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Buli

大家好，欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的“你问我答”栏目。I'm Buli.

Georgie

And I'm Georgie. We've got a question here from one of our listeners.

Question

请问“eager for”、“thirsty for”和“hungry for”之间是否有区别？

Georgie

Good question! 'Eager for', 'thirsty for', and 'hungry for' all express a strong desire for something and are usually followed by a noun. Now, be careful because here we aren't looking at 'hungry' and 'thirsty' in the context of needing food or water, are we?

Buli

No, that's right. 虽然这个问题中的“hungry”和“thirsty”常见的意思是我们人的身体感受到的“饥饿”和“口渴”，但这位听众提到的三个表达都和“想要得到某物的欲望”有关，并且这样东西还可以是抽象的。就比如，“a person thirsty for knowledge”的意思就是“一个渴望知识的人”。本期节目就让我们来辨析一下这三个表达的不同点。

Georgie

Starting with 'eager for'. If you're eager for something, you show a keen or enthusiastic desire for it. It has quite an upbeat feel. Let's hear some examples.

Examples

After a year full of exams, the students were very eager for the holidays.

（经过一年繁重的考试，学生们渴望假期的到来。）

Examples

I've only had my dog for a year and I'm already eager for another one.

（我养狗才一年，就已经很期望能够再养一条了。）

Buli

上面的例句中我们可以看出，“eager for”有“十分期待”或“热切盼望”的意思，能够传达出“对某物的积极正面的期许”。我们还可以用“eager for someone to do something”这个句式来表达“十分希望某人能做某事”的意思。来听一组例句。

Examples

You're a great footballer, so we're all eager for you to join our team.

（你是一个非常棒的足球运动员，所以我们都很希望你能加入我们的球队。）

I'm eager for my friend to come back from her work trip – I haven't seen her in ages!

（我盼望着我的朋友出差回来，我好久没有见到她了！）

Georgie

Next, let's talk about 'thirsty for'. This suggests an intense craving for something, often something abstract like attention or knowledge.

Buli

和“eager for”相比，“thirsty for”传达出的语气通常更加消极和急切，并且更常用于描述“对抽象事物的渴望”。来听一组例句。

Examples

She spends all her evenings and weekends reading – she's so thirsty for knowledge.

（她把晚上和周末的时间都用来看书。她对知识非常渴望。）

Posting so much on social media makes you look really thirsty for attention.

（在社交媒体上发布太多内容会显得你十分渴望他人的关注。）

Georgie

Moving on to 'hungry for'. This is similar to 'thirsty for', in that it implies an intense craving for something, but it has a slightly more specific usage, doesn't it?

Buli

是的。虽然“hungry for”和“thirsty for”的用法非常类似，但“hungry for”更常和我们的目标或想要达成的成就联系在一起。比如说，“hungry for success（渴望成功）”、“hungry for power（渴望权力）”和“hungry for fame（渴望名声）”。

Georgie

In other words, 'hungry for' has a sense of intense drive and ambition. Let's hear some examples.

Examples

The football team was hungry for victory after their crushing defeat last season.

（在经历了上赛季的惨痛失败以后，这只球队渴望得到胜利。）

The movie's villain was so hungry for power, she'd stop at nothing to take control of the entire world.

（这部电影中的坏蛋太渴望权力了，她会不惜一切地掌控整个世界。）

Buli

最后，让我们来复习一下本期节目的主要内容。“Eager for”、“thirsty for”和“hungry for”都用于表达“渴望得到某物”的意思，通常后面要衔接名词。当我们在用这三个表达时，需要考虑欲望的强烈程度以及语气。其中，“eager for”通常表示“热切地盼望着某个积极的事物”，比如，“I'm eager for the holidays.（我盼望着假期。）”；“thirsty for”表达出的语气更加强烈和迫切，甚至有时会有些消极，比如，“He's thirsty for attention.（他渴望得到关注。）”；最后“hungry for”和“thirsty for”的用法是类似的，但通常和激情、野心和想要实现目标的欲望联系起来，比如“I'm hungry for success. 我渴望成功。”

Georgie

Remember, if you have a question about the English language you'd like to ask us, please send us an email. Our email address is: questions.chinaelt@bbc.co.uk

Buli

你还可以通过微博向我们提问，我们的微博账号是“BBC 英语教学”。

Georgie

See you next time!

Buli

Bye!