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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## The English We Speak

### To make a mountain out of a molehill



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*This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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**Feifei**

Hi everyone, I'm Feifei, and this is The English We Speak and with me is ... is... Rob. Are you OK Rob?

**Rob**

No... I haven't finished writing the script for this programme – I still don't know how it's going to end.

**Feifei**

So what! Rob, it's not important.

**Rob**

What?! A script is not important – how am I going to make this programme word-perfect, without any mistakes? What will the audience think of me?

**Feifei**

At the moment, they probably think you are a little crazy – you're over-reacting Rob – you're making a mountain out of a molehill.

**Rob**

Making a mountain out of a molehill! I won't be making any mountains, I haven't got time.

**Feifei**

No Rob – it's just a saying! The phrase 'to make a mountain out of molehill' means you're making a big issue out of a small issue. You are over-reacting! So calm down Rob – it's not a big issue not having a script, is it?

**Rob**

[silence]

**Feifei**

Rob?

**Rob**

I don't know what to say – it's not on the script!

**Feifei**

Oh dear – we'd better hear some other examples of this phrase...

**Examples**

I only asked him to do the shopping and now he's going on about how he has no time to go to the pub – he's making a mountain out of a molehill.

It's only a 2000 word essay - stop making a mountain out of a molehill!

**Feifei**

So – making a mountain out of a molehill means making a small problem seem like a big one. And Rob, not finishing a script for this programme is a *small* problem.

**Rob**

If you say so Feifei.

**Feifei**

Just do what we always do – make it up!

**Rob**

OK, I'll try – hold on, what's that?

[DIGGING/SQUEAKING FX]

Look! A real mole has buried into the studio – so now we have a real molehill to make a mountain out of.

**Feifei**

You would *never* have written that in a script Rob!

**Rob.**

True. Bye!

**Feifei**

Bye!