

Tone deaf 五音不全，充耳不闻

- 关于台词的备注:
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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。

Roy

And I'm Roy! Hey, Feifei, do you fancy doing some karaoke tonight with me and Rob?

Feifei

No, I do not. The last time we went out with Rob, you two managed to upset everyone. Everyone left. He is tone deaf!

Roy

His singing is not that bad! His mum says he's got a lovely voice!

Feifei

虽然“tone deaf”可以形容“听不准音调，唱歌时五音不全的人”，但现在它更多地用来形容“听不进去别人的声音，对他人的反馈充耳不闻的人”。

Roy

Ah, so you mean that fact that Rob said that he prefers cats during the annual dog welfare meeting. Yeah, that was a bit off.

Feifei

He always says the wrong things at the wrong time! He really is tone deaf. Let's listen to these examples.

Examples

People who say they've enjoyed lockdown can sound a bit tone deaf. So many people have lost their jobs.

We've all been working so hard – the boss seemed tone deaf when he rejected our pay rise.

I can't believe Sarah said she doesn't believe in global warming to those activists. She's tone deaf.

Feifei

这里是 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目。我们正在介绍“tone deaf”这个表达的现代用法。它既可以描述一个人“五音不全”，也可以形容某人“听不进去他人的声音，对他人的感受、反馈或状况不敏感，充耳不闻”。

Roy

Yes. It's an interesting development of the meaning. So, 'deaf' refers to someone who can't hear, while 'tone deaf' describes someone who can't hear different tones or sounds.

Feifei

Yes, that's right. And the new meaning is for someone who says the wrong thing at the wrong time – like Rob.

Roy

Yes, it sometimes gets used to refer to authority figures who say something that seems to be out-of-touch with a certain situation.

Feifei

That's right! And, Roy, please don't sing tonight. You really are tone deaf when it comes to singing. Your singing makes dogs bark.

Roy

Yeah, maybe that's for the best. But then I think the dogs just want to be in the same band as me. I could create a new band called 'Roy and the Dogs'!

Feifei

I can't believe you just said that! I just formed a band called 'Feifei and the Cats' – your comment was tone deaf. Bye, Roy.

Roy

Bye!