

Your Best Friend

你最好的朋友

Who is your best friend?

谁是你最好的朋友?

This is how some people in London answered the question:

Woman 1: I don't have one.

Presenter: You don't have a best friend? Do you have a very good friend? 你没有最好的朋友? 那么你有没有好朋友呢?

Woman 1: Yes.

Presenter: What qualities does he have? 他哪些方面很好呢?

Woman 1: He's funny, he's nice, and he's just a good friend. He's always there if I need him.

Man 1: Probably have to say all things considered my girlfriend. She puts up with me!

Man 2: My best friend is Raz. I went to school with him since when I was eleven. And we went to the same university together and we lived in the same houses together. Whenever bad things happen we laugh about it and help each other out.

Did you know...? 你知道吗...?

Fact

A survey by the State University of New York and Russia's Moscow State University for the Humanities shows that Americans consider friendship as a key part of romantic love, while Russians and Lithuanians rarely mention it.

Language tip

The idiom 'fair-weather friend' is an informal way of referring to someone who is your friend only when things are pleasant or going well for you.

Cultural tip

In Japan people bow when greeting each other. When greeting a close friend the bow is less pronounced and it might look like a brief nod of the head.

Here is the webpage for this programme:

www.bbc.co.uk/ukchina/simp/elt/ask_about_britain/110823_ee_31_best_friends_story.shtml