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Karaoke 卡拉 OK

Vicki: Hi and welcome to BBC Learning English. I'm Vicki.

Chen Li: 大家好，我是陈鹏。

Vicki: Today we're talking about karaoke.

Chen Li: 噢，卡拉 OK 在中国可是非常受欢迎，那么在英国人们是否也喜欢唱卡拉 OK 呢？

Vicki: Yes, it is quite popular and getting more popular; but it's quite different here from in Asia.

Chen Li: 那好，这就是我们今天节目中要谈论的话题，看看英国人对卡拉 OK 的态度和看法和亚洲以及世界其他国家的人们有什么不同。

Vicki: As you probably know, karaoke began in Japan, and has spread across Asia. Dr. Xun Zhou has researched karaoke around the world and she said that in Asia, karaoke is all about doing your best.

Chen Li: Doing your best 尽力而为。

Insert

Even if you can't sing, at least you can give it a try. Karaoke provides you the chance to give it a try, to do your best. That is what is really behind the popularity of karaoke.

Chen Li: 她还使用了一个习语。

Vicki: Give it a try.

Chen Li: 试一试，每个人都可以尝试一下。

Vicki: But in Britain, karaoke is seen rather differently. Here's Dick Hobbs, a Professor of Sociology.

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I mean the karaoke that I've been used to, is Friday night in a pub, where someone would turn the machine on and people would go up and sing as badly as they wanted to and it was about screaming and bawling.

Chen Li: 所以他说在英国卡拉 OK 意味非常糟糕的演唱。

Vicki: **That's right; karaoke was often only done by very drunk people in pubs, who mostly were very bad singers! He described them as screaming and bawling.**

Chen Li: 尖叫声和叫骂声。下面还是 Dick 的谈话同时还有一位社会学教授 Chris Rojek.

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It's about having fun, it's about having a laugh; it's not serious at all.

The British experience is about dealing with embarrassment, it's about letting off steam in a controlled way.

Vicki: **So, they all agree that in the UK, karaoke is much less serious than in Asia. It's about having a laugh.**

Chen Li: 意思是玩得开心。

Vicki: **It's also about embarrassment.**

Chen Li: 困窘的，出丑的。

Vicki: **And letting off steam.**

Chen Li: 发泄出郁积的情绪。

Insert

It's about having fun, it's about having a laugh; it's not serious at all.

It's about letting off steam in a controlled way.

Vicki: **Well, in today's programme we're talking about karaoke in the UK. Until recently, karaoke was usually done in pubs with an open mike.**

Chen Li: **An open mike** 也就是说在酒吧的任何一个人都可以来唱首歌。

Vicki: **But recently, modern karaoke bars have opened up, with private booths for hire, similar to the ones in Asia.**

Chen Li: **Private booth** 私人包房，可以租给个人和朋友一起唱卡拉 OK 自娱自乐。

Vicki: **I asked two of my colleagues here at BBC Learning English what they thought about karaoke. Here's Jo.**

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I love karaoke. I don't enjoy karaoke in front of a big pub, singing in front of other people; that's quite embarrassing. But if you're just with your friends, in a small room, drinking beers; be with your friends, lose all your inhibitions, having fun, singing your heart out to all your favourite songs, and just have a really fun, mad time. I just absolutely love it.

Chen Li: 看来 Jo 是非常喜欢唱卡拉 OK。

Vicki: She said it was a good way to let go of your inhibitions.

Chen Li: **Inhibitions** 压抑的情绪, Jo 发现卡拉 OK 是个放松的好方法, 而不用担心他人怎么看。

Vicki: Jo thinks it's great fun to spend an evening singing your heart out with some friends.

Chen Li: **Singing your heart out** 放声高歌, 投入所有的热情和精力。

Vicki: But, like a lot of British people, does Jo need to be drunk to sing karaoke?

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I don't need to be really drunk, just a couple of beers to kind of loosen me up a little bit, get me in the mood as it were.

Chen Li: Jo 说她不需要一定要喝醉了酒才去唱卡拉 OK。

Vicki: But she does prefer to have one or two drinks first. Here's another colleague.

Insert

Karaoke to me just sounds absolutely awful. I could never imagine doing it myself. It's just too embarrassing. Listening to people who can't sing doing karaoke is just cringeworthy. You know I'd rather sit in a quiet pub and have a few drinks.

Chen Li: 他认为卡拉 OK 真是太糟糕了。

Vicki: He'd never do it because it's just too embarrassing.

Chen Li: **Embarrassing** 让人难为情的。

Vicki: He thinks that when people who can't sing do karaoke it's cringeworthy.

Chen Li: **Cringeworthy** 意思是避而远之, 让人感到不安惶恐。

Vicki: He'd rather go to a quiet pub.

Chen Li: 那么 Vicki 你的看法是什么呢? 你喜欢唱卡拉 OK?

Vicki: Yes, I like it a lot. I think it's really fun, and I don't get embarrassed because I can sing reasonably well.

Chen Li: 好了, 关于英国人对卡拉 OK 的看法和亚洲人有什么差异这个话题, 我们就说到这里, 希望您学有所得学有所乐, 下次节目再会。 **Bye!**

Vicki: **Bye!**