
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Authentic Real English 地道英语

To lie through your teeth

睁眼说瞎话



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Helen

大家好, 欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目, 我是 Helen, 和我在一起的还有我的同事 Rob.

Rob

Hello. Hey Helen, have you heard Neil's good news?

Helen

No what's that?

Rob

He ran in the London Marathon and he came first!

Helen

Neil 参加伦敦马拉松赛, 还拿了第一名? 这怎么可能呢? That's impossible.

Rob

Well I know it's hard to believe but he has been training very hard and he is quite a fast runner.

Helen

Sorry Rob – he's lying through his teeth – he went to the cinema on Sunday!

Rob

Oh did he really? Well, you've just used a perfect phrase – 'to lie through your teeth' – it means to tell someone something that's completely untrue.

Helen

That's why I said it! 成语 to lie through your teeth, 字面的意思是“从牙缝里说谎言”, 也就是我们中文里常说的“睁眼说瞎话”。Neil 可不是忽悠你嘛, so he's giving you false information.

Rob

Yes, I'm going to have words with him – but before I do, let's hear some more examples of this phrase...

Examples

When she said she was nearly 30 years old, I knew she was lying through her teeth!

They promised we'd get free drinks every day at our hotel but they were lying through their teeth.

He lied through his teeth when he said he bought her an expensive engagement ring – it was just a cheap one from the catalogue.

Helen

Neil 就是瞎掰，他压根没去跑马拉松，星期天他去看电影了。Neil was telling an outrageous lie, I can't believe you fell for it.

Rob

Well actually, it was me who was lying through my teeth. Neil didn't tell me he'd won the marathon – it was a trick to find out where Neil really was on Sunday – and now you've told me – he was alone at the cinema! Thanks very much.

Helen

Well, to be honest, he wasn't alone at the cinema – he went with me but we forgot to invite you. 不好意思，本来我们也想约你一起去的，不小心忘了。I'm sorry!

Rob

You liar!

Helen

It was just a little white lie - 真的，我说的是“善意的谎言”。

Rob

A what?

Helen

A little white lie – a lie that's told just to avoid upsetting someone.

Rob

Well it hasn't worked. I'm off. Good bye!

Helen

Oh dear, Rob.