

沉浸中文 第四期 中国人的英语

Part 1 Chinese Character

大家好，欢迎来到沉浸中文。和我一起从现在开始说中文。今天我想和大家聊一个很有意思的话题，那就是，为什么中国人的英文不好。也许有的朋友并不同意我的这个说法，因为他们有来自中国的朋友或者同事能够说很好的英语。又或者他们看过一些视频，有人去采访在中国的学生，中学生或者大学生，发现好像他们的英语水平都挺不错的。但我可以以一个中国人的角度告诉你，其实这可能只是一个误解。

绝大部分的中国人的英语水平并不是很好，尤其是在口语和听力方面。当然，这也看情况。如果你在诸如上海或者北京这样的大城市，和年轻人对话的话呢，也许你会发现大部分的年轻人能够和你用英语进行一些对话。但如果你去小城市，那么情况就不一样了。我的家乡是中国的一个小城市，我很多的朋友都并不能够说很好的英语，更不用说我父母这一代的人了。

那为什么中国人的英语不好呢？我认为有三个原因。第一个原因呢就是英文和中文其实是非常不一样的语言。我有时候和朋友会开玩笑说，中国人学英语就和外国人学中文一样困难。当然这有一些夸张，因为在学习中文的过程当中，你还需要学习怎么写汉字，而汉字本身和英文当中的书写系统就很不一样了。但回到我刚才所说的，英文和中文是两个很不一样的语言，不管是发音、词汇，还是语法，都很不一样。举一个例子，你应该知道中文里其实是没有动词变形的这样一个语法存在的。那其实在我自己学习英语的过程当中，最让我头疼的语法之一呢就是动词的变形。即使我现在已经在海外生活几年了，但是当我需要说某件事情发生在过去的时候，我还是需要思考如何去变形。而在我所学习的其他语言里，日语、荷兰语、西班牙语，都需要学习变形。所以，我的大脑其实已经非常习惯了中文里的那种不需要变形的思维。当我在学习其他语言，包括英语的时候，动词变形对我来说就是一个很困难的点。

第二个为什么中国人英文不好的原因是教育。虽然英语在中国的教育系统里是一个必修课程，但我们主要是在学习读和写。在中国最重要的一个考试，高考里面，我们就只考读和写。在有些地区，也许会加上听力和口语，但是绝大部分的地方都只是读和写。在中国这样一个以考试为导向的国家来说，如果考试里不需要考，那么我就不需要学。所以对于很多孩子来说，他们并没有去学习听力和口语的动力和机会。

第三个原因是没有英语的环境。中国不是一个移民国家，这意味着在中国居住的绝大部分人都是中国人，彼此交流的语言就是普通话或者当地的方言，而并非英语。所以我们并没有很好的环境来练习我们的英语口语。中国的电视节目上也没有很多英语的内容。我记得我小时候在电视上还能看到日语的动漫，但是现在基本上是看不到了的。那英语的话呢，一般英语的电影我们都会有的中文的配音。所以，我们很难有机会用英语去学习或者观看有趣的内容。再加上很多的海外社交媒体在国内是禁止的，比如说 Google、Facebook、Twitter，很多的这样的社交媒体很多中国人是无法访问的。这样的话，我们所接受到的信息都是中文的。

除非我特地去找英文的电影，英文的书籍，或者在网上阅读英文的文章，我很少有机会接触到英文的内容。在中国，英文的环境是很缺乏的。然而，我现在所居住的荷兰却恰恰相反。在荷兰这个非英语母语的国家中，英文水平可以说是最好的。这也有几个原因。

首先，荷兰语和英语很相似，它们的语法和词汇都很类似。比如说，在英语里交流是"communication"，而在荷兰语里面是"communicatie"。如果你知道荷兰语的发音的话，那么记忆这个单词就是很容易的事情了。当然，荷兰语也有一些自己的不同的单词和英语不一样。

第二个原因是荷兰是一个移民国家，使用英文的机会非常多。如果你在阿姆斯特丹的街头上走着，你听到英文的概率可能要比听到荷兰语的概率高很多。包括我在这边认识的朋友，很多都来自不同的国家，那这样我们平时交流的时候就是用英语交流的。这样的话，我的英语水平也就能得到提升。

第三个原因是，这边很多的电视节目、游戏都可以用英语完成。比如说，我的一个朋友他就告诉我，他从小在电视上就看了很多英语的节目，那这样他从小就是沉浸在英语的这个环境里的，所以他现在能够说很好的英语。这就是原因之一。还有就是这边的社交媒体，它不像在中国国内受到了限制，所以你可以接收到很多英文的信息。

最近，我看到中国国内的新闻说有一个政治家提议把英文从必修课程变成选修课程。我非常反对这一个提议，因为我自己就是一个英语的受益者。当我能够用英语去工作和别人交流时，那么我就可以来应聘在中国以外的岗位。还有很多的重要的文献、研究和书籍都是用英文写作而成的。所以我认为学习使用英语是国际化非常重要的一部分。

当然，国内的大多数人还是知道英语的重要性的，特别是很多有钱人。他们有机会就会让自己的孩子从小开始接受很好的英语教育，甚至是让他们到欧美国家去上学。那这样他们就能够非常流利地掌握英语，从而开拓了很多的机会。不知道你是不是同意我上面所说的。

为什么中国人的英语不好以及为什么荷兰人的英语好，如果你也有一些类似的有趣的观察的话，欢迎和我交流。

那本期的主要内容到这里就结束了。我们下面来看一看本期播客当中出现的一些有意思的单词吧。

第一个单词就是"有意思"。例句："这个故事很有意思，我很喜欢"。

第二个单词是"绝大部分"。例句："绝大部分的学生都喜欢音乐"。

第三个单词是"诸如"。例句："我喜欢各种体育运动，诸如篮球、足球等等"。

第四个单词是"国际化"。其中的"化"就类似于英语里面的"-lization"。你可以说"全球化"，就是个"globalization"。例句："Tiktok 的国际化非常成功，在全世界都有很多使用者"。

第五个单词，也是我们的最后一个单词，是"有钱人"。例句："那个地方有越来越多的有钱人居住，所以房价也越来越高"。和上一个单词联系起来，这个现象呢我们可以称之为"贵族化"，也就是"gentrification"。

好的，那以上就是我们这一期播客的内容了。我们下期再见，拜拜！

Part 2 Chinese Character with Pinyin

dà jiā hǎo, huān yíng lái dào chén jìn zhōng wén. hé wǒ yì qǐ cóng xiàn zài kāi shǐ shuō zhōng wén. jīn tiān wǒ xiǎng hé dà jiā liáo yì gè hěn yǒu yì sī

de huà tí, nà jiù shì, wèi shí me zhōng guó rén de yīng wén bù hǎo. yě xǔ yǒu de péng yǒu bìng bù tóng yì wǒ de zhè gè shuō fǎ, yīn wèi tā

mén yǒu lái zì zhōng guó de péng yǒu huò zhě tóng shì néng gòu shuō hěn hǎo de yīng yǔ. yòu huò zhě tā men kàn guò yì xiē shì pín, yǒu rén qù cǎi fǎng zài

zhōng guó de xué shēng, zhōng xué shēng huò zhě dà xué shēng, fā xiàn hǎo xiàng tā men de yīng yǔ shuǐ píng dū tīng bù cuò de. dàn wǒ kě yǐ yǐ yì gè zhōng

guó rén de jiǎo dù gào sù nǐ, qí shí zhè kě néng zhǐ shì yì gè wù jiě.

jué dà bù fēn de zhōng guó rén de yīng yǔ shuǐ píng bìng bù shì hěn hǎo, yú qí shì zài kǒu yǔ hé tīng lì fāng miàn. dāng rán, zhè yě kàn qíng kuàng.

rú guǒ nǐ zài zhū rú shàng hǎi huò zhě běi jīng zhè yàng de dà chéng shì, hé nián qīng rén duì huà de huà ne, yě xǔ nǐ huì fā xiàn dà bù fēn de nián

qīng rén néng gòu hé nǐ yòng yīng yǔ jìn xíng yì xiē duì huà. dàn rú guǒ nǐ qù xiǎo chéng shì, nà me qíng kuàng jiù bù yì yàng le. wǒ de jiā xiāng shì

zhōng guó de yì gè xiǎo chéng shì, wǒ hěn duō de péng yǒu dū bìng bù néng gòu shuō hěn hǎo de yīng yǔ, gēng bù yòng shuō wǒ fù mǔ zhè yì dài de rén

liǎo.

nà wèi shí me zhōng guó rén de yīng yǔ bù hǎo ne? wǒ rèn wéi yǒu sān gè yuán yīn. dì yì gè yuán yīn ne jiù shì yīng wén hé zhōng wén qí shí shì fēi

cháng bù yì yàng de yǔ yán. wǒ yǒu shí hòu hé péng yǒu huì kāi wán xiào shuō, zhōng guó rén xué yīng yǔ jiù hé wài guó rén xué zhōng wén yì yàng kùn nán.

dāng rán zhè yǒu yì xiē kuā zhāng, yīn wèi zài xué xí zhōng wén de guò chéng dāng zhōng, nǐ hái xū yào xué xí zěn me xiě hàn zì, ér hàn zì běn shēn hé

yīng wén dāng zhōng de shū xiě xì tǒng jiù hěn bù yì yàng le. dàn huí dào wǒ gāng cái suǒ shuō de, yīng wén hé zhōng wén shì liǎng gè hěn bù yì yàng de yǔ

yán, bù guǎn shì fā yīn, cí huì, huán shì yǔ fǎ, dū hěn bù yì yàng. jǔ yì gè lì zǐ, nǐ yīng gāi zhī dào zhōng wén lǐ qí shí shì méi

yǒu dòng cí biàn xíng de zhè yàng yì gè yǔ fǎ cún zài de. nà qí shí zài wǒ zì jǐ xué xí yīng yǔ de guò chéng dāng zhōng, zuì ràng wǒ tóu téng de yǔ

fǎ zhī yì ne jiù shì dòng cí de biàn xíng. jí shǐ wǒ xiàn zài zài yì jīng zài guó wài shēng huó jǐ nián liǎo, dàn shì dāng wǒ xū yào shuō móu jiàn shì qíng fā

shēng zài guò qù de shí hòu, wǒ hái shì xū yào sī kǎo rú hé qù biàn xíng. ér zài wǒ suǒ xué xí de qí tā yǔ yán lǐ, rì yǔ, hé lán

yǔ, xī bān yǎ yǔ, dū xū yào xué xí biàn xíng. suǒ yǐ, wǒ de dà nǎo qí shí yǐ jīng fēi cháng xí guǎn liǎo zhōng wén lǐ de nà zhǒng bù xū yào

biàn xíng de sī wéi. dāng wǒ zài xué xí qí tā yǔ yán, bāo kuò yīng yǔ de shí hòu, dòng cí biàn xíng duì wǒ lái shuō jiù shì yì gè hěn kùn nán de

diǎn.

dì èr gè wèi shí me zhōng guó rén yīng wén bù hǎo de yuán yīn shì jiào yù 。 suī rán yīng yǔ zài zhōng guó de jiào yù xì tǒng lǐ shì yí gè bì xiū kè

chéng , dàn wǒ men zhǔ yào shì zài xué xí dú hé xiě 。 zài zhōng guó zuì zhòng yào de yí gè kǎo shì , gāo kǎo lǐ miàn , wǒ men jiù zhǐ kǎo dú hé

xiě 。 zài yǒu xiē dì qū , yě xǔ huì jiā shàng tīng lì hé kǒu yǔ , dàn shì jué dà bù fēn de dì fāng dōu zhǐ shì dú hé xiě 。 zài zhōng guó zhè yàng

yí gè yǐ kǎo shì wéi dǎo xiàng de guó jiā lái shuō , rú guǒ kǎo shì lǐ bù xū yào kǎo , nà me wǒ jiù bù xū yào xué 。 suǒ yǐ duì yú hěn duō hái

zǐ lái shuō , tā men bìng méi yǒu qù xué xí tīng lì hé kǒu yǔ de dòng lì hé jī huì 。

dì sān gè yuán yīn shì méi yǒu yīng yǔ de huán jìng 。 zhōng guó bù shì yí gè yí mín guó jiā , zhè yì wèi zhuó zài zhōng guó jū zhù de jué dà bù fēn rén

dōu shì zhōng guó rén , bǐ cǐ jiāo liú de yǔ yán jiù shì pǔ tōng huà huò zhè dāng de de fāng yán , ér bìng fēi yīng yǔ 。 suǒ yǐ wǒ men bìng méi yǒu hěn

hǎo de huán jìng lái liàn xí wǒ men de yīng yǔ kǒu yǔ 。 zhōng guó de diàn shì jì mù shàng yě méi yǒu hěn duō yīng yǔ de nèi róng 。 wǒ jì dé wǒ xiǎo shí

hòu zài diàn shì shàng hái néng kàn dào rì yǔ de dòng màn , dàn shì xiàn zài jī běn shàng shì kàn bù dào le 。 nà yīng yǔ de huà ne , yí bān yīng yǔ

de diàn yǐng wǒ men dōu huì yǒu zhōng wén de pèi yīn 。 suǒ yǐ , wǒ men hěn nán yǒu jī huì yòng yīng yǔ qù xué xí huò zhè guān kàn yǒu qù de nèi róng 。

zài jiā shàng hěn duō de hǎi wài shè jiāo méi tǐ zài guó nèi shì jìn zhǐ de , bǐ rú shuō Google、Facebook、Twitter, hěn duō de

zhè yàng de shè jiāo méi tǐ hěn duō zhōng guó rén shì wú fǎ fāng wèn de 。 zhè yàng de huà , wǒ men suǒ jiē shòu dào de xìn xī dōu shì zhōng wén de 。

chú fēi wǒ tè de qù zhǎo yīng wén de diàn yǐng , yīng wén de shū jí , huò zhè zài wǎng shàng yuè dú yīng wén de wén zhāng , wǒ hěn shǎo yǒu jī huì jiē chù

dào yīng wén de nèi róng 。 zài zhōng guó , yīng wén de huán jìng shì hěn quē fá de 。 rán ér , wǒ xiàn zài suǒ jū zhù de hé lán què qià qià xiāng fǎn 。

zài hé lán zhè gè fēi yīng yǔ mǔ yǔ de guó jiā zhōng , yīng wén shuǐ píng kě yǐ shuō shì zuì hǎo de 。 zhè yě yǒu jǐ gè yuán yīn 。

shǒu xiān , hé lán yǔ hé yīng yǔ hěn xiāng sì , tā men de yǔ fǎ hé cí huì dōu hěn lèi sì 。 bǐ rú shuō , zài yīng yǔ lǐ jiāo liú shì

"communication", ér zài hé lán yǔ lǐ miàn shì "communicatie" 。 rú guǒ nǐ zhī dào hé lán yǔ de fā yīn de huà , nà me

jì yì zhè gè dān cí jiù shì hěn róng yì de shì qing le 。 dāng rán , hé lán yǔ yě yǒu yī xiē zì jǐ de bù tóng de dān cí hé yīng yǔ bù yí

yàng 。

dì èr gè yuán yīn shì hé lán shì yí gè yí mín guó jiā , shǐ yòng yīng wén de jī huì fēi cháng duō 。 rú guǒ nǐ zài ā mǔ sī tè dān de jiē tóu shàng

zǒu zhuó , nǐ tīng dào yīng wén de gāi shuài kě néng yào bǐ tīng dào hé lán yǔ de gāi shuài gāo hěn duō 。 bāo kuò wǒ zài zhè biān rèn shí de péng yǒu , hěn

duō dū lái zì bù tóng de guó jiā nà zhè yàng wǒ men píng shí jiāo liú de shí hòu jiù shì yòng yīng yǔ jiāo liú de zhè yàng de huà wǒ de yīng yǔ
多都来自不同的国家，那这样我们平时交流的时候就是用英语交流的。这样的话，我的英语
shuǐ píng yě jiù néng gòu dé dào tí shēng
水平也就能够得到提升。

dì sān gè yuán yīn shì zhè biān hěn duō de diàn shì jié mù yóu xì dōu kě yǐ yòng yīng yǔ wán chéng bǐ rú shuō wǒ de yí gè péng yǒu tā jiù
第三个原因是，这边很多的电视节目、游戏都可以用英语完成。比如说，我的一个朋友他就
gào sù wǒ tā cóng xiǎo zài diàn shì shàng jiù kàn le hěn duō yīng yǔ de jié mù nà zhè yàng tā cóng xiǎo jiù shì chén jìn zài yīng yǔ de zhè gè huán jīng
告诉我，他从小在电视上就看了很多英语的节目，那这样他从小就是沉浸在英语的这个环境
lǐ de suǒ yǐ tā xiàn zài néng gòu shuō hěn hǎo de yīng yǔ zhè jiù shì yuán yīn zhī yī huán yǒu jiù shì zhè biān de shè jiāo méi tǐ tā bù xiàng
里的，所以他现在能够说很好的英语。这就是原因之一。还有就是这边的社交媒体，它不像
zài zhōng guó nèi shòu dào le xiàn zhì suǒ yǐ nǐ kě yǐ jiē shòu dào hěn duō yīng wén de xìn xī
在中国国内受到了限制，所以你可以接收到很多英文的信息。

zuì jìn wǒ kàn dào zhōng guó guó nèi de xīn wén shuō yǒu yí gè zhèng zhì jiā tí yì bǎ yīng wén cóng bì xū kè chéng biàn chéng xuǎn xiū kè chéng wǒ fēi cháng
最近，我看到中国国内的新闻说有一个政治家提议把英文从必修课程变成选修课程。我非常
fǎn duì zhè yí gè tí yì yīn wéi wǒ zì jǐ jiù shì yí gè yīng yǔ de shòu yì zhě dāng wǒ néng gòu yòng yīng yǔ qù gōng zuò hé bié rén jiāo liú
反对这一个提议，因为我自己就是一个英语的受益者。当我能够用英语去工作和别人交流
shí nà me wǒ jiù kě yǐ lái yīng pīn zài zhōng guó yǐ wài de gǎng wèi hái yǒu hěn duō zhòng yào de wén xiàn yán jiū hé shū jí dōu shì yòng yīng
时，那么我就可以来应聘在中国以外的岗位。还有很多的重要的文献、研究和书籍都是用英
wén xiě zuò ér chéng de suǒ yǐ wǒ rèn wéi xué xí shǐ yòng yīng yǔ shì guó jì huà fēi cháng zhòng yào de yí bù fēn
文写作而成的。所以我认为学习使用英语是国际化非常重要的一部分。

dāng rán guó nèi de dà duō shù rén hái shì zhī dào yīng yǔ de zhòng yào xìng de tè bié shì hěn duō yǒu qián rén tā men yǒu jī huì jiù huì ràng zì
当然，国内的大多数人还是知道英语的重要性的，特别是很多有钱人。他们有机会就会让自
jǐ de hái zǐ cóng xiǎo kāi shǐ jiē shòu hěn hǎo de yīng yǔ jiào yù shèn zhì shì ràng tā men dào ōu měi guó jiā qù shàng xué nà zhè yàng tā men jiù néng
己的孩子从小开始接受很好的英语教育，甚至是让他们到欧美国家去上学。那这样他们就能
gòu fēi cháng liú lì de zhǎng wò yīng yǔ cóng ér kāi tuò le hěn duō de jī huì bù zhī dào nǐ shì bù shì tóng yì wǒ shàng miàn suǒ shuō de
够非常流利地掌握英语，从而开拓了很多的机会。不知道你是不是同意我上面所说的。

wéi shí me zhōng guó rén de yīng yǔ bù hǎo yǐ jí wéi shí me hé lán rén de yīng yǔ hǎo rú guǒ nǐ yě yǒu yī xiē lèi sì de yǒu qù de guān chá de
为什么中国人的英语不好以及为什么荷兰人的英语好，如果你也有一些类似的有趣的观察的
huà huān yíng hé wǒ jiāo liú
话，欢迎和我交流。

nà běn qī de zhǔ yào nèi róng dào zhè lǐ jiù jié shù le wǒ men xià miàn lái kàn yí kàn běn qī bō kè dāng zhōng chū xiàn de yī xiē yǒu yì sī de dān
那本期的主要内容到这里就结束了。我们下面来看一看本期播客当中出现的一些有意思的单
cí ba
词吧。

dì yí gè dān cí jiù shì "yǒu yì sī" lì jù zhè gè gù shì hěn yǒu yì sī wǒ hěn xǐ huān
第一个单词就是"有意思"。例句："这个故事很有意思，我很喜欢"。

dì èr gè dān cí shì "jué dà bù fēn" lì jù jué dà bù fēn de xué shēng dōu xǐ huān yīn lè
第二个单词是"绝大部分"。例句："绝大部分的学生都喜欢音乐"。

dì sān gè dān cí shì "zhū rú" lì jù wǒ xǐ huān gè zhǒng tǐ yù yùn dòng zhū rú lán qiú zú qiú děng děng
第三个单词是"诸如"。例句："我喜欢各种体育运动，诸如篮球、足球等等"。

dì sì gè dān cí shì "guó jì huà" qí zhōng de "huà" jiù lèi sì yú yīng yǔ lǐ miàn de "-lization" nǐ kě yǐ shuō "quán qiú huà",
第四个单词是"国际化"。其中的"化"就类似于英语里面的"-lization"。你可以说"全球化",

jiù shì gè "globalization" lì jù "Tiktok de guó jì huà fēi cháng chéng gōng zài quán shì jiè dōu yǒu hěn duō shǐ yòng zhě"
就是个"globalization"。例句："Tiktok 的国际化非常成功，在全世界都有很多使用者"。

dì wǔ gè dān cí yě shì wǒ men de zuì hòu yí gè dān cí shì yǒu qián rén lì jù nà gè de fāng yǒu yuè lái yuè duō de yǒu qián rén
第五个单词，也是我们的最后一个单词，是"有钱人"。例句："那个地方有越来越多的有钱人

jū zhù suǒ yǐ fáng jià yě yuè lái yuè gāo hé shàng yí gè dān cí lián xi qǐ lái zhè gè xiàn xiàng ne wǒ men kě yǐ chēng zhī wéi guì zú huà
居住，所以房价也越来越高"。和上一个单词联系起来，这个现象呢我们可以称之为"贵族化

，也就是"gentrification"。

hǎo de nà yǐ shàng jiù shì wǒ men zhè yí qī bō kè de nèi róng liǎo wǒ men xià qī zài jiàn bài bài
好的，那以上就是我们这一期播客的内容了。我们下期再见，拜拜！

Part 3 English Translation

Hello everyone, welcome to Real Chinese Talk. Let's start speaking Chinese together from now on. Today, I want to talk to you all about a very interesting topic, which is why Chinese people are not good at English. Some friends may not agree with my statement because they have friends or colleagues from China who can speak English very well. Or maybe they have watched some videos where people interviewed students in China, high school students, or university students and found that their English proficiency seems to be quite good. But I can tell you from a Chinese perspective that this may just be a misunderstanding.

The vast majority of Chinese people are not very good at English, especially in terms of speaking and listening. Of course, it depends on the situation. If you have conversations with young people in big cities like Shanghai or Beijing, you may find that most young people can have some conversations with you in English. But if you go to small cities, the situation is different. My hometown is a small city in China, and many of my friends cannot speak English well, not to mention people from my parents' generation.

So why are Chinese people not good at English? I think there are three reasons. The first reason is that English and Chinese are actually very different languages. Sometimes I joke with my friends that learning English for Chinese people is as difficult as foreigners learning Chinese. Of course, this is a bit exaggerated because in the process of learning Chinese, you also need to learn how to write Chinese characters, and Chinese characters themselves are very different from the writing system in English. But going back to what I just said, English and Chinese are two very different languages, whether it's pronunciation, vocabulary, or grammar, they are very different. Let me give you an example, you should know that there is actually no verb conjugation in Chinese grammar. But in my own process of learning English, one of the most challenging grammar aspects for me has been verb conjugation. Even though I have been living abroad for several years now, when I need to talk about something that happened in the past, I still need to think about how to conjugate the verb. And in the other languages I have learned, such as Japanese, Dutch, and Spanish, verb conjugation is required. So, my brain is actually very used to the way of thinking in Chinese that doesn't require conjugation. When I learn other languages, including English, verb conjugation becomes a difficult point for me.

The second reason why Chinese people are not good at English is education. Although English is a compulsory subject in the education system in China, we mainly focus on reading and writing. In China's most important exam, the Gaokao, we only have reading and writing tests. In some areas, listening and speaking might be included, but the majority of places only focus on reading and writing. In a country like China that is exam-oriented, if something is not required in the exam, then I don't need to learn it. So, for many children, they don't have the motivation and opportunity to learn listening and speaking.

The third reason is the lack of an English-speaking environment. China is not an immigrant country, which means that the vast majority of people living in China are Chinese, and the language they communicate in is Mandarin or the local dialect, not English. So we don't have a good environment to practice our English speaking skills. Chinese TV programs also don't have much English content. I remember when I was a child, I could still watch Japanese anime on TV, but now it's hardly available. As for English, most English movies have Chinese dubbing. So, we have very few opportunities to learn or watch interesting content in English. Additionally, many overseas social media platforms are blocked in China, such as Google, Facebook, and Twitter. Many Chinese people cannot access these social media platforms. As a result, the information we receive is mostly in Chinese.

Unless I specifically search for English movies, English books, or read English articles online, I rarely have the chance to come across English content. The English-speaking environment is lacking in China. However, the situation is quite the opposite in the Netherlands where I currently live. In the Netherlands, which is a non-English-speaking country, the English proficiency level is considered the best. There are several reasons for this.

First of all, Dutch and English are very similar. Their grammar and vocabulary are quite alike. For example, in English, "communication" is used for "交流", while in Dutch, it is "communicatie." If you know how to pronounce Dutch, then remembering this word is quite easy. Of course, Dutch also has some words that are different from English.

The second reason is that the Netherlands is an immigrant country, and there are many opportunities to use English. If you walk on the streets of Amsterdam, the chances of hearing English are much higher than hearing Dutch. Many of my friends here come from different countries, so we communicate in English. This way, my English proficiency improves.

The third reason is that many TV programs and games here can be experienced in English. For example, a friend of mine told me that he watched a lot of English programs on TV since he was young, so he was immersed in an English environment from a young age. That's why he can speak English very well. That is one of the reasons. Moreover, social media here is not restricted like in China, so you can receive a lot of English information.

Recently, I saw news from China suggesting that English should be changed from a required course to an elective one. I strongly oppose this proposal because I have personally benefited from learning English. When I can work and communicate with others in English, I can apply for positions outside of China. Many important documents, research, and books are written in English. Therefore, I believe learning to use English is a crucial part of internationalization.

Of course, most people in China are aware of the importance of English, especially many wealthy individuals. They seize the opportunity to provide their children with excellent English education from an early age and even send them to study in European and American countries. This way, they can fluently master English and open up many opportunities. I don't know if you agree with what I have said.

If you have any similar interesting observations about why Chinese people are not good at English and why Dutch people are good at English, feel free to discuss it with me.

That's the end of the main content for this episode. Now, let's take a look at some interesting words that appeared in this podcast episode.

The first word is "interesting." Example sentence: "This story is very interesting, I really like it."

The second word is "the vast majority." Example sentence: "The vast majority of students enjoy music."

The third word is "such as." Example sentence: "I like various sports, such as basketball, football, and so on."

The fourth word is "internationalization." The "-ization" part is similar to "-化" in Chinese. You can say "globalization"

for "全球化". Example sentence: "TikTok's internationalization is very successful, with many users worldwide."

The fifth and final word is "wealthy individuals." Example sentence: "There are more and more wealthy individuals living in that area, so the housing prices are also rising." In connection with the previous word, we can refer to this phenomenon as "gentrification" or "贵族化".

Alright, that wraps up the content for this podcast episode. See you in the next one, bye-bye!