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Neil

Welcome to Authentic Real English with me, Neil...

Jiaying

... and me, Jiaying.

Neil

We're explaining 'drip-feed'. It can be used to describe giving something in small amounts – little by little – rather than all at once.

Jiaying

Drip-feed. 在和医疗有关的话题当中，动词“drip-feed”指“将药液、血液、营养液等通过导管一滴一滴地注入体内”的这种治疗方法。注意，用于这类治疗的器材叫作“drip（输液器）”，而“drip-feed”则表示“给（某人）输液”的行为。

Neil

Very good! That's right. 'Drip-feed' is the action of doing this, so it's a verb. But we can 'drip-feed' in a wider context too. If we give information about something just one fact at a time, we can say we are drip-feeding the information.

Jiaying

是的！“Drip-feed”还可以表示“一点一点地每次提供少量的信息”。比如，一些电影公司在新片上映前，可能会“drip-feed（一点一点地分次公布）”电影的片段，吊着大家的胃口，让人想去一看究竟。

Neil

They do! It's a constant feed of information but in small amounts. But don't worry, I won't drip-feed you these examples, you can have them all at once!

Examples

We need to drip-feed money into our savings account, so we can minimise the risks of the stock market.

The singer drip-fed some of her best songs onto her website to create a buzz about her forthcoming new album.

Our boss was drip-feeding us details of the new project, so we weren't overloaded with information all at once.

Jiaying

你正在收听的是 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目，上面我们介绍了动词“drip-feed”的含义和用法，它除了有“打点滴，输液”的意思以外，还可以表示“一点一点地每次提供少量的信息”。

Neil

So, talking of the movies. I went to see that new action film last night.

Jiaying

Was it good?

Neil

Oh, yes, very.

Jiaying

Because...?

Neil

Because of the main actor.

Jiaying

And what was special about him? 唉，不用你一点一点地告诉我了。Don't bother drip-feeding me the information, Neil. 我会自己去电影院看的。

Neil

As it was so good, I might join you and watch it again – and then I can drip-feed you popcorn at the same time! Bye for now.

Jiaying

Bye!