BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Take Away English 随身英语 Why do we love to dance?

人们为什么爱跳舞?



Vocabulary: dancing 词汇: 跳舞

If you asked me to dance, I'd probably freeze on the spot. I lack **rhythm** and **coordination** and some people say I have **two left feet**! But with some persuasion and **Dutch courage** I can be tempted to take to the dance floor and **shake some moves** – and that, apparently, is only natural.

Experts have found as well as being fun, dancing might have helped us to survive as a species. **Evolutionary anthropologist** Bronwyn Tarr from the University of Oxford has been telling the BBC World Service CrowdScience programme that when we dance with others, we are rewarded with feel-good **endorphins** that change how we feel about ourselves and those around us.

Dancing alone is one thing but it's dancing as a group that makes our brain reward us with a cocktail of feel-good **hormones** and is likely to lead to profound social effects. It's being **insync** with others that makes us happy. She says that "dancing **fosters** social closeness between people. It helps us build **social connections** and communities. In our past, those social connections would have been critical for surviving."

You certainly need the right kind of music to help you **shimmy**, **boogie** or even **twerk**, but once you get the right beat and **get into the groove** with others, it can be an **uplifting** experience. Even my cringeworthy **dad dancing** makes me feel good sometimes. And in Swindon in the UK, this 'style' of dancing has been taken to a new level, where babies, attached to their fathers' chests in a sling, have been dancing with the aim of increasing the **bond** between parent and child.

Dance is also a good way to keep fit and improve our mental health. In Wales there have been calls for doctors to **prescribe** dance classes to people who are unwell. The Arts Council of Wales claims there are many health benefits. And Bronwyn Tarr says "more and more we're actually discovering that your **longevity** – your life expectancy – is predicted by the social connections that you have... still today it's something we should do more of."

It could be part of being an uptight Englishman that makes me a reluctant dancer. Look at other nationalities such as Cubans where dancing is at the heart of their **cultural identity**. And in Brazil at Carnival time, people **let their hair down** by dancing together day and night. They seem to be having a good time – so maybe I should get on my feet and dance!

词汇表

rhythm	节奏感		
coordination	 协调性		
two left feet	"两只左脚",跳舞时舞步笨拙		
Dutch courage	借酒壮胆,酒后之勇		
shake some moves	扭动几下		
evolutionary anthropologist	人类进化学家		
endorphin	内啡呔		
hormone	荷尔蒙		
in-sync	与同步的		
foster	培养,促进		
social connection	社会关系		
shimmy	跳希米舞(抖动肩部和臀部的舞蹈)		
boogie	跟着流行乐跳舞		
twerk	抖臀		
get into the groove	进入理想状态		
uplifting	令人精神焕发的		
dad dancing	"爸爸式舞姿"(较笨拙、过时的舞步)		
bond	组带		
prescribe	(医生) 开(药)		
longevity	长寿		
cultural identity	文化认同		
let one's hair down	放松,尽情享受		

测验与练习

I.	阅读课文并回答问题。						
١.	True or false: Dancing in a group makes us feel good.						
2.	According to Bronwyn Tarr, what is it about dancing that once helped us survive?						
3.	8. Why does The Arts Council of Wales want dance classes to be prescribed to ill people?						
4.	. Which word used in the article means 'embarrassing or making you ashamed'.						
5.	5. What chemical produced in our body makes us feel good when we dance?						
2.	 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。 						
I.	. I'm trying to a good relationship with my neighbour.						
fos	ter b	ond	prescribe	boogie			
2.	After a day in the	office, I find it	to take a long	g walk along the beach.			
lift-	-up up	olift	uplifting	uplifted			
3. My sister is a moody teenager, it must have something to do with her!							
two	o left feet	shimmy	hormones	endorphins			
4.	4. The exams are over so I am having a party where we can all						
hav	ve a hair do	let our hair out	keep our ha	air on let our hair down			
5. I'm going to change to a healthier diet because I know it promotes							
lon	gevity	hormones	coordination	Dutch courage			

答案

- 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。
- True or false: Dancing in a group makes us feel good.
 True. Dancing in a group does make us feel good, probably more than dancing alone.
- According to Bronwyn Tarr, what is it about dancing that once helped us survive?
 It helped us build social connections which meant we could survive as a group.
- 3. Why does The Arts Council of Wales want dance classes to be prescribed to ill people? It claims that dancing has health benefits it's good for us.
- 4. Which word used in the article means 'embarrassing or making you ashamed'. The word is 'cringeworthy'.
- 5. What chemical produced in our body makes us feel good when we dance? The chemical is a type of hormone called endorphins.
- 2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。
- 1. I'm trying to **foster** a good relationship with my neighbour.
- 2. After a day in the office, I find it **uplifting** to take a long walk along the beach.
- 3. My sister is a moody teenager, it must have something to do with her hormones!
- 4. The exams are over so I am having a party where we can all let our hair down.
- 5. I'm going to change to a healthier diet because I know it promotes longevity.