

# 我们能信任智能语音助手吗？ Can we trust a smart speaker?

Hello and welcome to 6 Minute English. I'm Dan.

大家好，欢迎收听六分钟英语，我是丹。

And I'm Rob.

我是罗伯。

So Dan, what's... Oh, sorry.

那么，丹.....哦，不好意思。

Oh, it's my wife.

哦，是我妻子。

Err...hang on...

额.....等等.....

You didn't answer!

你没接电话！

Don't take this personally, Dan, but I'm not exactly crazy about someone eavesdropping on my phone call.

我没有针对你，丹，但是我不是很喜欢有人偷听我的电话。

If you eavesdrop on something, you secretly listen to someone's conversation.

如果你偷听某事，那么你秘密地听某人的对话。

Some things are private, you know?

有些事是很私人的，知道吗？

Oh! Of course! I totally understand.

哦！当然！我完全理解。

One quick question for you though...do you have a smart speaker?

不过要问你一个快问快答的问题.....你有智能语音助手吗？

You know, like the Google Assistant, Amazon's Alexa or Apple's Siri.

你知道的，就像谷歌助手，亚马逊的Alexa或苹果的Siri。

Oh sure, yes, I've got one! It's great!

哦，当然，是的，我有一个。它很棒！

I can ask it all sorts of questions, it tells me about the news and weather, it plays music when I want...it does all sorts!

我可以问它各种问题，它会告诉我新闻和天气，它会在我想听音乐的时候播放音乐.....它无所不能！

You just give it a voice command and it does what you want!

## 添加的词汇

### scheme

英:/ski:m/ 美:/ski:m/

n. 计划；组合；体制；诡计 vi. 搞阴谋；拟订计划



扫码APP内查看  
每日英语听力

你只需要给它一个语音指令，它就会按照你的意愿做了！

**So it can hear you, can it?**

所以它能够听到你的声音，不是吗？

**Of course! How else can you give it a voice command?**

当然！不然你还能怎么给它语音指令呢？

**All the time?**

一直都这样吗？

**Well, I assume so.**

嗯，我想是的。

**So how do you know it's not eavesdropping on you?**

所以你怎么知道它没有在偷听你呢？

**Well, I.. . oh... I see.**

嗯，我.....哦.....我知道了。

**I hadn't thought of that.**

我还没想过这个问题。

**Well, that's our topic for this 6 Minute English.**

这就是本期六分钟英语的话题。

**How safe is your smart speaker?**

你的智能音箱有多安全？

**However, before that, here's our quiz question.**

但是在那之前，是我们的小问答。

**By what percentage has the number of smart speakers used in US households increased from December 2017 to December 2018?**

从2017年12月到2018年12月，美国家庭使用智能语音助手的百分比上升了多少？

**Is it a) around 40%, b) around 60%, or c) around 80%?**

是 A. 大约40%，大约60%，还是 C. 大约80%？

**Oh, well, I know they are very popular, even in my household.**

哦，嗯，我知道它们很受欢迎，甚至在我家也很受欢迎。

**So I'm going to go for c) around 80%.**

所以我要选 C. 大约80%。

**We'll find out if you're right later in the programme.**

我们会在稍后的节目中知道你是否回答正确。

**So, smart speakers and privacy!**

那么，来说说智能音箱和隐私吧！

**Florian Schaub is an assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Information.**

弗洛里安·绍布是密歇根大学信息学院的一名助理教授。

Here he is speaking on the BBC World Service programme The Why Factor about smart speakers.

下面是他在BBC世界服务栏目《The Why Factor》中谈论智能音箱。

What does he say people are introducing into their homes?

他说人们正在向自己的家庭引入什么？

You're basically introducing a listening bug in your home, in your most intimate space.

基本上你在往你的家里，你最私密的空间里放入窃听器。

While the companies say they are only actively listening to what's going on in your home when they hear the keyword, the microphone is still on the whole time in order to be able to detect that keyword.

尽管那些公司说他们只会在听到关键词的时候主动听取你家里发生的事情，但是麦克风始终都是开启的以便于能够探测到关键词。

We don't know to what extent companies are co-operating with the government or to what extent the government might try to circumvent company security mechanisms in order to then be able to listen to what you're doing.

我们不知道公司们跟政府合作的程度，或政府可能从多大程度上努力绕过公司的安保机制来听取你在做什么。

So what did he say people are introducing, Rob?

所以他说人们在引入什么，罗伯？

He basically said we're introducing a listening bug.

基本上他说的是我们在引入一个窃听器。

Now, a bug is a small electronic device used for secretly listening to conversations.

这里bug指的是很小的被用来秘密听取对话的电子设备。

Much like a spy would use.

很像间谍会使用的东西。

Yes, and he mentioned it was in our most intimate space!

是的，他提到它被用于我们最私密的空间。

Intimate means 'private and personal'.

私密的指的是“私人的，隐私的”。

Well, I can't think of anywhere more intimate than my home.

嗯，我想不出有任何比我的家还私密的地方。

Indeed! He also said that the smart speaker's microphone is on the whole time—even though the companies insist that they're only actively listening when the keyword is said.

确实！他还说智能音箱的麦克风一直开启——即使那些公司坚称它们只会在人们说出关键词的时候才会主动听取。

Yes, he suggested that we can't know how far a company might be co-operating with a government to eavesdrop on people.

是的，他暗示说我们不知道某个公司跟政府合作窃听人民的程度。

Or whether a government might be circumventing a smart speaker's security and listening in anyway without the company's or owner's permission!

或者某个政府是否可能在绕过智能音箱的安保，并且在没有获得公司或主人的允许下听取信息。

Circumvent means 'cleverly bypass or go around'.

绕过指的是“巧妙地经过或绕开”。

So if all this eavesdropping is possible, why are smart speakers so popular?

所以如果这些偷听都是可能的，那智能音箱为什么能如此受欢迎呢？

Good question!

好问题！

And here's Florian Schaub again with an answer.

下面再来听弗洛里安·绍布给我们带来的答案。

He conducted a study on people's attitudes to privacy when it came to smart speakers.

他就人们在面对智能语音助手时对隐私的态度进行了一项研究。

How do people feel about having a smart speaker that could eavesdrop on them?

人们是如何看待拥有一台可能会窃听他们的智能语音助手的？

What we often saw is people just being resigned to 'this is the trade-off they have to make' if they want to enjoy the convenience that a smart speaker provides to them.

我们经常看到的是人们会勉强接受“这是他们必须要付出的代价”，如果他们想要享受智能语音助手带来的便利的话，的说法。

He said that people are resigned to the privacy trade-off.

他说人们勉强接受了隐私的代价。

If you are resigned to something, you accept something unpleasant that can't be changed.

如果你勉强接受某事，那么你接受不能改变的不好的事情。

Yes, and a trade-off is a compromise.

是的，代价指的是让步。

You accept something bad to also receive something good.

你接受了不好的事情，同时是为了获得好的东西。

So people accept that a smart speaker gives them advantages, even though there could be downsides?

所以人们接受智能语音助手给他们带来的好处，即使可能会有缺点？

Yes. In the grand **scheme** of things, the data that these devices hear is probably not that significant considering all the data companies have about us already anyway!

是的。从大局来看，考虑到数据公司已经掌握到的我们的信息，这些设备听到的这些数据可能并没有那么重要！

So can I have the answer to the quiz then?

那么我能知道问题的答案了吗？

Of course! Earlier I asked by what percentage the number of smart speakers used in US households increased from December 2017 to December 2018?

当然！之前我问你从2017年12月到2018年12月，美国家庭使用智能语音助手的百分比上升了多少？

Was it a) around 40%, b) around 60%, or c) around 80%?

是 A. 大约40%，大约60%，还是 C. 大约80%？

What did you say, Rob?

你说的什么，罗伯？

I said c) around 80%.

我说的是 C. 大约80%。

And you are right.

你答对了。

The answer is around 80%-from 66 million in December 2017 to 118 million in December 2018, and around ten million people in the UK now use one too!

答案是大约80%——从2017年12月的6600万上升至2018年12月的1亿1800万，并且英国大约有1000万人也在使用智能语音助手！

I guess they're really not worried about eavesdropping.

我想他们并不担心偷听的问题。

Nice slide into the vocabulary there, Dan.

你很好地过度到了我们的词汇，丹。

If someone eavesdrops on you, it means they secretly listen to your conversation.

如果某人偷听你，这意味着他们秘密地听取你的对话。

They could be eavesdropping on you through a bug, which is a small electronic device used to secretly listen to conversations.

他们可能通过一个窃听器偷听你，窃听器是一个被用来秘密听取对话的小型电子设备。

Yes, they may have bugged your most intimate, or private and personal, spaces.

是的，它们可能已经窃听了你最私密，或隐私和私人的空间。

Next we had circumvent.

接下来我们说到了绕过。

If you circumvent something, such as security, you cleverly bypass it or go around it.

如果你绕过某事，比如说安保，那么你聪明的经过它或绕开它。

Then we had resigned.

然后我们说到了勉强接受。

If you are resigned to something, it means you accept something unpleasant that can't be changed.

如果你勉强接受某事，这意味着你接受无法改变的不好的事情。

And lastly, we had trade-off.

最后我们说到了代价。

A trade-off is a compromise.

代价指的是让步。

You get something good, but you also get something bad.

你得到了好的东西，但是你也得到了不好的东西。

Right, like 6 Minute English!

是的，就像六分钟英语！

A great discussion and vocabulary, but the trade-off is it only lasts six minutes!

很棒的讨论和词汇，但是代价是它只有六分钟！

Which is just about now, actually-time to go.

就是现在，该结束了。

So until next time, find us all over the place online and on social media.

那么下期节目之前，请在所有的在线平台和社交媒体上找到我们。

Just search for BBC Learning English.

只需要搜索BBC学习英语。

Bye for now.

再见啦。

Goodbye!

再见！

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