BBC LEARNING ENGLISH Q and A of the Week 你问我答 辨析 tradition, custom 和 convention 的区别



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Feifei

大家好,欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的《你问我答》节目,我是冯菲菲。在每集节目中,我们会回答一个大家在英语学习时遇到的疑问。我们将会回答来自微博网友"康拜樱桃"的问题。一起来听一下她有哪些疑惑。

Question

你好,请问"tradition、custom"和"convention"几个词语有什么区别?

康拜樱桃

Feifei

网友"康拜樱桃"希望我们帮忙区分近义词"tradition、custom"和"convention"之间的区别。这三个词非常实用,它们都可以用来表示"传统"的意思。

在汉语中,当我们说到传统和习俗,指的就是某一社会、民族中特定的思想、行为或道德。那么,当"tradition、custom"和"convention"表示"传统"时,有哪些不同点呢?我们通过一段介绍英国传统文化和社会习俗的文字来说明它们之间的区别。下面我们来听这段介绍文字。

Example

There are many traditional foods in Britain, like the famous fish and chips, the Sunday roast, and scones, a type of small unsweetened or lightly sweetened cake. Eating particular dishes on a specific holiday or at certain times of the day is a national custom. Britain has a long tradition of eating turkeys and Christmas puddings with their families on Christmas Day; it is also known for its tea culture. However, it's the custom for some people to enjoy a brew in the morning, whereas others prefer to take afternoon tea. Before coming to the UK, we should familiarise ourselves with local customs. When the Brits greet people they know well, they hug and kiss on the cheek. We should also be aware of their social conventions – for instance, most Brits do not like it when people jump the queue.

英国有很多传统美食,比如最有名的炸鱼和薯条、星期日烤肉大餐,还有不甜或微甜的小糕点司康饼等等。在特定的节日、时间吃特定的食物是一个国家的习俗。比如,每到圣诞节,大多数英国人会和家人聚在一起吃火鸡、圣诞布丁等;英国的茶文化也非常出名,不过有些人的习惯是喝早茶,有些人则喜欢下午喝茶。来英国之前,我们可以熟悉一下当地的风俗。比如,英国人和熟人见面时拥抱或行贴面礼。我们还应该了解其社会习俗。比如,英国人普遍不喜欢插队的行为。

Feifei

听了上面有关英国文化的例子,你分清单词"tradition、custom"和"convention"之间的区别了吗?

首先,单词"tradition"和"custom"的含义非常相近,在多数情况下可以互换使用。不过,"tradition"强调"在特定社会或群体中代代相传的思想、行为方式",强调"时间长,影响深"。"Tradition"的形容词是"traditional 传统的"。让我们来回顾两个例句。

Examples

There are many traditional foods in Britain, like the famous fish and chips, the Sunday roast, and scones, a type of small unsweetened or lightly sweetened cake.

Britain has a long tradition of eating turkeys and Christmas puddings with their families on Christmas Day.

Feifei

而 "custom"则强调"因历史传统 traditions 而被人保留下来的习惯、传统和风俗"; "custom"也可以指个人习惯,而"tradition"则只能形容社会、家庭间沿袭的传统。来回顾几个例句。

Examples

Eating particular dishes on a specific holiday or at certain times of the day is a national custom.

However, it's the custom for some people to enjoy a brew in the morning, whereas others prefer to take afternoon tea.

Feifei

最后,"convention"特指"已被社会接受的礼仪、做法、常规等等"。再来听一个例句。

Example

We should also be aware of their social conventions – for instance, most Brits do not like it when people jump the queue.

Feifei

好了,本集《你问我答》节目讲解了"tradition、custom"和"convention"这三个都能表示"传统"意思的词语。希望我们的分析能帮助大家分清它们之间的差别。

再次感谢网友"康拜樱桃"。如果大家在英语学习时碰到了问题,欢迎和我们联系,我们的邮箱是 questions.chinaelt@bbc.co.uk。大家也可以通过微博"BBC 英语教学"发送你的问题。谢谢收听,我是冯菲菲,下次节目再见!