
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

The English We Speak

Fireworks



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This is not a word-for-word transcript

Feifei

Hello and welcome to The English We Speak. You are Rob...

Rob

And you are Feifei. Hello!

Feifei

So, another year over, Rob.

Rob

Yes and what a year it's been – and there's just one more thing to do before the next year begins. Party!

Feifei

Yes, New Year means party season – so are you going to a party, Rob?

Rob

Yeah, Richard's invited me to his New Year bash at his house. Everyone's going – apart from you of course. And I've even invited Zhong.

Feifei

Oh dear.

Rob

Why do you say that?

Feifei

Well, if she goes, there will be fireworks.

Rob

Fireworks! Great!

Feifei

Not great, Rob. When we say there will be 'fireworks' we don't always mean the colourful exploding things we see in the sky. Sometimes 'fireworks' describes a lot of angry shouting. So if Zhong turned up at the party, there's bound to be some shouting and arguing.

Here are some more examples of fireworks...

Examples

The fireworks started when I told her what I really thought about her boyfriend!

Argh! I'm going to be late again. The boss is going to be furious when I get to work. There's going to be fireworks!

There's a public meeting about the new building plans tonight – and there's bound to be fireworks!

Feifei

This is The English We Speak from BBC Learning English. And I'm with Rob, who's off to a party where there might be fireworks... that's a lot of angry shouting. Enjoy the party, Rob!

Rob

Thanks. So why might there be lots of shouting?

Feifei

Well, Zhong is Richard's ex-girlfriend. Their relationship didn't end well.

Rob

Oh dear. The situation sounds a bit 'explosive'. Maybe it won't be such a happy New Year. Errr, what are your plans, Feifei?

Feifei

Me? Well I'm meeting my good friends by the river in London to watch the real fireworks – they're always amazing.

Rob

So, there'll be no angry shouting?

Feifei

Nope. Just cheering and laughter.

Rob

Sounds great. Maybe I could join you?

Feifei

Errr, go on then as it's New Year's Eve.

Rob

Great – it looks like our New Year celebrations will go with a bang!