

That's Not Funny 一点也不好笑 — 2013 年 5 月 14 日

We are so glad that you are here. Welcome once again. I am your friend Mark.

And I am Guo Wen-Jie.

On our last program, we talked about: Laughter.

上回节目，我们谈到欢笑。

And we are going to continue that topic today.

今天我们继续谈，“笑”这个主题。

Wen-Jie, have you heard of this phrase? "A cheerful heart is good medicine."

A cheerful heart 喜乐的心 is good medicine. 乃是良药 This is so true.

Right. With a cheerful heart and a joyful attitude, we can truly laugh and enjoy life.

有一颗喜乐的心，我们能够真正开怀的笑。

You don't need a doctor to prescribe this medicine.

你不需要医生开这个处方，Because it's free. 因为是免费的。

Yes. Laughter relieves tension and anxiety in our lives.

欢笑帮助我们解除紧张和烦忧

And it actually helps us to live longer.

它也使我们活得长寿。

So Wen-Jie, don't hold back. If you are happy and feel like laughing, let it go!

马可希望我不要害羞。心里若是快乐，就笑出来吧。 All right. I need more practice and need to do it more often.

Haha! We all do.

Fun With Idioms 趣味成语

Enjoy one's company 喜欢有人做伴。

I enjoy your company very much. 我喜欢你在我身。

Tell Jokes 讲笑话

He knows how to tell jokes and make me laugh. 他知道怎么说笑话，逗我笑。

Make a mistake 犯了错误。

I have made a terrible mistake. 我犯了一个大错误。

Laugh at someone

笑某人，或有取笑人的意思。

Another way to say it is: Don't make fun of others

换个方式说，不要取笑他人。 Don't make fun of others.

That's Not Funny. 这可不好笑，不是开玩笑的事。

Do you really think this is funny? It's not funny at all. 你认为这好笑吗？一点都不。

Laugh something off or Laugh it off 对某事一笑置之，不认真对待。
Don't laugh it off and think it's nothing. 不要就一笑置之，认为这没什么。

Let's review what we have taught 来复习刚才我所谈到的。: Tell jokes,
Make a mistake, Laugh at someone, Make fun of others, That's not funny,
Laugh something off

Laughing is a very natural way of showing emotions when we are happy.

当我们开心时，我们很自然会用笑来表达情绪。

But in a cross-cultural situation, we need to be aware of the meaning and impact laughing can have on some one.

在文化不同的情况下，我们要明白人们对笑的含意，了解有不同。

Coming up next, Wen-Jie you are going to talk with our team member Eric, right?

Yes. 接下来我来访问 Eric 老师。他是一位美国人，但是曾多年在美国的华人机构里工作过。Eric has worked in a Chinese setting for many years.

So, he understands the cultural difference between western and eastern world.

Right. 他对东西方的文化，都有了解。

All right. So, stay tuned to our feature: A Day in the Life.

请听接下的，访谈美人栏目。

A Day In The Life Of 美人访谈

Interview: "Humor" - Eric

I: Welcome to "A Day in the Life". Today my guest is Eric. Today we are going to talk about laughter. Why are you choosing this topic?为什么谈幽默这主题？

E: * Because laughter is universal. 幽默是普世性的 Everybody in the world laughs and loves to laugh. When we get together with our friends, that's something that we look forward to, to laugh together and to enjoy each other's company. 与朋友相聚一起开怀大笑，我们都期待。

I: What do you laugh about? 笑什么呢？

E: * My favorite thing is I love to watch comedy, much more so than tragedies or dramas. Funny movie is great. Just laughing and laughing.我喜欢喜剧，诙谐的影片，好过看悲剧。

- I: You know Chinese culture and you know American culture. Americans seem to like to laugh when they are getting together. Is that right? 美国文化，美国人聚在一起，总是喜欢笑，是吧？
- E: * Yea. In America you can laugh at anything. 可以任何事物都幽默他一番。 Satire is very popular in America, so you can make fun of anything. 讽刺的内容也包含各样主题。 People in government, political figures, celebrities, movie stars. It seems like there is almost no limit to the things you can joke and laugh about. 开政治人物，明星，名人的玩笑。开玩笑可以包含各样的题材。
- I: So making jokes seem to be very common in the states. Is there a time that it is not proper to laugh? 是否有时候，是不该笑呢？欢笑，是吧？
- E: * Definitely! This can be an area that you can get into big trouble. 有的，若不小心会惹了大麻烦。 Let's say you have just arrived in the United States, from China, or Taiwan. You get a part-time job from a restaurant, and you are a student. 举例说，有华人学生在美国餐馆打工。 One day you are working and you are taking order from somebody sitting at the table. 你做服务员，帮顾客点菜送菜。 You bring over this tray of food. At the last step before you reach the table, you stumble and drop the tray of food. Maybe some crumbs fall on the person sitting there. 结果端菜到客人前时，一不小心弄翻了，碎渣落在客人身上。 Of course, you drop it and you laugh. 你弄翻了食物，然后却笑了。
- I: So you are saying that that's not proper? 这不对吗？
- E: * Now you are in big trouble, because spilling the food was not that big of a deal. However, you laughed, and so that person will be very angry. "Why didn't you take it seriously? Why do you just laugh at it?" 倒翻食物不是大问题，但是你笑出来，让客人很生气，为什么你没有认真严肃对待这事，却笑呢？
- I: We will laugh because we are laughing at our own mistakes to hide our embarrassment, right? 笑，乃因为要掩饰我们的错误和难堪啊。
- E: * Yea. Concealing our embarrassment is a purpose of laughter in Chinese culture, and it's very normal. 在华人文化，很自然会以笑来掩盖难堪情况。 But in Western culture, that is not done. 但在西方文化，这是不合宜的。 Let's say you had just done that in a restaurant, the customer or the guest will most likely go to the manager of the restaurant and complain that they laughed it off. 客人会对经理埋怨你的不是。 This is an expression in American culture – to laugh something off. It means not to take it seriously, not to take responsibility in something and just joke about it as if it were nothing. 这个成语就是不认真对待，一笑置之。

- I: Wow. So we have to be really careful with the cultural issues and also how to interpret it. It's really sensitive, right? 要小心文化差异和解读笑的含意。
- E: * Yea. There is a way to handle this though. When you make a mistake in western culture, the best thing to do is not to laugh of course, but then apologize profusely. 在西方的正确处理方式，是连连说对不起。
- I: That's very interesting. I think I learn a big cultural lesson today. I better watch out, not laugh too often, I suppose! 不能随便笑。
- E: * I think when you are with friends, go ahead and laugh. But maybe at work or at school, be careful about laughing. 与朋友一起没问题，但工作和学校单位里，则要注意。
- I: Thank you so much for coming here and to share
- E: Laughter! (laughs)
- I: Yes! Laughter.

Wen-Jie, I learned something about the Chinese culture today.

Great. I also learned much about how Americans think. 马可和我都对彼此的文化有更进一步的了解了。

Dear Listener friend, we hope you learn something from us today.

希望你今天在这儿有好的学习。

You can go online to our website to review today's lesson.

欢迎你上网来复习和学习更多内容。

And don't forget to become a fan on our sina blog and twitter.

也别忘了来关注我们的博客和微薄。

Until next time, we are your friends in English World. I am Mark.

And I am Guo Wen-Jie.

Zai-Jian and God Bless You.