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名人经典妙语

面对记者已是名女人生活的一部分了，她们也总有应付记者的妙笈，有些简单的妙语知珠也已成为经典了。

林方伟

When asked what she looked forward to in her new life without her diminutive ex-husband, Nicole Kidman said: "Wearing high heels again."

慧问起离开矮小的前夫后，妮可·基曼期待什么，她说：“我可以再穿我的高跟鞋了。”

When asked what she liked to wear to bed, Marilyn Monroe said: "Nothing but a few drops of Chanel No 5."

被问起她最爱穿什么衣服睡觉，玛丽莲·梦露说：“我就只穿几滴香奈儿5号香水。”

When asked how she felt about being the first woman opposition MP since 1963, Workers' Party chairman Sylvia Lim retorts: "So what if I am male or female, it doesn't make a difference."

被问起身为国会1963年以来首位反对党（幸歧区）女议员有什么感想时，工人党中央主席林慕莲说：“我就是男人或女人又怎样？这些都不重要。”

被问如果儿子长大后承认是同性恋的话，小S笑言：“如果有一天我儿子跟我说他是gay，我会跟他说，没关系，妈妈把你送给康永叔叔！”（康永是台湾已出柜的艺人）

When asked how she would feel if her son were to come out to her, Dee Hsu said: "If one day my son were to tell me he is gay, I would tell him, it's ok son, mom will just give you away to Uncle Kang Yong." (Taipei Kang Yong, Hsu's famous co-host is openly gay)

1. Now what time is it? X
Could you tell me the time, please? ✓

For a request, it is best to use "Could you" and "please" - these expressions make it much more polite. Furthermore, the English equivalent has no verb in it, and it is important for every sentence to have a verb. The standard English equivalent has both a subject "you" and a main verb "tell", so it is a 95% more complete.

提出请求时，最好是用"Could you"和"please"等有礼貌的字眼。另外，美式英语的说法没有动词，每个句子都有动词是很重要的。标准的美语句子里，同时有主语"you"和动词"tell"，所以比较完整。

2. You ask me? ask who? X
I'm sorry, I don't know. ✓

The English sentence seems to be ridiculing the other person, suggesting that the question is inappropriately targeted. It is probably not a good idea to ridicule people. If you do not know the answer to something, just say so. Furthermore, it is always helpful to say "I'm sorry", in order to be more polite.

美式英语的句子似乎有嘲弄对方的意思，暗示对方问错人了。这样不太好，如果你不知道答案，就直接说好了。另外，加上"I'm sorry"，会显得更有礼貌。

皱脸名犬

原产中国的一种小型 Lap dog，英语名 pug，音译中译名：巴儿狗，又称狮子狗，体型矮胖，脑袋被压扁了，尾巴贴在背向上卷，毛光滑，眼睛、毛色漆黑或褐色，此犬类似样子像 bulldog，但并不直接关系。

有人说此犬为狮子狗 (Pekingese) 的短毛型，此说原难以成立，但是以说明 pug 也是相当古老的犬种。

一说早在千年之前，西藏寺院中即有此犬，后来传入中国，16世纪中荷兰人带此犬进英国，名之为荷兰狗 (Dutch dog)。当时此犬在贵族社会中极为珍贵，为数亦多。后来一时衰微，到19世纪末，上述社会成立 Pug Club，饲养者渐渐增加。英国于1885年有此犬的记录。

Pug之名，一说原来自的意大利产的小型 mastiff (厚毛加皱的獾犬)，故名 pug。由于此獾狗脸也像被压扁了的那和狗，因此人们把这种狗叫作 pugdog，久而久之就省去 dog，单称 pug。

另一说 pug 源于拉丁语 pugna，是拳击之意，以拳击脸，成了压扁了脸的 dog 了。

一个人的鼻子长得扁扁的，是所谓塌鼻子，像被打了一拳变扁了。这种塌鼻子叫 pug nose，狮子狗鼻也。

由于此狗可爱，成为宠物的电子等的宠物也 pug。英国的小火车头为 pug，管家仆役也可以叫作 pug，都有亲切之意。

**SPEAK
GOOD
ENGLISH**

《语文天空》
与你一起
讲正确英语

3.
Die die must finish. x
We must finish this urgently. ✓

"Die die" is a Singlish expression and would not be understood by people from outside of Singapore. If you want to use an exclamation, probably "oh no!" would be understood. Furthermore, it is important for the sentence to have a subject, so the standard English equivalent has "we".

"Die die" 是新式英语，外国人听不懂。如果要感叹句，用"oh no!"大概就足以让人明白。此外，句子应该有主语，标准的英语句子里便有"we"。

4.
This is my one. x
This is mine. ✓

In standard English, we usually contract "my one" into "mine". Regular use of "one" seems to be very common in Singlish, but it is used less often in standard English.

Note that in standard English, we have a different possessive pronoun depending on whether there is a noun after it or not, so we say "This is my book" (with a following noun) but "This is mine" (with no following noun). Similarly we say "This is your book" but "This is yours", and "This is her book" but "This is hers". The only pronoun which is the same, regardless of whether there is a noun after it or not, is "his", so we say "This is his book" and "This is his".

使用标准英语时，我们通常把"my one" 缩短为"mine"。"One" 在新式英语里常听到，在标准英语里则较少用。

使用标准英语时，根据代词后有没有名词而定，我们会使用不同的物主代词。所以我们说"This is my book" (之后有名词) 或者说"This is mine" (之后没有名词)。依此类推，我们说"This is your book" 或者"This is yours", "This is her book" 或者"This is hers"。不论之后有没有名词，唯一不变的代词是"his"，所以我们说"This is his book" 或者"This is his"。

讲正确英语更多详情请上网：
www.goodenglish.org.sg

我们把自己定位为一个多元化的国家，
要符合这个称号，英文是必须掌握的语文。
——本地歌后孙燕姿

孙燕姿



讲正确英语 更清楚表达自我

- 你认为新加坡讲或写标准英语重要吗？为什么？**
能够以任何语言清楚地表达自我是很重要的。我认为这不只是因为我们是新加坡人，大家都应该掌握良好的英文水准，尤其我们把自己定位为一个多元化的国家，要符合这个称号，英文是必须掌握的语文。
- 你会不会觉得新加坡人不努力讲标准英语和写标准英文？**
我觉得我们看不到这个需要时，就不会重视。
- 在现实生活中，你有没有遇到过因为没有使用标准英语，而被误会或使别人不了解的情形？**
有。例如，我会说"Can you on the lights" (请开灯) 而漏了"switch"。我的英国朋友会因此而感到困扰，我也因此留意到这个文法上的错误。不过，他会了解我的意思而帮我开灯。
- 在你的行业/专业领域，你认为讲标准英语会不会让你更有竞争性？**
对于什么是"标准"英语，可以有多种不同诠释。发音、文法和生词都很重要。我不认为讲标准英语的专业英文教师，来到我们这行，会觉得更容易沟通。我的工作只需要我能够表达出自己的意那，所以在这方面没有什么问题。
- Singlish的使用非常普遍。你是其中一份子吗？你最常用的Singlish表达方式是什么？**
Weiau。怎么说呢？字典里找不到能够准确表达这个感觉的字眼。