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关于台词的备注:

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Foreign Comedians in the UK 在英国的外国喜剧演员

Helen: Hello, welcome to BBC Learning English. I'm Helen and with me today in the studio is Jean.

Jean: Hello, 大家好。我们今天的节目会带大家来多了解一些真正的英国文化。

Helen: Today, we're focusing on comedy and humour.

Jean: 喜剧 comedy, 幽默 humour. 不过每个人欣赏喜剧和幽默的口味可是各不相同。

Helen: That's right. We all have individual taste when it comes to what's funny and what's not.

Jean: 英国人一向以他们“干幽默” dry sense of humour 这个风格著称。不过到底什么能把英国人自己逗笑呢?

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I like political satire a lot. Humour that kind of relates to everyday life. Slapstick, no – not slapstick - but all types of humour; if it's funny, and it's well written, well scripted, well timed, it can be funny.

Jean: 这位先生说 he 喜欢的是政治方面的讽刺与幽默。

Helen: Political satire. Comedians make fun of politicians and political events all the time.

Jean: 他也喜欢和日常生活有关的幽默。

Helen: Things that we all know, so we can relate to them.

Jean: But there is something he doesn't like.

Helen: That's right, he doesn't like slapstick.

Jean: Slapstick, 就是那种演员乱跑乱闹, 装傻充愣、乱扔东西带故意摔跤的那种滑稽剧。

Helen: You see a lot of slapstick in the old Charlie Chaplin films.

Jean: 卓别林的电影里经常会出现这样的滑稽场面。

Helen: Understanding of language and culture are essential in connecting the comedian and the audience.

Jean: 每年的 8 月和 9 月，全欧洲的很多喜剧表演者都会来到爱丁堡文化节上，参加表演在整个文化节 2000 多个场次的演出。

Helen: So, can foreigners make British people laugh?

Jean: Henning 是一位德国的喜剧表演家，他就认为英国的观众可是不容易伺候。

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My name is Henning and I'm the German comedy ambassador. It's not the easiest of jobs. Sometimes it's quite interesting; on the one hand, everybody wants you to fail, and then, in case you don't fail, they question your Germanic background.

Helen: Henning introduced himself as the German comedy ambassador.

Jean: 大使 ambassador, comedy ambassador 喜剧大使。

Helen: It's not the easiest of jobs.

Jean: Henning 他承认作为一名外国的喜剧表演家，要想把英国观众逗笑是很难的。

Helen: He says people want you to fail.

Jean: 人们期待他会失败。

Helen: And if you don't fail, then people question your German background.

Jean: 如果他没有失败，说笑话成功了。英国人反而对他的德国背景表示质疑，怀疑他是否真的是从德国来的。

Helen: Now, Otto is another German comedian. He admits that German humour is different to British humour.

Jean: Otto 还专门给我们讲解了一下英国和德国在文化上的不同。

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We don't use jokes in normal life as frequently as the British does, so here you have to do that to be socially accepted. In Germany, you're not socially accepted if you do only jokes.

Helen: Interesting comparison from Otto.

Jean: Very good observation, I have to agree with him. Otto 他说德国人在日常生活中是不像英国人那么爱开玩笑的。

Helen: Otto observed that in the UK, you have to be able to tell jokes in order to be socially accepted.

- Jean:** **To be socially accepted** 在交往中被接受的。就是说如果你擅长讲笑话，这在英国会让别人更愿意和你交往。
- Helen:** **In Germany, it's different. If you only tell jokes and try to be funny all the time, then you're NOT going to be socially accepted.**
- Jean:** 而在德国却是完全相反。如果你讲笑话太多了，人们反而会不喜欢你，不愿意和你多交往。
- Helen:** **Jean, do you think Chinese people are more like the Germans or the British?**
- Jean:** **Well, I'd say probably more like the Germans, although perhaps not as serious as them.**
- Helen:** **Well, we've run out of time again.**
- Jean:** 如果你想和我们直接联系或者分享你的心得，那就给我们发个 email 过来好了，我们的 email 信箱就是 chinaelt@bbc.co.uk。
- Helen:** **We look forward to hearing from you. Bye for now.**
- Jean:** **See you next time.**