

表情符号可以使交流更有效吗？ Do emojis make language better?

Hello. This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English. I'm Sam. And I'm Neil.

大家好。这里是 BBC 学习英语栏目的六分钟英语。我是萨姆。我是尼尔。

It's nice to see you, Neil, [smiley face], [high five], [fist bump]!

很高兴见到你，尼尔，[笑脸]，[击掌]，[碰拳头]！

What's this, Sam? Are you saying hello with emojis? Yes, I am!

这是什么，萨姆？你在用表情符号打招呼吗？对！

In this programme, we're entering the world of emojis - the small characters people use to show emotions in texts and emails.

在本期节目中，我们将了解表情符号，即人们在短信和电子邮件中用来表达情感的小字符。

Do you have a favourite emoji, Neil?

尼尔，你有最喜欢的表情符号吗？

Mine's the [crying tears of laughter] emoji.

我最喜欢[笑哭]。

I like the [smiling face with hearts] one, and with over three thousand emojis to choose from, there's one for every occasion.

我喜欢[带心的笑脸]。总共有3000多个表情可供选择，不怕找不到合适的。

It's one of the reasons why emojis have become so popular over the last 20 years. They let people put back some of the human emotion that's missing in written texts and emails.

这就是表情符号在过去20年里变得如此流行的原因之一，人们可以通过表情符号表达书面短信和电子邮件中缺失的人类情感。

We'll be finding out more about emojis, and learning some related vocabulary, soon. But first I have a question for you, Neil.

我们将继续探讨表情符号，并学习一些相关的词汇，但首先我有个问题要问你，尼尔。

It's about the word 'emoji' itself, which was invented in 1999 in Japan for the first internet-enabled mobile phones.

是关于“emoji”这个词本身的，这个词是1999年日本发明的，用来指代第一部可以上网的手机。

The name, 'emoji', comes from the combination two Japanese words, but which words?

“emoji”这个词是由两个日语单词组合而成的，但是是哪两个单词呢？

Is the word 'emoji' a combination of: a) face and emotion? b) picture and character? or c) message and image?

是 a) 脸和情绪 b) 图片和人物？还是 c) 信息和形象？

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I'll say it's a) face and emotion. OK, Neil.

我选 a) 脸和情绪。好的，尼尔。

We'll find out if your answer gets a [thumbs up] at the end of the programme.

在节目最后，我们将看看你的答案能否得到一个[点赞]。

When we talk with someone face to face, we use physical gestures like smiling, laughing or nodding to show the other person how we feel.

当我们与某人面对面交谈时，我们会用微笑、大笑或点头等肢体动作来向对方展示我们的感受。

But these gestures get lost in written communication.

但在书面交流中没有这些肢体语言。

That's where emojis come in - they add feeling and emotion to online messages.

这就是表情符号的用武之地。它们给网上的消息增添了感觉和情绪。

But not everyone is an emoji fan.

但并不是每个人都喜欢表情符号。

Some people believe that carefully chosen words are the best way of expressing yourself, and that emojis are affecting our ability to put feelings into words.

一些人认为，细心措辞是表达自我的最佳方式，表情符号正在影响我们将情感融入文字中的能力。

Here's cognitive linguist, Professor Vyv Evans, author of a book about the language of emojis, explaining more to BBC Radio 4's, Word of Mouth.

认知语言学家维夫·埃文斯教授写了一本关于表情符号语言的书，她在BBC4台的《口口相传》节目中解释了更多内容。

A lot of people, you know, language-mavens, the grammar police and so on, or say... have this sort of jaundiced, prejudiced view about emoji that it's taking us back to the dark ages of illiteracy, bring back Shakespeare, and stick to the language of Shakespeare and all the rest of it.

许多人，比如语言专家，语法警察等等，对表情符号有偏见，说它把我们带回了文盲的黑暗时代，使莎士比亚的语言风格死灰复燃。

But that fundamentally misunderstands the nature of communication.

但这些人从根本上误解了沟通的本质。

Emoji is important.

表情符号很重要。

In fact, it makes us more effective communicators in the digital age.

事实上，它让我们在数字时代能更有效地沟通。

Vyv Evans describes people who don't approve of emojis as the grammar police - a slang term referring to people who want to see formal language and grammar - what they call 'correct' English - written online.

维夫·埃文斯称那些不喜欢表情符号的人为语法警察“grammar police”是一个俚语，指的是那些在网上推崇正式语言和语法的人。他们认为这才是正确的英语。

The grammar police criticise modern styles of English and like to correct other people's mistakes in spelling and grammar.

语法警察批评现代英语风格，喜欢纠正别人在拼写和语法上的错误。

According to Professor Evans, the grammar police have a jaundiced view of emojis - they only see the negative side of them because of their own ideas and experiences.

根据埃文斯教授的说法，语法警察对表情符号有偏见，即基于自己的想法和经历，只看到表情符号的消极影响。

What's more, they think emojis are taking us back to the dark ages of illiteracy, when most people couldn't read or write.

而且，他们认为表情符号正在把我们带回文盲的黑暗时代，当时大多数人都不会读或写。

If someone refers to the dark ages, they mean a past time in history considered uncivilised, and characterised by ignorance.

“dark ages”指的是历史上被认为是不文明的、以无知为特征的历史时代。

But luckily for emoji fans, the grammar police are in the minority.

但对喜欢表情符号的人来说，幸运的是，语法警察是少数。

Over 6 billion emoji messages are sent around the world every day, with about 70 percent containing emotion-based characters like [smiley face] and [blowing kisses].

每天世界各地的人们要发送超过60亿条表情符号，其中约70%包含[笑脸]和[飞吻]等表达情感的符号。

According to Professor Evans, emoji users are more expressive, more effective communicators.

埃文斯教授的说，表情符号的使用者更善于表达，交流更有效。

So, could that be an advantage for someone looking for love online?

那么，对于在网上寻找爱情的人来说，这会是一种优势吗？

That's what Michael Rosen, presenter of BBC Radio 4's, Word of Mouth, wanted to find out.

这正是BBC广播四台的主持人迈克尔·罗森想要知道的。

Is it possible to start a relationship using emoji?

用表情符号可以开始一段恋情吗？

Well, there is research that's been conducted by Match.com, the American-based dating site, and what they've found, based on their research, is that the people that use more emojis tend to be luckier in love, they have more success in terms of dating.

美国的姻缘网已经进行了一项研究。研究发现，使用表情符号越多的人在恋爱中往往越幸运，在约会方面也更成功。

In the digital age, using emoji makes us more effective communicators.

在数字时代，使用表情符号可以使我们更有效地交流。

more expressive ... more expressive, we're better able to express our emotional selves, and people therefore it stands to reason, if you use more emojis you're gonna get more dates!

使我们更善于表达。对，使我们能够更好地表达自己的感情。因此这似乎是有道理的，即你使用表情符号越频繁，约会机会越多！

For people who are dating, or starting a romantic relationship with someone, it seems that using emojis helps them be lucky in love, an expression meaning lucky in finding a romantic partner.

对于正在恋爱的人来说，使用表情符号似乎可以使他们在爱情中幸运一些，即，可以幸运地找到一个伴侣。

Emojis let us show our true personality, so, Professor Evans says, it stands to reason - in other words, it seems likely to be true - that emoji users get more dates.

表情符号能让我们展示自己的真实性格，所以，埃文斯教授说，使用表情符号的人约会次数更多，这是有道理的，换句话说，这似乎是真的。

And that's a big [thumbs up] from me!

[点赞]!

What about your question, Sam?

那你的问题呢，萨姆？

Did my answer get a [thumbs up] too?

你也要给我[点赞]吗？

In my question, I asked you which words combine to make up the Japanese word, 'emoji'.

我问你哪些词组合在一起成了日语单词“emoji”。

I guessed it was a) face and emotion.

我猜是 a) 脸和情绪。

Which was [sad face] the wrong answer, I'm afraid.

[哭脸]恐怕这是个错误的答案。

In fact, 'emoji' combines the words for 'picture' and 'character' in Japanese.

其实，“emoji”在包含了日语的“图片”和“字符”两个词。

OK, let's recap the vocabulary we've learnt about emojis, starting with the grammar police, people who want correct spelling and grammar online, and criticise those who don't.

好了，让我们回顾一下本期词汇，从“grammar police”开始，它指的是那些在网上指正别人拼写和语法的人，而且他们批评那些拼写错误、语法错误的人。

If you have a jaundiced view of something, you only see the negative side because of your own bad experience with it.

如果你对某物有“a jaundiced view”，意为你基于自己不好的经历只能看到消极的一面。

The dark ages describes a period in history characterised by ignorance and a lack of progress.

“the dark ages”指的是历史上一段无知、落后的时期。

If you are dating someone, you are spending time with them romantically, which means you are lucky in love, an expression meaning lucky in finding a romantic partner.

“date someone”，意为和某人一起享受浪漫时光，这意味着你“be lucky in love”，意思是你很幸运，找到一个伴侣。

And finally, the phrase it stands to reason means that something seems likely to be true, or it makes sense.

最后，短语“it stands to reason”意为，某事似乎是真的，或者是有道理的。

Once again, our six minutes are up.

我们的六分钟又到了。

Bye for now! Bye!

再见了！再见！
