# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH Authentic Real English 地道英语 Gathering dust 闲置不用



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## Jiaying

欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的"地道英语"节目,大家好!我是佳莹。

## Neil

... and I'm Neil. Hi, Jiaying.

#### Jiaying

你怎么穿了一身自行车骑行服,还戴了一顶头盔来办公室?

#### Neil

Well, I've decided to get fit again, and I love cycling. The thing is, I can't find my bike, so I decided to wear the outfit to look fitter – without doing the exercise.

#### Jiaying

That makes zero sense. If you can't find your bike, you can borrow my old one. It's just gathering dust anyway.

## Neil

Ewww – no, thanks. I don't want to use it if it's dirty and dusty.

## Jiaying

不是的, Neil! 我刚刚说的是"gathering dust"。我们用表达"gathering dust"来 表示"某样事物很长时间不被问津,无人使用,只是闲置在一边",也就是我们说的 "在吃灰"。别看我的那辆自行车很久都没骑过,但它其实很干净。

## Neil

Well, in that case - yes, please! I'd love to borrow your nice clean bike!

## Jiaying

OK. I'll get it for you right after these examples.

## Examples

When my father sold his house, we discovered an old car in the garage that was gathering dust. It was worth a fortune.

You can have my old pictures. They're just gathering dust.

If you don't want that tea service, I'll give it to charity. No point it gathering dust here.

# Jiaying

你正在收听的是 BBC 英语教学的"地道英语"节目。上面,我们介绍了表达 "gathering dust",用来表示某样物品"很久都被闲置不用,在吃灰"。

# Neil

Wow! This bike is really great! It's so clean and fast!

# Jiaying

That's great, Neil. But I'm not sure you should be riding it round the office.

## Neil

I'm fine! I nearly turned professional because I was so quick. I won awards for my speed. My medals are gathering dust somewhere. The reason I didn't turn professional is because I wasn't very good at steering.

## Jiaying

That sounds really dangerous. Maybe you should stop cycling now. Neil! Are you OK?

# Neil

Aww... I'm fine. I only forgot to turn. But I crashed into that store cupboard. And guess what? I found my bike, just gathering dust!

# Jiaying

Oh, Neil. Never a boring day in the office with you! Bye!

# Neil

Bye!