BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Authentic Real English 地道英语 Kick into the long grass



将事物踢到长长的草丛中去

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Feifei

Hello and welcome to Authentic Real English with me, Feifei...

Rob

...and me, Rob. So, Feifei, what are you doing tonight?

Feifei

今天晚上我干什么? Oh, erm, I'm busy. I'm washing my hair tonight.

Rob

Oh, right – so you're not going to that new bar for a drink? I overheard someone saying that you and some of the team were going.

Feifei

Oh, yes! The new bar. We're going for a drink – just one, on the way home. Erm... Would you like to join us?

Rob

Oh, yes. That would be great!

Feifei

不过,那个大项目你完成了吗?就是那个老板说非常重要的项目?

Rob

Oh, that! No, no. That's not important. I'll leave it for a few days and he'll forget about it.

Feifei

Hmm. So, you're going to 'kick it into the long grass'?

Rob

'Kick it into the long grass'? You mean delay a plan or decision about something because it will only cause problems for me – and that by delaying it, it might get forgotten altogether?

Feifei

That's exactly what I meant. Let's hear some examples of this phrase in action.

Examples

The decision to kick the plans for a new railway line into the long grass means that we'll have to continue to face overcrowding and slow journey times.

He hoped by kicking a decision on her marriage proposal into the long grass she'd soon forget – but she didn't!

I've decided to kick this plan to redecorate the house into the long grass – we've got more urgent things to do, like fixing the hole in the roof!

Feifei

这里是 BBC 英语教学的"地道英语"节目。在这期节目里,我们给大家介绍的表达是"kick something into the long grass"。它很形象地把人们因一个计划或决定困难繁琐,而将其拖延、搁置的行为比喻成"kick into the long grass"踢到长长的草丛中去。Rob 就在拖延老板让他做的一个项目,他说原因是他需要付出大量的辛勤工作。

Rob

Hard work? This project is perfect for someone with my skills, but I need time to think about it... maybe a few weeks.

Feifei

But if you kick it into the long grass, you won't be able to find it!

Rob

Of course not. Now, what time are we going for that drink?

Boss

Rob, could I have a word about that urgent project I asked you to do – as soon as possible?

Feifei

Oh dear, Rob. It looks like you're going to have to kick that drink into the long grass. I think you'd better go and see the boss. Good luck!

Rob

OK. See you later.

Feifei

Bye!