BBC LEARNING ENGLISH Authentic Real English 地道英语 Cat got your tongue? 不吭声,无言以对



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Rob

Hello and welcome to Authentic Real English. I'm Rob and joining me is Feifei.

Feifei

Hello.

Rob

Bless you!

Feifei

[sneezes]

Rob

Are you ok? Have you got a cold?

Feifei

我没有感冒,不过好像总觉得有什么东西弄得我鼻子痒痒。Errr... Rob, is that a cat on your lap?!

Rob

Yes. Meet Tiddles. I decided to bring him to the office because he gets lonely at home on his own... don't you Tiddley-widdly? It's a good idea, don't you think? Feifei? You've gone all quiet – you've usually got something to say. Feifei?

Feifei

[sneezes]

Rob

Can you speak? Cat got your tongue?

Feifei

No! Your cat has not got my tongue – or anything else。我对猫过敏。

Rob

Oh dear Feifei - but saying 'cat got your tongue?' means 'you're very quiet' or 'you seem to have nothing to say'.

Feifei

Really! 原来在英语里,我们可以用 "cat got your tongue?" 或者 "has the cat got your tongue?" 舌头让帽叼走了吗?"来质问某人为什么不吭声。咱们先来听几个例句。

Examples

What's the matter? Cat got your tongue? I did say we'd use up all our money on the car!

A: Has the cat got your tongue? You usually go on about how amazing your boyfriend is. B: We split up.

Feifei

当某人无缘无故不说话时,我们就可以用 cat got your tongue 这个表达来询问原因。 注意,这是一个非正式表达,请大家务必选择恰当的语境来使用它。

Rob

Oh I get it now. You weren't saying much because you were too busy sneezing!

Feifei

No Rob. I was angry because you know I am allergic to cats – don't you remember me saying that I can't be in the same room as one? Rob? Rob!

Feifei

What's wrong? Cat got your tongue now?

Rob

No. It appears Tiddles needed the toilet... but it's too late now. I'm all wet!

Feifei

Oh Rob. You stink! I'm off. Bye.

Rob

Bye.