# **BBC LEARNING ENGLISH**

# Authentic Real English 地道英语 Peacocking





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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. Hey, Feifei. I have a little challenge for you.

#### Feifei

Oh, good. I like a challenge.

#### Rob

Right. Can you name a bird that has bright feathers?

### Feifei

Umm... A parrot?

#### Rob

No. It has big, colourful feathers that it sticks up when it's showing off and trying to attract a mate.

### Feifei

Oh, got it! A peacock. 孔雀。你是在说孔雀开屏吗? Why are you asking?

# Rob

Well, it's a clue for this Authentic Real English phrase. Can you think of an expression which describes someone showing off to attract attention?

#### Feifei

Yes, Rob. It's 'peacocking' - I often use it to describe you! "Peacocking" 这个词很 形象地借用"peacock"孔雀开屏的行为来描述一个人为了吸引别人的注意力或为了 给人留下深刻的印象而"像孔雀般地处处炫耀自己"。But, Rob, peacocking never impresses me!

#### Rob

Well, Feifei, you are hard to impress – but maybe these examples of 'peacocking' will...

# **Examples**

Why does Dev have to wear that bright shirt and walk around the office talking and laughing loudly? It's obvious that he's peacocking, but to me, he's just annoying.

When we first met, I was impressed by John's flashy clothes and constant jokes. But he was obviously peacocking because now he just wears jeans and never says anything funny!

I thought my peacocking skills would work wonders on our blind date. Unfortunately, she told me I was just showing off, and I just needed to be myself. I don't think I'll be seeing her again.

### Feifei

这里是 BBC 英语教学的"地道英语"节目。我和 Rob 正在教大家"peacocking"这 个词的意思和用法。我们可以把一个极其注重仪表和穿戴的人称为"peacock",而 把这类人为了吸引他人的注意力,趾高气昂、大肆炫耀的行为称为"peacocking"。

#### Rob

Originally, it described an extreme and over-the-top way a man might dress and the arrogant way he behaved to attract a woman.

### Feifei

Yes, I can see why you would have been good at that, Rob!

#### Rob

Women do it now too, Feifei. For example by bragging on WeChat about the amazing things they've done.

#### Feifei

是的,其实炫耀的不仅只是男性朋友们。现在似乎每个人都有炫耀的时候。

# Rob

Well, you'd never find me peacocking, Feifei - I'm not the sort of person to show off. I hate to attract attention.

# Feifei

What do you mean, Rob? You're always the centre of attention.

# Rob

Hmm... Thanks!

# Feifei

Bye-bye!

# Rob

Bye.