
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Authentic Real English 地道英语

To go around the houses

拐弯抹角的问题



- 关于台词的备注:
请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。
- 请注意: 中文文字内容只提供简体版

Feifei

大家好, 欢迎收听由 BBC 制作的《地道英语》节目。我是冯菲菲, 还有我的搭档...

Rob

...and me, Rob. Hello!

Feifei

Rob, I've been meaning to ask... you've got a car haven't you? 我想借用 Rob 的车, 但不知道怎么开口是好。

Rob

Err... yes I have, Feifei.

Feifei

Is it quite a... special car? You know, a valuable, expensive one?

Rob

No no, it's just an old car – but it gets me around. Why are you asking?

Feifei

Oh no reason... 要不我问问他的车是不是经常开? You don't use it much, do you?

Rob

No... Feifei, there's no need to go around the houses – just say what you want to say.

Feifei

OK... can I borrow your car please? But don't worry, I won't go around the houses – I just want to go to the supermarket.

Rob

Ha! Feifei when I said there's no need 'to go around the houses', I wasn't referring to where you drive my car. I mean, you don't have to waste time saying lots of unimportant things before you actually say what you want to say.

Feifei

哦，我明白了。在英语里，我们用 **go around the houses** 来形容一个人拐弯抹角的、不直截了当地问问题或浪费时间在做什么无用功。这么一说，**Rob** 其实就是让我直截了当的说想说的话，**Rob, you mean I should get to the point?**

Rob

Yes, that's another way of putting it. Basically it means you take a long time to say or do something, when in reality it can be done or said a lot quicker. Let's hear some examples of the phrase 'to go around the houses' in action...

Examples

Don't go around the houses: just tell me straight, what have you done?

He went all around the houses talking about the match but all I wanted to know was who won?

I didn't know how to tell him he'd failed his exams so I went all around the houses before I let him know.

Feifei

所以，短语 **to go around the houses** 常被用来形容旁敲侧击的、拐一大圈儿问问题。**Rob, you haven't answered my question yet.**

Rob

Err, what was the question?

Feifei

Can I borrow your car... please?

Rob

Oh well, erm, I need to fill it up with petrol...

Feifei

Oh right...

Rob

And I need to drive to work...

Feifei

But that's not until Monday!

Rob

And it's not very tidy inside...

Feifei

Rob – don't go around the houses – your answer is 'no' isn't it?

Rob

Yes Feifei. You can't borrow it. I crashed it last week – nobody can drive it!

Feifei

Well, you certainly won't be going around any houses then Rob!

Rob

Very funny Feifei.

Both

Bye!