## BBC Learning English Authentic Real English 地道英语 Shut up! 闭嘴!



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(Li and Rosie are at the cinema)

**Li:** No, come on - don't do it! 别进去!

**Rosie:** Li, she's an actress in a film, she can't hear you. And besides, it's rude to

talk in the cinema.

**Li:** But it's just so frustrating. Don't go into the house! Don't do it! Noooo! I

can't watch. 不行不行,我看不了!

**Rosie:** Li, shut up!

Li: I know, he's shut her up in that house and won't let her go. 她被锁住了,出

不来了...

**Rosie:** No, Li... I didn't mean that he 'shut' her up in the house. I was telling you

to 'shut up'. It's a rude way of saying 'Be quiet'.

**Spectator:** Excuse me, will you please shut up?

**Rosie:** I'm really sorry. Li, I can't take you anywhere.

**Li:** Oh well look, the film is over now, anyway. Sorry about the talking, but I

just get a bit carried away. 我有点落入电影的情节里了。

**Rosie:** Well, I'm sorry I told you to shut up. It is quite a rude expression in

English, but you just kept talking and talking and just wouldn't shut up!

Li: 这么说,当我想要其他人别出声的时候就可以说闭嘴? So, can I tell someone to

shut up when they are making noise?

**Rosie:** You can, but it's informal and can be rude. So if you're in a formal context

you should say something like, "Could you please be quiet?"

Li: 好吧,在开会的时候不能使用 shut up 这个短语, 这太不礼貌了。可以说: Could

you please be quiet? 不过我要是真的跟朋友不耐烦了,我可以对他们说 shut up.

**Rosie:** Yes, although sometimes it's used when people are joking in English. Let's

listen to some examples:

## **Examples**

"I'm so tired. And thirsty. When are we going to get there? If only you'd drive a bit faster..."

"Will you please shut up? I can't concentrate with your constant moaning."

"I look fat in this dress. It's so clingy!"
"Oh shut up! You look great."

"I just read the whole book in an hour."

"Shut up! No one can read that quickly."

**Rosie:** So, in that first example, we heard the expression 'shut up' used in a

serious way. But in the second and third examples, it doesn't mean we want someone to be quiet – it means: "I don't believe you" or "Don't be

ridiculous!"

Li: 这么说,如果某人说的话让你觉得可笑,那么你就可以说 shut up. 但是对方一定是关

系不错的朋友, 千万要记住啊! You've been warned!

**Rosie:** Well, one thing's for sure, I'm never, and I mean *never*, going to the

cinema with you again.

**Li:** Shut up! I don't believe you... 我才不信 Rosie 的话呢,所以我对她说 shut up!

You love going to cinema with me. I always buy you popcorn!

**Rosie:** Shut up! I always get the popcorn!

Li: Oh... shut up.

**Rosie:** You shut up...

**Li:** No *you* shut up.