 要在这里学习不刻苦是不行的，所以这确实会是一次高强度的体验，但也会是一次亲身体会英国最著名文化与教育的绝佳良机。大家好，我是董征。

Andrea: And I'm Andrea. In this series, we're hearing about some of the UK's best academic institutions.

Jean: 我们为此特别采访了一位牛津大学的毕业生 a graduate.

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Hi, I'm Clare Naylor and I graduated from Oxford University in Chemistry. It was a fantastic experience. I came from an ordinary background in a comprehensive school and going to such a privileged environment was completely different from anything I had ever experienced before.

Andrea: Clare graduated from Oxford University in Chemistry. She says it was a fantastic experience, especially as she came from an ordinary background.

Jean: An ordinary background. 一个普通的背景。我想很多人可能都认为能到牛津剑桥或者统称它俩 Oxbridge 去的学生应该都是来历不凡、身出名门。

Andrea: But not everyone who goes to these top universities is privileged. In fact, Clare says that going to Oxford was different from anything she had ever experienced before.

Jean: 那么在著名的牛津大学的读书生活又是怎样的呢？

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In Oxford we live mostly in colleges. So while you study with other people, doing your subject in laboratory and lecture rooms, you go back in the evening to your own college with a year group doing all different subjects. And most people are accommodated within their college in rooms that would typically be a bedroom with a sink or a washroom. And then there would be shared toilets and showering facilities further down the corridor.

Jean: 听上去牛津其实并不是一个富家子弟的天堂。Clare 她说在你宿舍房间里会有一个洗脸池，但是洗手间和洗浴间是大家共用的。

Andrea: But the great thing is that you mix with students studying lots of different subjects. You mix with and get to know different people.

Jean: 这是因为在牛津读书的学生住在 accommodated 大学下属的这些学院中，而你同学院的学生他们所学习的专业各不相同。

Andrea: And you might even get to meet someone famous if you study at Oxford!

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I was run over or nearly run over by Stephen Hawking.

Jean: 史蒂芬·霍金这位著名的物理学家就在牛津大学讲过课。下面是 Clare 自己在牛津读书时和霍金的一次“碰撞性”的巧遇。

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I was late for my own lecture and was on a bike in the tradition of Oxford, cycling everywhere, and I came tearing round the corner on my bike trying to get to my lecture and went smack into Stephen Hawking in his wheelchair.

Andrea: Clare was on her bike, which is the tradition in Oxford. People cycle everywhere. She was late for her lecture and came tearing round the corner.

Jean: Tearing round the corner 在转弯处猛地转弯。

Andrea: She ended up going smack into Stephen Hawking who is in a wheelchair.

Jean: To go smack into someone 就是和某人撞个正着。而当时霍金是坐在他的轮椅里，被这么高速的自行车猛地撞上，幸亏没出什么事儿！

Andrea: So lots of famous people visit Oxford to give lectures as well as having studied there.

Jean: 而就像 Dominic Scott 所描述的, 在这里充满了丰富的传统。

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I mean you can range from May morning, on the first of May, when you have a choir on the top of one of the famous colleges, singing at 5 o'clock in the morning to welcome in the spring. It has that deep sense of history about it.

Andrea: Dominic talks about one of the traditions. On the first of May, which is spring in the UK, a choir goes up on top of one of the colleges and sings at 5 in the morning.

Jean: Dominic 也给我们讲到了在牛津大学深厚的历史传统 a deep sense of history.

Andrea: And it's the history, the tradition, the famous professors and the outstanding education that makes Oxford a top university.

Jean: 好, 我们今天 BBC Learning English 的节目时间又要到了。

Andrea: Do remember to check out our website: www.bbcukchina.com. And you can email us at chinaelt@bbc.co.uk. Bye bye!

Jean: Bye!

Glossary

intense experience 紧张热烈的经历	to go smack into someone 猛地撞上某人
graduate 毕业; 毕业生	deep sense of history 深刻的历史感
ordinary background 普通的背景	Oxbridge 牛津剑桥 (合并简称)
accommodated 住宿	run over 撞倒, 轧过
tearing round the corner 急转弯	historical legacy 历史遗产