

Hobbies

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Sòng xinsheng hé Shmìs zài Bìjng de Quánjùdè ch kōy, tmen xin dinle cài, ránhòu kish bin ch bin liáo.

Sòng xinsheng: Duìle, Shmìs xinsheng, n píngcháng du xuān zuò shénme ne?

Shmìs: Píngcháng a? Píngcháng jiù shàngshàngbn, xiàbn yhòu yushíhou huíji péi jirén, yushíhou gn tóngshì péngyou qù jìgun h jì.

Sòng xinsheng: Ō, w y tngshu Yngguórén tèbié xuān qù jìb h jì.

Shmìs: Shudào zhège, w juéde bǐ jiào jìb, qíshí nàxi h jì de difang gèng xiàng jìgun. Zài Yngguó h jì de difang yu ling zhng, yì zhng ky tiàow, lmiàn de qǐfn nà shì xingdng rèliè, dàji jiào t club, zhè zhng ynggi suànshì jìb. Ránhòu yì zhng shì Zhngguórén shu de jìgun ba, jiù shì pub, wmen dàdu zài lmiàn chchí dngxi hhe xio jì liáoliào tìn shénme de, zngjìn gnqíng ma.

Sòng xinsheng: Zhè zhnshì dì-y ci tngshu, n zhème jìngjì yíxià jiù qngchule. Xiàng wmen Zhngguó de niánqngren a, xiànzài y pào jìb, n kàn Bìjng zhèbin Snltún a Hòuhì a, dào chù du shì jìb. Xiànzài du bù shíxng jiào jìgun le, shá h jì de difang du jiào jìb!

Shmìs: Shì de, Bìjng de jìb hn du qǐfn du hn bú cuò! W hn xuān. Nà Sòng xinsheng, Zhngguórén píngcháng hái gàn xi shénme ne?

Sòng xinsheng: Xiàng wmen zhèxi zhngniánrén, mǐ tīn bú jiù shì gè zhng yìngchou gè zhng chfàn ma! Ránhòu y hái jngcháng qù chāng K a, qù cu màjiàng a, dpái shénme de. Xiànzài hái yu yìxi zhuyóudiàn, hái yu wán yóuxì de huìsu, gī niánqngren xiófèi. Zngzh yúlè huódòng shì yuèlái yuè dule. Nà Shmìs xinsheng, n yu shénme xiào méi?

Shmìs: Xiào? Sòng xinsheng n shì shu àihào ma? Jiù shì xun zuò de shìqing?

Sòng xinsheng: Chàbudu, jiù shì n yu shá xun de dngxi? Y bù yìding shì yào zuò de shìqing.

Shmìs: Ō, w tèbié xuān dòngwù.

Sòng xinsheng: È? N y shì a? Tàì qiòle, w y shì a!

Shmìs: Shì ma? Sòng xinsheng n xun shénme dòngwù?

Sòng xinsheng: W zui xuān gu le, lǐjì xuānqun shì zui ài a! Duì mùyángqun y tèbié yu gnqíng, w dàg tmen yì jì yngle yì tiào mùyángqun. Qíshí dòngwù du xun, w dúsh nà shíhou hái shulíuguo liúlàngmo, yngguo wgu, xio shíhou hái yngguo yzi.

Shmìs: Zhè yìdìn Zhng-xfng hái quèshí méi shénme chyi, Yngguórén y ho du xun gu. Wmen nà yu ho du yshng dòngwù hái jngcháng zài snlín gngyuán huódòng, w jngcháng cnji yìxi huánbo huódòng bng tmen yíngzào gèng ho shngcún de huánjìng.

Sòng xinsheng: Nà hái zhñ bú cuò a! Bú xiàng wmen zhèbin, chéngshìhuà tài lihaile, dòngwù du knbudàole a!

Shmìs: Èi, nà y shì méi yu bànf, Zhngguórén du ma!

Sòng xinsheng: Y shì. Duìle, w tngshu Yngguórén du duì hn du yùndòng xiàngmù hn chmí a! Shmìs xinsheng n ne?

Shmìs: Shì de shì de. W tèbié xuān yùndòng, zui xuān t zúqiú!

Sòng xinsheng: Nà shì bix de, Yngguó zúqiú nàme ho! Y suànshì yì zhng guómín yùndòng le.

Shmìs: Èn, píngcháng yukòng jiù xiàbn hòu gn tóngshì qù t yìhur. Búguò shuq guómín yùndòng, w dàoshi bú dà xun Yngshì gnlnqíu.

Sòng xinsheng: Zhège w bú dà lioji, shì nà zhng yì du rén polái poqu n l w y n, zhngzhe qing qiú de ma?

Shmìs: Hh, Sòng xinsheng n xíngróng de tài yuqùle. Chàbudu ba, w juéde zhège yùndòng yudin cbào, suy bú dà xuān.

Sòng xinsheng: Èn, wmen Zhngguórén y bù gunzhù zhège, suy bú dà lioji.

Shmìs: Nà Zhngguórén yìbn xuān shénme yùndòng xiàngmù?

Sòng xinsheng: Nà jiù shubuzhñle, tài du le a.

Shmìs: Sòng xinsheng n jiù j ge lizi kankan? Zhège w hái tng hàoqí de.

Sòng xinsheng: Wmen zhèbin a, zài xuèshng shídài de shíhou, yìbn nánháiz wán lánqíu huò zúqiú, nháizi wán páiqíu huò ymáoqiú. Zhìyú tiàoshéng a pngpngqiú a yóuyng a zhè zhng, n zhdao de, yìbn cóng xio jiù huì jichù, méi shì jiù huìqù wánwan de. Xiàng wmen zhè zhng niánjì dà dìn de, y jiù bjiào xhuále, dda zhuqiú snuòkè bolíngqiú shénme de, u'r wánwan go'rf, diàodiao yú, du shì yu de. Xiànzài dì bù du, hn du yùndòng chngsu y du yu xiànzhì, jishàng shídài bù yìyàngle, dàji du kish jìn jiànshnfáng le, suy qíshí yùndòng xiàngmù y zài jìnsho.

Shmìs: Yuánláì rúc, tng yuyisì de. Nà Sòng xinsheng, wmen xià cì ky yìq qù d snuòkè a!

Sòng xinsheng: Yào de yào de, huítóu w jiào n n yìding yào lái a!

Shmìs xinsheng: W knđing lái.

Vocab and notes

() Verb Verb bin Verb bin Verb 'do Verb as one does Verb'

píngcháng 'usually, ordinarily'

shàngbn 'go to work'

() xiàbn yhòu 'after work'

() yushíhou 'sometimes'

huíji 'go home'

péi jirén 'to be with my family'

tóngshì péngyou 'colleagues and/or friends'

() jìgun 'pub, bar'

() tngshu 'hear that'

jìb 'bar'

() juéde 'feel, think'

() shudào zhège 'talking about that'

bǐ 'compared with, rather than'

() qíshí 'actually'

gèng xiàng 'be more like'

tiàow 'to dance'

() qǐfn 'atmosphere'

() xingdng rèliè 'quite warm'

dàji 'everybody'

() ynggi suànshì 'should be considered as'

() ránhòu yì zhng 'the other sort'

Ba may add a note of vagueness, e.g. Shì ba 'I think so' or Knéng shì ba 'Maybe it is so'.

dàdu 'mostly'

xiojiù 'a drop of wine (along with the main activity)'

liáotín 'to chat'

() zngjìn gnqíng 'get to know each other better' (literally 'further feelings')

zhnshì 'really'

dì-y ci 'the first time'. For some reason, y is pronounced in Tone 1 in this word, instead of the expected Tone 2.

() jìngjì 'explain'

qngchule 'become clear'

()() Xiàng wmen Zhngguó de niánqngren a 'As far as we young Chinese people are concerned'

pào 'hang about, go (to a bar etc.)'

shíxng 'popular'
 shá 'any'. Northern colloquial for rènhe.
 dào chù 'everywhere'
 ()() Zhngguórén píngcháng hái gān xi shénme? 'What else do Chinese people usually do?' Xi indicates that it is likely that there are several things.
 zhngniánrén 'middle-aged people'
 ()() gè zhng yíngchou gè zhng chfàn 'all sorts of social interaction and eating'
 ránhòu 'and then' (indicating another activity)
 ()K jngcháng qù chàng k 'often go and sing karaoke'
 () qū cu májiàng a, dpái shénme de 'go and play mahjong, play cards and things like that'
 yixi zhuyóudiàn 'some table games shops'
 wán yóuxì 'play games'
 huìsu 'club' (covers a good range of them)
 xiōfèi 'consume, spend money'
 zngzh 'in short'
 () yúlè huódòng 'entertainment activities'
 Note hào is Tone 4 (NOT Tone 3 as usual) in xiào 'preference, taste, interest'; àihào 'hobby'; and hàoqí 'curious'.
 shìqing 'thing, matter'
 bù yídìng 'not necessarily'
 Èi? 'Really?'
 dòngwù 'animal'
 Tài qièle. 'That's such a coincidence.'
 lǎjī xuqióqun 'Alaskan sledge dog, husky'
 mùyángqun 'sheepdog'
 ... duì ... yu gāngíng 'be interested ... in'
 dàg 'elder/eldest brother'
 yǎng 'raise'
 tiāo (mw for dogs etc.)
 () w dūsh nà shíhòu 'when I was studying/a student'
 shulíu 'look after, take in'
 liúlàngmō 'stray cat'
 wgu 'tortoise'
 yzi 'duck'
 quèshí 'certainly'
 chyi 'difference'
 yshng dòngwù 'wild animal'
 snlín 'forest'
 () huánbō huódòng 'environmental (protection) activities'
 ()()() bng tmen yíngzào gèng hō shngcún huánjīng 'help them build a better environment for their survival'
 bú xiàng 'not like'
 chéngshìhuà tài lihaile 'urbanization is too awful'
 knbudào 'cannot be seen' This is a [potential complement](#).
 Èi, nà y shì méi yu bànf. 'Yes, well there's nothing for it.'
 yùndòng xiàngmù 'sports events'
 ... duì...chmí 'be infatuated/obsessed by...'
 t zúqiú 'play football/soccer'
 bìx 'compulsory, necessary'
 èn 'mm. all right, yes'
 yukòng 'have spare time, be free'
 ...() ...hòu 'after ...'
 dàoshí 'actually, contrary to what might be expected'
 Yngshì gnlínqiú 'British-style rugby' liōji 'understand'
 yì du 'a team'
 l 'pull'
 y 'push'
 zhng 'strive/struggle to'
 qīng 'take by force, grab'
 xíngróng 'describe'
 yuqù 'amusing, interesting'
 chàbudu 'more or less'
 cbào 'rough'
 gunzhù 'pay attention to, follow closely'
 shubuzhn 'unable to say, can't say precisely'. This is a [potential complement](#).
 () j ge lizi 'give an example'
 () zài xuéshng shídài de shíhòu 'during one's time as a student'
 lánqiú 'basketball'
 páiqiú 'volleyball'
 ymáoqiú 'badminton'
 zhìyú 'as for'
 tiàoshéng 'skipping'
 pngpǎngqiú 'ping pong'
 yóuyǎng 'swimming'
 jīchù 'come into contact with'
 niánjì 'age'
 bjiào xhuàle 'it has got quite westernized'
 zhuqiú 'billiards'
 snuòkè (zhuàngqiú) 'snooker'. In Taiwan, this word is replaced by: zhuàngqiú.
 bolíngqiú 'bowling'
 u'r 'occasionally'
 gō'r 'golf'

diàoyú 'go fishing'
dì 'land'
() yùndòng chngsu 'sports facilities'
xiànzhì 'restriction'
() jìshàng shídài bù yìyàng 'on top of that the times are changing'
() jìn jiànshnfáng 'go to the gym'
zài jìnsho 'be decreasing'
() yuánlái rúc 'I see'
yuyisi 'interesting'
xià cì 'next time'

Hobbies

Mr Song and Mr Smith are eating roast duck at Quanjude in Beijing. They order the food and then start to chat as they are eating.

Mr Song: Well, Mr Smith, what do you usually like to do?

Mr Smith: Usually? I usually go to work and then after work I sometimes go home and spend time with my family and sometimes go to a bar and have a drink with colleagues or friends.

Mr Song: Oh, I've also heard that British people especially like to go to pubs (jib) and have a drink.

Mr Smith: Talking about that, I think that rather than calling them jib (bars), those drinking places are actually more like jigun (pubs). There are two sorts of drinking places in the UK, one where you can dance, the atmosphere inside is quite warm and everyone calls them clubs, and that sort should be considered to be jib. The other sort is possibly what the Chinese call jigun and those are pubs. We mostly eat in them, or have a drink, chat or something like that and get to know each other better.

Mr Song: It's the first time I've heard about this, as you've explained about it, it's become clear. Young Chinese people like us, we go to bars nowadays. If you look at Sanlitun or Houhai here in Beijing, everywhere's a bar. Nowadays it's not popular to call them jigun; any drinking place is called a jib!

Mr Smith: Yes, there are many bars in Beijing and their atmospheres are really good! I really like them. Well, Mr Song, what else do Chinese people usually do?

Mr Song: For middle-aged people like us, everyday it is really all sorts of social interaction and eating! We also often go and sing karaoke, play mahjong, play cards and things like that. There are also some table games shops and clubs for playing games, for young people to spend money. In other words, there are more and more entertainment activities. Well, Mr Smith, what interests do you have?

Mr Smith: Interests? Do you mean hobbies? Things I like to do?

Mr Song: More or less, do you have any things you like? Not necessarily things you do.

Mr Smith: Oh, I really like animals.

Mr Song: Really? You too? What a coincidence, I like them too!

Mr Smith: Is that right? Which animals do you like?

Mr Song: I like dogs most, Alaskan huskies are my favourite! I'm also especially interested in sheepdogs. My elder brother's family raised one. Actually I like all animals. Even when I was a student I took in a stray cat and looked after a tortoise, and when I was small I had a duck.

Mr Smith: There is certainly no cultural difference between China and the west on this point, really many British people also like dogs. We have many wild animals which often live in woods and parks. I often get involved in environmental protection activities, helping them to build a better environment for survival.

Mr Song: That's really good! It's not like us here. The urbanization is really awful and the animals have disappeared!

Mr Smith: Oh, there's nothing to do about it, there are so many Chinese people!

Mr Song: That's also true. Well, I hear that many British people are really fanatical about many sports events! How about you?

Mr Smith: Ha ha, yes. I especially like sport and like football most of all!

Mr Song: No wonder, British football is so good. It is also considered to be a sort of national sport.

Mr Smith: Yes, usually when I have free time I go and play for a while with colleagues after work, but speaking of national sports, I actually don't much like British rugby.

Mr Song: I don't understand that too much either – it's something like a team runs here and there, you pull me, I push you, and we struggle to grab the ball!

Mr Smith: Ha ha, the way you describe it is really funny. More or less. I think the sport is a little rough, so I don't like it much.

Mr Song: We Chinese also don't pay much attention to it, and so don't understand it much.

Mr Smith: Well what sports events do Chinese people generally like?

Mr Song: That's difficult to say, there are too many.

Mr Smith: Can you give some examples? I'm really quite curious about this.

Mr Song: For us here, when we're students, boys generally play basketball or football and girls play volleyball or badminton. As far as skipping, ping pong, swimming and that sort of thing are concerned, you know, one generally comes into contact with them from childhood on and if you don't have something to do you can go and play them again. For people who are a little older, like us, it has become quite westernized, we play billiards, snooker, bowling etc. and occasionally we play golf or fish, you'll find all of that. There isn't much land at present, many sports facilities have restrictions, and on top of that the times are changing. Everyone's going to the gym, so actually sports events are decreasing in number.

Mr Smith: I see, it's quite interesting. Well Mr Song, next time we can go and play snooker!

Mr Song: Let's. I'll call you later, so do come.

Mr Smith: I'll certainly come.