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Feifei

大家好, 欢迎收听BBC英语教学为你带来的《地道英语》。我是冯菲菲。

Rob

...and me Rob. Hello.

Feifei

Rob 这脸上是怎么了? 好像划破了? Rob, are you OK? You've got some cuts on your face.

Rob

Oh well, I've had a bit of a bad morning.

Feifei

I'm sorry to hear that. What happened?

Rob

I was cycling to the office and some idiot ran out in the road, right in front of me.

Feifei

Crikey – did you hit him?

Rob

No – but it was a close shave.

Feifei

A close shave? Did he have a razor?! 这也太可怕了吧! 今早 Rob 在骑自行车上班路上, 一个人突然从路边跳到 Rob 面前, 而且还用剃须刀划了 Rob 的脸? 哎呀呀, 真可怕。

Rob

No Feifei – that would have hurt. This is an expression that describes a dangerous or unpleasant situation that has only just been avoided. It almost happened... but it didn't.

Feifei

哦，这样啊！吓死我了。原来 a close shave 这个表达和刮胡子没有什么关系。它实际是被用来形容某人侥幸脱险，逃过一劫，幸免于害。Lucky for you! So you're saying you nearly had an accident but you didn't?

Rob

Exactly. Let's hear some more examples of this phrase...

Examples

We ran to catch the train – it was a close shave but we just managed to get on.

I had a close shave when a fast car just missed me as I was crossing the road.

It was close shave but I don't think my mum saw us smoking.

Feifei

大家一定要记住，a close shave 用来形容逃过一劫、侥幸的脱险，有惊无险。So you had a narrow escape this morning Rob?

Rob

I did. Why don't people look when they cross the road?! I could have ended up falling off my bike and being hit by a bus.

Feifei

你要是没摔下自行车，那你的脸是怎么弄成这样的？If you didn't fall off your bike, why have you got those cuts on your face?

Rob

Oh... these! Well, I had a shave this morning and used a blunt razor.

Feifei

Ouch! So you really did have 'a close shave'!

Rob

Ha ha. You're as sharp as a razor Feifei! I mean intelligent or sharp-witted.

Feifei

Unlike your razor!

Both

Bye!