Podcast and Radio

Recently, I have downloaded several audio programmes and transcripts from the website of BBC Learning English. When I was a student in middle school, I had been listening to English on the radio before I had access to the Internet. It was also BBC that I used to listen to. The hosts spoke both English and Mandarin fluently explaining the meaning of the words and how to use them. What interested me is that they also talked about daily life in Western countries where most households own at least one car and children could play football every day. It is impressive for a boy who lived in a poor village in China in the 1990s.

I was so excited not only because I could learn English but also because I had a connection to the outside world where people speak different languages and live different lives. That is the reason I keep learning English, even though I still can’t speak fluent English or write coherent sentences and brilliant essays. Perhaps Chinese students were taught the wrong way of learning English. Both their spoken and written English are inferior to their listening and reading.

What to do next is clear.

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I recently downloaded several audio programs and transcripts from the BBC Learning English website. When I was in middle school, I listened to English on the radio before I had access to the internet. Back then, I listened to BBC and was impressed by the hosts who spoke both English and Mandarin fluently, explaining the meaning of words and how to use them. They also talked about daily life in Western countries where most households owned at least one car and children could play football every day. This was fascinating for a boy who lived in a poor village in China during the 1990s.

I was excited because I could learn English and connect with the outside world where people speak different languages and live different lives. This is why I continue to learn English even though I can’t yet speak fluently or write well. Perhaps Chinese students are taught the wrong way to learn English, resulting in inferior written and spoken English skills. It is clear that the next step is to continue learning and practising English, both spoken and written.