

BBC Learning English – Q & A of the Week

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Q & A of the Week: Cheering / 加油

Insert

加油! 加油! 加油! 加油!

Feifei: 这个助威呐喊声想必大家一定都很熟悉。

Finn: Yes, we're feeling sporty in Q and A today.

Insert

加油! 加油! 加油! 加油!

Finn: I'm Finn.

Feifei: And I'm Feifei. 在你问我答节目中我们来回答大家对英语语言提出的种种问题。

Finn: And this week we have a question from a student called Hui Yao, who'd like to know how to translate 加油 into English.

Feifei: 这个问题问的非常好, Hui Yao 想知道“加油”这个词用英语怎么说。

Finn: Indeed, 加油. Well in English 加 means 'add' and 油 means 'oil'. But you'll never hear this at a football match in Britain:

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Add oil, add oil, add oil, add oil, add some oil mate!

Feifei: Sounds a bit funny! 你是绝不会在英国的足球场上听到刚才上面加油的方式。How DO we translate 加油?

Finn: Well, it's a very good question – it's not as simple as it sounds. The problem is that in Chinese, 加油 is an all-purpose chant.

Feifei: A chant. 有节奏的反复叫喊; all-purpose 通用的。日常生活中很多情况下我们都可以用加油这个词, 还有就是体育比赛中, 不论是给一个队伍或是个人摇旗呐喊的时候我们也可以说加油。Is there a similar all-purpose chant in English, Finn?

Finn: Well, the closest is probably this:



Insert

Come on! Come on! Come on!

Finn: Come on. But sometimes it might be...

Insert

Go for it!

Finn: Or how about?

Insert

Go, go, go!

Finn: Or...

Insert

Keep going...!

Finn: Or maybe even...

Insert

Don't give up!

Finn: Or, how about...

Feifei: **OK – stop!** 我觉得说道这儿我明白了，就是说在英语里没有一个像“加油”一样的词让我们在任何情况和语境中都可以通用的词，对吗？

Finn: **That's right, although 加油 is the most common chant in China, we don't have the same kind of all-purpose phrase in English.**

Feifei: 提出这个问题的其实不光是我们的听众 **Hui Yao**，其实很多中国的网友们也在 **online forums** 在线论坛中提过这个问题。

Finn: Yes, so let's look at each of these phrases in turn. Feifei, shall we explain?

Insert

Come on! Come on! Come on!

Go for it!

Feifei: 我们通常使用 'come on' 或是 'go for it' 给某人以鼓励。

Finn: encourage

Feifei: 给某个表现不佳的运动员或队伍以鼓励，打气，或者在一支球队就要进球的时候我们常说 **come on** 或 **go for it**.

Insert

Keep going...! Keep going...!

Don't give up!

Finn: Ok these are both used to encourage a team or player that is losing energy, someone who needs an extra push.

Feifei: 这两个表达我们通常用来给一支士气不足，热情不够的队伍加油鼓劲的。这些队伍一般都需要更多地推动力 **an extra push**.

Insert

Go, go, go!

Feifei: 最后一个，也是用来 **encourage** 大家的，但是这个词更多的会用于单项比赛中对一个运动员的鼓励，而较少的用在团体项目中。

Finn: And Feifei, we haven't even begun to speak about all the different chants in different games like football.

Insert

Football chants?

Feifei: 到这儿我们今天的节目也就结束了，别忘了如果你有问题的话欢迎给我们来信，我们的 email 是 chinaelt@bbc.co.uk 或者可以登陆我们的网站：

Finn: www.bbcchina.com.cn. Now, I have one final thing to say to all our friends in China learning English.

Feifei: What's that?

Finn: 加油!

Feifei: 加油! Bye bye.

Finn: Bye.