

酒的语言 The language of wine

Hello.

大家好。

This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English.

这里是 BBC 学习英语栏目的六分钟英语。

I'm Sam.

我是萨姆。

And I'm Rob.

我是罗伯。

Rob, would you describe yourself as a wine connoisseur?

罗伯，你会把自己描述成一个品酒师吗？

If you mean am I someone who enjoys wine and knows a lot about it, then no - although the 'enjoy' part is true - particularly a nice glass of red.

如果你的意思是我是不是喜欢酒并且对它很了解，那么不是的 —— 尽管我很喜欢 —— 尤其是一杯好红酒。

Of course, wine might not be everybody's cup of tea, not something they like, but wine has been an important part of history and language.

当然酒可能不是每个人都喜欢，不是他们喜欢的东西，但是酒一直以来都是历史和语言很重要的一部分。

And even if you don't drink alcohol, wine can be used as a commodity you can invest in and sell at an auction.

而且即使你不喝酒，也可以把酒当做在拍卖中买卖的投资商品。

And that brings me on to my quiz question, Rob.

而这让我想到了我的问题，罗伯。

In 2018, a bottle of wine dating back to 1774 sold at auction in eastern France for a record-breaking price.

在 2018 年有一瓶追溯到 1774 年的酒在法国东部的一次拍卖上卖出了破纪录的高价。

Do you know how much it was sold for?

你知道它卖了多少钱吗？

Was it a) \$20,800, b) \$120,800, or c) \$220,800?

是 A. 20800 美元，B. 120800 美元，还是 C. 220800 美元？

I know wine can fetch a high price, but not as high as some of those options, so I'll say a) \$20,800. I'll reveal the answer later on.

我知道酒价可能会很贵，但是应该没有一些选项里那么贵，所以我要选 A. 20800 美元。我稍后会揭晓答案。

But let's talk more about wine now.

添加的词汇

spouses

英: /spaʊs/ 美: /spaʊs/

n. 配偶 vt. 和...结婚



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但是我们现在再来谈谈酒。

A glass of the stuff can be sipped and savoured or just glugged.

一瓶酒你可以小酌，细品或者牛饮。

Glug is a good word, meaning drink in large gulps or mouthfuls, not something a wine expert would do.

牛饮是一个好词，意思是大口喝，品酒专家一般不会这么做。

For some people, drinking and serving wine is almost an art-form.

对于某些人来说，喝酒和上酒几乎是一种艺术形式。

If you go to a restaurant, there might be a sommelier - a person whose job is to serve and give advice about wine.

如果你去一家餐厅，那里可能会有一个侍酒师——这个人的工作是上酒并提出关于酒的建议。

They may have had years of training to learn about the different types of wine and the individual flavours or aromas, known as notes.

他们可能经过了多年的训练来学习不同类型的酒，以及各自的味道和香气，这叫做品酒笔记。

This job has fascinated journalist and author Bianca Bosker.

这项工作让记者兼作家 Bianca Bosker 着迷。

She wrote a book called 'Cork Dorks'.

她写了一本叫做《Cork Dorks》的书。

And here she is talking on the BBC World Service programme The Why Factor describing her fascination with sommeliers.

下面是她在 BBC 世界服务节目《The Why Factor》中描述了她对于侍酒师的迷恋。

These were people who had taken wine, which I always thought of as a thing of pleasure, something you turned to after a long stressful day, and turned it into something approaching sheer God-awful pain.

我总是把酒当做一种乐趣，你在漫长而压抑的一天之后能够帮你的东西，但这些人他们把它变成了向强烈的痛苦靠近的东西。

They licked rocks, trained their palates, they divorced their *spouses* to spend more time reviewing flash cards - they had hired voice coaches and memory coaches, they took dance classes to learn how to move more gracefully across the dining room floor.

他们会舔石头，训练他们的味觉，他们跟配偶离婚，从而花更多时间来复习闪卡——他们雇了声音教练和记忆教练，他们会上舞蹈课来学习如何更优雅地在餐厅的地板上移动。

Like me, Bianca thought drinking wine was a pleasurable activity - something that helped her relax after a long stressful day.

就像我一样，Bianca 认为喝酒是一种令人愉悦的活动——能够帮助她在漫长而压抑的一天后放松的东西。

So she was surprised at how sommeliers turned this activity into "something approaching sheer God-awful pain".

所以她很惊讶地发现有些侍酒师把这种活动变成了“向强烈的痛苦靠近的东西”。

The word sheer is used to emphasise the amount of something, or to mean 'nothing but'.

“Sheer”这个词被用来强调某个事物的量，或者表示“只不过”。

She thought the work of a sommelier was nothing but pain - they seemed to dedicate their life to wine!

她认为侍酒师的工作只不过是痛苦而已 —— 他们似乎把生命献给了酒！

One thing a sommelier does is train their palate - this is their ability to distinguish and appreciate different tastes - and identify types of good wine from their taste.

侍酒师会做的一件事是训练他们的味觉 —— 即他们分辨并欣赏不同味道的能力 —— 并且通过酒的味道来判别好酒的类型。

I guess this is quite important.

我猜这很重要。

But divorcing their *spouses* does seem a bit extreme!

但是跟他们的配偶离婚确实似乎有点极端！

I'm afraid I wouldn't take it so seriously - I'll stick to drinking poorer quality, cheap red wine - sometimes called plonk!

我恐怕不会这么认真对待它 —— 我会坚持喝品质更差的便宜的红酒 —— 我们有时候叫它廉价劣质酒。

Well, Rob, cheap wine doesn't always have to be poor quality.

好的，罗伯，廉价酒并不一定是劣质的。

Interestingly, there is some evidence that shows we only think wine tastes better because it's more expensive.

有趣的是，有些证据表明我们会仅仅因为酒更贵而认为它味道更好。

Ah, yes, this is research Hilke Plassmann from INSEAD Business School in France spoke about on the BBC World Service's Why Factor programme.

啊，是的，这是法国的欧洲工商管理学院的 Hilke Plassmann 在 BBC 世界服务节目《Why Factor》谈到的研究。

She's been looking into what influences consumer behaviour.

她一直在研究是什么影响了消费者的行为。

The price tag affects that region in your brain that encodes your liking of the taste, so in other words, you not only think that you like the more expensive wine more, you feel you like the more expensive wine more, because your brain region that encodes this feeling is influenced by the price tag.

标价会影响你大脑中解码你对味道的喜爱的区域，所以换句话说，你不仅会认为你更喜欢更贵的酒，你还会觉得更喜欢更贵的酒是因为你的大脑中解码这种感觉的区域被标价影响了。

So, our brain is possibly playing tricks on us.

所以我们的大脑很可能在愚弄我们。

When we see the price tag on a bottle of wine, our brain encodes the information and tells us how it should taste.

当我们看到一瓶酒上的标价时，我们的大脑会解码这个信息，并且告诉我们它应该有的味道。

Encodes means changes the information into something that we can use or understand.

解码的意思是把信息转化成我们能够使用或者理解的东西。

Drinking more expensive wine makes you think it tastes better.

喝更贵的酒会让你认为它的味道更好。

So perhaps, when buying supermarket wine or wine in a restaurant, it may be better telling yourself that the cheaper option is OK!

所以也许在买超市酒或餐厅里的酒的时候，告诉自己更便宜的选项也可以会更好！

I'll drink to that!

我会为它举杯！

But I wonder how that most expensive bottle of wine ever sold at auction tastes.

但是我想知道那个在拍卖上卖出了最高价钱的酒的味道如何。

The one dating back to 1774 that you asked me about.

之前问我的那个追溯到 1774 年的酒。

So you thought it sold for \$20,800, but sorry, Rob, that's too cheap.

所以你认为它的出售价格是 20800 美元，罗伯，这太便宜了。

It was in fact sold for \$120,800. I assume it wasn't drunk.

实际上它卖出了 120800 美元。我想它还没有被喝掉。

I hope not.

希望如此。

Well, I think I'll stick to my plonk for now, Sam.

我想我还是坚持喝廉价劣质酒吧，萨姆。

Plonk was one of our vocabulary words today and describes cheap, poor quality wine.

廉价劣质酒是我们今天的词汇之一，它描述的是便宜的，质量差的酒。

We also mentioned a connoisseur - someone who enjoys a particular thing and knows a lot about it.

我们还提到了品鉴师 —— 喜欢某物并且对它十分了解的人。

A sommelier is someone who serves and gives advice about wine in a restaurant.

侍酒师指的是在餐厅里上酒并针对酒提建议的人。

Sheer is a word used to emphasise the amount of something - or to mean 'nothing but'.

纯粹这个词用来强调某事物的量 —— 或者表示“只不过”。

A palate describes someone's ability to distinguish and appreciate different tastes.

味觉描述的是某个人分辨并欣赏不同味道的能力。

Finally, encode means changes information into something we can use or understand.

最后，解码的意思是把信息变成我们能够使用或理解的东西。

But now we're out of time so 'cheers' everyone.

但是我们没时间跟每个人“干杯”了。

Thanks for listening and goodbye.

感谢收听，再见。

Goodbye.

再见。