

Rat race

“老鼠赛跑”永无休止的竞争

- 关于台词的备注:

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Feifei

大家好！欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目。我是冯菲菲。

Rob

...and me, Rob.

Feifei

Rob，我有一个简单的问题要问你。

Rob

Yep.

Feifei

Why have you got enormous whiskers glued to the side of your face, and a why are you wearing a running vest?

Rob

Well, Feifei, it's a new year – and according to our Chinese friends it's the Year of the Rat. New Year, new resolutions. I've decided to join the rat race!

Feifei

You've decided to join the rat race? 你要加入“老鼠赛跑”？你的意思是你想在工作中变得更有竞争力，为了专注于升职和加薪而牺牲自己的闲暇时间？

Rob

That's right.

Feifei

But why?

Rob

Ha... Money!

Feifei

Right. Well, let's hear some examples of this expression before a little more explanation.

Examples

I am gonna quit the rat race. I earn all this money but I never have enough time to spend it! It's just work, work, work!

People complain about the rat race, but if you earn enough, you can retire at 50!

Nieves decided to quit the rat race after she had a serious health scare. She realised that the money wasn't worth the stress.

Feifei

这里是 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目。在这期节目中，我们来学习“rat race”这个短语。它被用来描述一种人们生活的方式——努力工作，拼命挣钱。

Rob

But there's no free time and it's very, very competitive. You heard in the examples, we often hear the word 'quit' used with 'rat race'. Quit the rat race.

Feifei

But you, Rob, have decided to join it. You do know that you don't have to look like a rat to join the rat race? And you certainly don't have to wear a racing vest.

Rob

Umm... just trying to make things clear for our audience, Feifei!

Feifei

I do quite like those whiskers, though. Bye!

Rob

Bye-bye!