

BBC Learning English – Real English

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Real English: To Kill Two Birds With One Stone 一箭双雕

Neil: This is Real English from BBC Learning English. I'm Neil.

Yang Li: 大家好，我是杨莉。

Neil: Today we're looking at English idioms.

Yang Li: 英语中有许多成语，特别精彩，值得专门记下来，今天我们学习那一个， Neil?

Neil: Today's idiom is – to kill two birds with one stone. To kill two birds with one stone.

Yang Li: Oh, 这个成语听起来很残忍！一个石头砸死两只鸟。

Neil: It does a bit. But it's a very useful idiom. It means to do two things at the same time, when you might have done just one.

Yang Li: 那倒是，听起来是一个非常有用的成语。当我们可以同时做两件事情而不是一件事，我们可以说 **I killed two birds with one stone.** 在汉语里我们就说一箭双雕。

Neil: So the Chinese is similar then? Here's an example of how to use it in English.

Examples

I went to Beijing on a business trip, but a lot of my family live there too, so I killed two birds with one stone – I worked hard but saw my family as well.

I'm making a birthday cake for my sister tonight - but it's my flatmate's birthday on Tuesday so I think I'll add just a few extra ingredients and make two cakes – kill two birds with one stone.

Yang Li: 上面对话说到这位女士去北京出差，因为自己的亲戚都在北京所以顺便就去探亲了。She killed two birds with one stone. 不管怎样，我们得快点儿走了！ Neil, do you want to go for a coffee?

Neil: Where are you going?

Yang Li: Just the coffee shop across the street.

Neil: Brilliant. I can go to the internet café next to the coffee shop and check my emails.

Yang Li: Ah, kill two birds with one stone?

Neil: Yes, I can kill two birds with one stone. Coffee and emails! Let's go.

Yang Li: 如果大家想学到更多的地道英语都可以登陆我们的网站 www.bbcchina.com.cn。
Thanks for listening. 下次再会。

Neil: Bye.