

About this script

Please note that this is not a word for word transcript of the programme as broadcast. In the recording and editing process changes may have been made which may not be reflected here.

关于台词的备注:

请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。

Howl, Wail, Bellow and Yowl 四种叫声

Wang Fei: 大家好，欢迎收听你问我答节目。今天的问题来自一位成都的听友 **George**。我们一起来听一听他的问题。

Insert

Hello, I'm George. I'm from Chengdu. Could you tell me the difference between the words: howl, wail, bellow and yowl. Thank you very much!

Wang Fei: **George** 想知道下面四个词的区别 **howl, wail, bellow** 和 **yowl**。这四个词看起来很难，如果查字典，它们都可能被翻译成吼叫、嚎叫的意思，但是字典里很难描述清楚它们之间的细微区别。不过，我们一会儿一起听一听这些不同的声音，就知道它们的区别了。

So let's start with the word yowl. We're going to listen to some clips of yowling and that will help us understand what exactly this word means.

Yowl examples

A man in pain

Dogs in pain

A donkey giving birth

Wang Fei: 下面是一些例句来描述我们刚才听到的声音—

The man gave a yowl in pain. The dogs were yowling. The donkey yowled as it gave birth.

所以 **yowling** 是一种让人不太高兴的声音，特别是表示一种痛苦的声音。和汉语中的哀叫、哀号很相似。那什么是 **howling** 呢？

Howl examples

Dogs howling

People laughing

The wind howling

A man in pain

Wang Fei: 我们刚才听到的声音都可以用 **howling** 来描述

The dogs started howling. They collapsed into howls of laughter. We can hear the howling wind. He howled with pain.

我们也可以使用 **howl** 来描述一种低沉的痛苦的声音。它也经常用于描述那种深沉的发自内心的笑声。但最常用的还是用来描述狗的低沉的吼叫声。

So, what's next? It's the word **wail**. Hmm... 这个声音是不是会让人开心点呢?

Wail examples

A child crying

A siren

A woman crying

The wind wailing

Wang Fei: The baby wailed on. The wailing of the siren could be heard above the traffic noise. The woman wailed with despair. The wind wailed outside the house. 所以 **wail** 和 **howl** 非常相近。但是 **howling** 是指比较低沉的声音，而 **wailing** 则是指那种很高、很尖的叫声。

Ok, now it's time for George's last word, **bellow**. 这个词的拼写很像 **below** 这个词，但是注意了，这里面有两个 **l**，同时，它们的重音也不相同，我们听一下：
bellow, below, bellow, below.

Bellow examples

Cows bellowing

Someone commanding a parade

People laughing

A foghorn

Wang Fei: The cows bellowed as they were moved. The sergeant major bellowed loudly at the troops. They bellowed with laughter. The ship's horn let out a long mournful bellow. **Bellowing** 这个词描述的是一种很低、很大的声音。它与 **wailing** 这种声音又不同，它可以用来描述愤怒的吼叫声，同时也可以用来描述大笑声。我们刚才讲的这四个词中，常用的是 **howling** 和 **wailing**。

Well I do hope that you've enjoyed this programme, George, and that you feel it has answered your question. 如果其他听友也有关于英语词汇和语法方面的问题，请给我们发电子邮件。我们的邮箱地址是 questions.elt@bbc.co.uk.
Goodbye!

