

讲电话令人尴尬吗？ Is talking on the phone embarrassing?

Hello, and welcome to 6 Minute English.

大家好，欢迎收听六分钟英语。

I'm Neil.

我是内尔。

And I'm Sam.

我是萨姆。

Sam, do you know Stephen Fry?

萨姆，你认识史蒂芬·弗雷吗？

Not personally, but I know of him.

我不认识他本人，但是我知道他。

Stephen Fry is an English writer and comedian and is well known for being extremely intelligent and very knowledgeable about many things, cultural, historical and linguistic.

史蒂芬·弗雷是一位英国作家兼喜剧演员，并且因极其聪明以及在文化、历史和语言方面博学广知而出名。

To be knowledgeable means 'to know a lot about something'.

博学广知的意思是“对某事十分了解”。

I wish I was half as knowledgeable as he is!

我希望我能有他一半博学广知！

I wish I were a quarter as knowledgeable!

我希望我能有他四分之一的博学广知！

There is still time, Sam!

还来得及，萨姆！

And maybe this week's question will help you become just a little bit more knowledgeable on the topic of the telephone.

也许本周的问题会帮你变得在电话的话题上更博学一些。

The first long distance telephone call was made in 1876. Approximately what was the distance of that call?

第一通长途电话是在1876年被打出的。这通电话的距离大约有多远呢？

Was it A. 10km, B. 15km, or C. 20km?

是A.10公里，B.15公里，还是 C. 20公里呢？

What do you think, Sam?

你知道吗，萨姆？

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So when you say long distance..... ? For the time, yes.

你说的长途是.....? 对那个时候而言，是的。

Remember the telephone was only a baby in 1876. In that case, I'll say approximately 15km.

请记住在1876年的时候，电话才刚刚起步。这样的话，我要选大约15公里。

But that's just a guess-a long distance guess.

但是这只是个猜测——一个长途猜测。

We'll find out if you're right at the end of the programme.

我们会在节目结束的时候知道你是否答对了。

Stephen Fry is also known as a technophile.

史蒂芬·弗雷也是出了名的技术爱好者。

The suffix 'phile' means 'a lover of that thing'.

后缀“phile”的意思是“那件事物的爱好者”。

So a technophile is someone who loves technology.

所以技术爱好者指的是喜爱技术的人。

Fry was a guest on the BBC podcast Word of Mouth and was talking about the technology of communication.

弗雷做客了BBC的播客节目《Word of Mouth》并且谈论了通讯技术的内容。

It seems he's not a fan of the telephone.

他似乎对电话并不感冒。

But why not?

但是为什么呢？

I think the telephone was a really annoying blip in our communications and that's old technology.

我认为电话真的是我们通讯中的一个非常讨厌的变故，而且它属于旧技术。

I mean that's 1880s, 90s.

我指的是它属于19世纪8、90年代。

When you're on the telephone to someone, especially if you're British-you know, that Bernard Shaw thing-oh, you know, the moment one Englishman opens his mouth another Englishman despises him-when you're speaking to someone on the telephone, all the age, class, education, vocabulary all come into play, because it's in real time and it's embarrassing.

当你在跟某人通话是，尤其如果你是英国人——你懂的，就像萧伯纳说的那样——哦，你懂的，当一个英国人开口说话，另一个英国人就会鄙视他——当你正在电话上跟某人说话，所有关于年龄、阶级、教育、词汇的信息都显现出来了，因为它是实时的，而且这很令人尴尬。

I hate being on the telephone to people-especially strangers in shops and things like that because it's embarrassing and awkward.

我讨厌跟人通电话——尤其是商店里的陌生人之类的，因为这很令人尴尬，很奇怪。

So, why doesn't he like the telephone?

那么他为什么不喜欢电话呢？

Well, he uses a quote from the writer George Bernard Shaw.

嗯，他用了作家乔治·萧伯纳的一句名言

It's not the exact quote but the meaning is that as soon as an English person speaks, another English person despises them.

他并不是引用的原话，但是意思就是一个英国人一讲话，另一个英国人就会鄙视他。

To despise someone is a very strong emotion and it means 'to really hate someone'.

鄙视某人是一种强烈的情感，意思是“真的很讨厌某人”。

So, what is it about the English person's voice that leads others to despise them?

所以英国人的声音是怎么会导致其他人鄙视他们的呢？

Stephen Fry goes on to explain that there is a lot of information about someone that people get from their voice.

史蒂芬·弗雷继续解释说人们可以从一个人的声音中获得关于他的许多信息。

You can make a judgment about someone's age, level of education and class from the way that they speak and the vocabulary they use.

你可以根据人说话的方式和使用的词汇对某个人的年龄、教育程度和来自于那个阶层做出评判。

Class refers to your economic and social position in a society.

阶级指的是你在某社会中的经济和社会地位。

In Britain, we talk about three classes: upper class, middle class and working class.

在英国，我们谈论的是三个阶层：上流社会、中产阶级和工人阶级。

The family into which you are born dictates your class.

你出生的那个家庭决定了你所属的阶层。

These used to be a lot more important in British society, but there are still different prejudices and negative feelings related to the relationship between the classes.

这些曾经在英国社会中比现在要重要得多，但是仍然有各偏见以及跟不同阶层之间关系相关的负面情绪。

Exactly, so hearing someone's voice on the telephone might make you think something negative about someone based on very old-fashioned ideas of class.

确实，所以在电话上听到某人的声音可能会让你基于非常陈旧的阶级观念而对那个人产生负面的想法。

What makes it worse is that these conversations happen in real time.

更糟糕的是这些对话是实时发生的。

This means they are 'happening live', 'not recorded', so you have no time to really think about it.

这意味着它们“现场发生”，“不是录下来的”，所以你没有时间去真的考虑它。

So he may be a technophile, but he's not a fan of the phone!

所以他也许是一个技术爱好者，但是他对电话不感冒！

Indeed.

确实。

He called it a blip, which is a word for when something is not quite right-when there is a fault or a mistake which is usually not long lasting.

他把电话称为变故，当某事不太对劲的时候会用到这个词——当出现一个往往不会持续太久的错误的时候，

So do you think he's right?

你认为他说得对吗？

Well, actually, I don't like to talk to strangers on the phone very much myself, but that's just me.

嗯，事实上我自己不是很喜欢跟陌生人讲电话，但是这只是我的观点。

But I do think that although the class divisions in British society are much less obvious and much less important than in the past, we still do make judgements about people based on how they speak and those judgements can often be completely false.

但是我确实认为尽管英国社会的阶级分化相比于过去已经不那么明显了，不那么重要了，但是我们还是会基于人们说话的方式对他们做出评判，而这些评判常常很可能是完全错误的。

Right, nearly time to review our vocabulary, but first, let's have the answer to today's question.

好的，是时候回顾我们的词汇了，但是首先，我们来揭晓今天问题的答案吧。

The first long distance telephone call was made in 1876. Approximately what was the distance of that call?

第一通长途电话是在1876年被打出的。这通电话的距离大约有多远呢？

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What did you think, Sam?

你怎么看，萨姆？

I guessed 15km.

我猜的是15公里。

But it was just a guess.

但这只是一个猜想。

Well, sadly, on this occasion it was not a correct guess.

嗯，不幸的是，这一题中它并不是一个正确的猜想。

The correct answer is approximately 10km or 6 miles.

正确的答案是大约10公里，或者是6英里。

Congratulations if you go that right.

如果你们答对了，那么祝贺你们。

Now on with the vocabulary.

现在继续我们的词汇。

We started with the adjective knowledgeable, which means 'knowing a lot about something'.

我们先从形容词博学广知的，意思是“知道关于某事的很多东西”。

A technophile is someone who loves technology.

技术爱好者指的是喜爱技术的人。

To despise someone is to hate someone strongly.

鄙视某人指的是非常讨厌某人。

Class refers to a group in society you are said to belong to from your birth.

阶级指的是你从出生开始就被告知所处的社会群体。

Certain stereotypes are often attached to different classes to do with intelligence and education, for example.

不同的阶级往往会被赋予特定的刻板印象，例如会跟智力和教育有关。

In real time is an expression that means 'happening live, without any pauses or breaks'.

实时的这个表达的意思是“现场发生的，没有任何停顿或中断”。

So for example, you aren't listening to this programme in real time.

所以举个例子，你们没有在实时收听这个节目。

Well, I am.

嗯，我我就在实时听呀。

Well, of course, you are, Neil, because you are here with me as we are recording.

嗯，当然了，确实，内尔，因为你在这里跟我一起录制节目。

But if you're listening to the podcast, it's no longer real time.

但是如果你听的是播客，那么就不再是实时的了

It's been recorded and edited.

它经过了录制和剪辑。

And we had one other word, didn't we?

我们还有一个词，对吗？

Yes, a blip, which is a temporary fault, or mistake.

是的，变故，指的是暂时性的错误。

Well, that's all we've got for this programme.

好的，这就是本期节目的所有内容。

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Thank you for joining us and goodbye!

感谢你的收听，再见！

Bye!

再见！