
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

The English We Speak

My mind's gone blank

The logo for BBC Learning English, featuring the letters 'BBC' in a white box above the words 'LEARNING ENGLISH' in white text on a teal background.

This is not a word-for-word transcript

Feifei

Hello everyone. Hello Rob. I'm here.

Rob

Oh, hello Feifei. Now... what are you doing here?

Feifei

You told me to come by. Here I am and... well, why do you need me here?

Rob

Well, Feifei, I wanted to... I needed to... well... you had to come here because...

Feifei

Because?

Rob

I don't know! My mind's gone blank!

Feifei

You've forgotten?!

Rob

Yes. When you say 'my mind's gone blank' it means that suddenly you've completely forgotten what you were about to do or say. Here are some examples of how to use this phrase.

Examples

I didn't do well in the job interview. When they asked me why I wanted to work there my mind went blank. I wasn't sure why I'd applied for that particular job at all!

Alan failed the exam. He studied hard but when he got into the classroom to take it he was so nervous that his mind went blank. But he is a good student so his teacher might give him a second chance.

Feifei

Hmmm... that is a useful expression. Sometimes my mind goes blank too. English can be a difficult language. So many words but... well, that's the English we speak...

Rob

Yes! Yes! That's it! I remember it now!

Feifei

What?

Rob

I called you here for us to present The English We Speak!

Feifei

Great, Rob! So I can leave now.

Rob

Why do you want to leave?

Feifei

Because the programme's finished, Rob, it's done.

Rob

How come?

Feifei

'My mind's gone blank' was today's expression in The English We Speak!

Rob

Ah... I see. OK. Bye!

Feifei

Bye!