

BBC Learning English – Q & A of the Week

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关于台词的备注:

请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。

Rather 精讲 Rather

Yang Li: 大家好，我是杨莉，欢迎收听《你问我答》。今天我将通过大量的例句来回答 Chen Lian Lian 提出的一个问题，即如何使用 **rather** 这个词。

Insert

How to use the word "rather"? I am often confused by its various usages.
--Chen Lian Lian

Yang Li: The word **rather** is spelt r-a-t-h-e-r **rather** 这个词有多种意思，所以很难用一个汉语词来概括。 **I can't tell you the exact translation of the word because it all depends on the context in which you use this word.** 不过我想通过大量的例句来说明这个词的多种意思。

Yang Li: 第一点，和动词连用，意思是宁愿。

Insert

I would rather not go. I would rather be with you for Christmas.

Yang Li: 以上两句话中的 **rather** 都是宁愿怎么样的意思，我宁可不去；我宁愿和你一起过圣诞。

Insert

I would rather not go. I would rather be with you for Christmas.

Yang Li: 第二个用法可能是最常见的，就是把 **rather** 和形容词连用，表示程度 **to a certain or significant degree.**

Insert

A: I'm starting my Italian lessons next week. I need a good dictionary. What do you think of this one?

B: That's a rather difficult one for a beginner. Let's see... try this one. It's easier.

Yang Li: 对于初学者来说这本字典有点儿太难了。Rather difficult, quite difficult. 下面是第二个例句。

Insert

A: *Did you have a good journey?*

B: *The train was rather too crowded for a comfortable journey I'm afraid. But I suppose that's quite normal during rush hour, isn't it?*

Yang Li: 你旅途顺利吗？后者回答说火车有点太拥挤了，不太舒服 rather too crowded for a comfortable journey. Now I am going to test you. 想想下面这句话怎么说。我试了试你给我的新鞋，不过有点太紧。

Insert

I tried the new pair of shoes you gave me but they are rather tight.

I tried the new pair of shoes you gave me but they are rather tight.

Yang Li: Number two 他讲话太快我听不明白。

Insert

He spoke rather too quickly for me to understand.

He spoke rather too quickly for me to understand.

Yang Li: Did you get it? 太紧是 rather tight, 讲话太快就是 rather too quickly. Let's move on.

Yang Li: 下面是第三个用法，意思是，说得更恰当点，more precisely or more exactly.

Insert

A: *He got home late last night, or rather early this morning.*

Yang Li: 他昨天半夜，更准确地说，今天一清早才回到家。

Insert

A: *He got home late last night, or rather early this morning.*

Yang Li: 再看一个例句。

Insert

A: *How is your Spanish friend, the one we met last Christmas?*

B: *You mean Jose? He's my sister's friend really, rather than mine.*



Yang Li: 你那位西班牙朋友怎么样？对方解释说，啊，你是说 **Jose**？其实，更准确地说，他是我姐姐的朋友。

Yang Li: 第四个意思也是今天我们要讲的主要用法，是用 **rather** 来表述一种倾向，与其...不如...更好， **indicating one's preference in a particular matter**. 请听例句。

Insert

A: Which team would you rather support? Man U or Chelsea?

B: Of course Manchester United.

Yang Li: 你支持哪个队？曼联还是切尔西？此句中的 **rather** 表示讲话人的倾向。另外我们还经常听到 **rather than** 这个固定用法，意思是，而不是...请听例句。

Insert

A: You are a good chess player, aren't you?

B: Well I like to play Chinese chess rather than international chess.

Yang Li: 你象棋下得不错吧？对方回答说，我喜欢下中国象棋，而不是国际象棋，**rather than international chess**.

Insert

A: Would you like a Cappuccino or latté?

B: Mmm, I think I'd like to have a cold drink rather than coffee. It feels rather hot in here.

Yang Li: 喜欢喝那种咖啡？对方说他更想喝冷饮，**rather than coffee** 而不是咖啡。因为他觉得很热 **it feels rather hot in here**. 注意第二个 **rather** 表示程度，相当热，是副词 **rather hot**.

Insert

A: Would you like to go to the pub with me for some jazz?

B: I'd rather stay at home this evening if you don't mind. I'm rather tired.

Yang Li: 愿意跟我去酒吗？对方说我更想呆在家里，**I'd rather stay at home**. 因为我挺累的 **rather tired** 很累，相当累。

Yang Li: 好，到此为止我介绍了 **rather** 这个词的四个主要用法。大家不妨在今后的阅读中多多注意 **rather** 这个词的用法。Hope you get to use the word rather, rather well in the future. Goodbye.