

## BBC Learning English – Ask About Britain

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### **Football: Support and Obsession** 支持和迷恋

#### **Insert**

*I support Manchester United  
I support Luton Town Football Club  
Cheltenham, Arsenal, Millwall, Chelsea*

*Football commentary.*

Diarmuid: Football fans and their favourite clubs. Hi, I'm Diarmuid Mitchell. Are you a footie fan? Yes? Well you're in for a treat today.

Yang Li: 是的, 如果你是一个爱好足球运动的人 a footie fan, 那么今天的英国问答节目就会让你特别开心。大家好我是杨莉。

Diarmuid: We had a question from Li Yan.

#### **Insert**

*I am a big fan of the Premier League. What impresses me most is the fans' loyalty to their favourite teams. I want to know something about this football culture. How do they show their support and why do they support one team over another?  
Thanks.*

Diarmuid: So, Li Yan wants to know something about the football culture in Britain.

Yang Li: Football culture 足球文化。李岩同学是英超球迷, 他西望通过英国问答节目了解一下英国的球迷们是怎样支持自己的球队。还有他们是出于什么原因而支持一个球队的。

Diarmuid: Today we'll have a look at the first question: how do people support their team? Passion or obsession?

Yang Li: 今天我们回答第一个问题, 狂热的足球迷如何支持自己的球队。对足球的狂热是一种热情呢还是一种过分的迷恋。

#### **Insert**

*I support Newcastle United. It's the town I grew up in and my town is Newcastle and people from Newcastle really love football.*

Diarmuid: That's our colleague Catherine. She said that people from Newcastle really love football.

Yang Li: 纽卡斯尔人特别喜欢足球。

Diarmuid: People from other parts of the UK and abroad also love football too, such as this supporter from Argentina.

### **Insert**

Yang Li: *Do you support any football teams?*

Enrique: *Yes I do. I like Arsenal.*

Yang Li: *Can you tell me how you normally support them?*

Enrique: *Well I buy the season tickets and I go to the stadium to see the matches and also by TV. That's the way I support.*

Yang Li: *Excellent, thank you, what's your name?*

Enrique: *My name is Enrique.*

Yang Li: *Thank you.*

Diarmuid: Season tickets are one way of watching football live at a discounted rate. There are lots of people who do that.

Yang Li: 买季票去看阿森纳的球赛，季票 season tickets. 折扣价 discounted rate.

Diarmuid: Buying season tickets is definitely one way of showing support. But a real footie fan often does more than that.

Yang Li: Well listen to the story by Nicholas, who gives us a vivid description of a Chelsea supporter in his office.

### **Insert**

*What I think about football, it annoys me because I've got a workmate of mine in the office, he puts on the Chelsea clothes and because he's won it this time he ensures that everyone knows that he's supporting Chelsea. And he tells us that he's been a fan since he's been a youth and he gives us a history of what he's been doing, how much money he's been spending, how he used to go down to the ground even before they used to have seats. And he's so passionate about it. He is an avid follower of football.*

Yang Li: Nicholas 向我描述了他办公室的一个同事，一个铁杆切尔西支持者。

Diarmuid: This Chelsea fan is described as "passionate" and "avid".

Yang Li: 充满热情的 passionate, 热心痴迷的 avid.

Diarmuid: Yes, when it comes to Chelsea this person is a know-it-all.

Yang Li: 无所不知的人就是 know-it-all.

## **Insert**

*And he shows his support by ensuring that he knows all the players, the history of what's going on in the club, the different people in the management and he ensures that when he comes in with the fixtures of the matches he'd know when the matches are going, he has all the various souvenirs and all the trophies that have been won. He is even been able to tell you the different penalties that it has had and setups and let-downs that (they've) had in the whole club. It's become his lifestyle, he talks about it when we're eating, he talks about it when we're doing our work and anything that would bring it into memory he'd ensure that he rubs in. It's his whole life, it's his whole lifestyle, it's his heart, it's his heartbeat. And I admire him for that although I hate it when his team wins!*

Yang Li: 这个人听上去可够铁杆儿的，他对切尔西的所有队员，历史和管理层都了如指掌。对每一场比赛的安排 fixtures of the matches 也都清楚无误。

Diarmuid: He has all the souvenirs and trophies of the club.

Yang Li: 纪念品 souvenirs 还有 trophies 奖杯。

Diarmuid: He knows all the penalties, upsets and let-downs in the club's history.

Yang Li: 所有的罚点球 penalties; 挫折 upsets 和失望 let-downs.

Diarmuid: Football means so much to him that it has become his lifestyle, his whole lifestyle.

Yang Li: 生活方式 lifestyle，足球已经成为了这个人的全部的生活内容 his whole lifestyle. 他整天没完没了地跟别人谈论切尔西足球俱乐部。反反复复地说一件事，这用英语表达就是。

Diarmuid: To rub it in: to say the same thing again and again. When a person does that he is going to make himself a nuisance.

Yang Li: A nuisance 一个令人讨厌的人。

Diarmuid: The problem with football fans is that they can get a bit crazy at times. As we hear from Clive next, some people are obsessed with football.

Yang Li: Obsessed with football 对足球达到了一种痴迷上瘾的程度。

## **Insert**

*They're not passionate, they're obsessed, they're obsessed with football. And London, which is where I live, there are lots and lots of football clubs. It's impossible to drive down the road without seeing a football club. And I think, I think it is a kind of macho male type of thing that they need to have someone to support. The fans just go mad. I mean I said they were obsessed at the beginning and they were. It's just like they scream at everything, they shout, they throw things at their players, they boo and hiss the other team.*

- Diarmuid: Clive is a Londoner. In his opinion a lot people love football so much that they are simply obsessed with it. Why? Because he thinks that it is a kind of macho male type of thing to have someone to support.
- Yang Li: 在 Clive 看来，热爱足球是一种男性化，男人气的体现 a macho male type of thing. 他们需要支持某个球队来体现这一点。接着 Clive 形容了足球场上球迷的疯狂表现。
- Diarmuid: They scream, they shout, they throw things at their players and boo and hiss the other team.
- Yang Li: 他们大喊大叫 scream and shout 他们向球员投掷东西 they throw things at their players 并且给对方起哄 boo and hiss the other team.
- Diarmuid: Football is something that can connect us all but it can get over the top especially when it comes to your favourite team.
- Yang Li: Well that's exactly what we are going to talk about next week. Why do people choose to support one team over another?
- Diarmuid: Till next week, bye bye.
- Yang Li: Bye bye.

*Football commentary.*

### **Glossary**

football culture 足球文化	souvenirs and trophies 纪念品和奖杯
footie fan 足球迷	penalties, upsets and let-downs 罚点球，挫折和失望
passionate 热情的	to rub it in 无尽无休地说某件事
be obsessed with 过分迷恋的	a macho male type of thing 一种体现男人气的东西(含贬义)
avid 热心痴迷的	over the top 过分/过头