

BBC Learning English
Q and A of the Week 你问我答
Winter clothes
冬季服装



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Rosie: Hi Li, why are you wearing so many layers of clothes? We're not at the North Pole.

Li: No, 不是在北极, 但是 But we're in London, and it's cold out here. 我穿的呀其实并不多... 只不过是毛袜子 woolly socks, 暖腿套 leg warmers, 牛仔裤 jeans, 一件T恤 a T-shirt, 两件毛衣 two jumpers, 一条围巾 a scarf, 手套 gloves... 还有我的冬帽 and a winter hat. But, Rosie, where are the rest of your clothes?

Rosie: Er, what do you mean? I'm fine.

Li: Rosie, you're going to freeze... 你是在找冻啊 That skirt is so short – your legs are going to be cold. And don't you have a coat?

Rosie: Don't worry about me, I'm fine... I'm English. But let's have a look at a question on this topic by Ming, from China:

Question

"I have a question: why do people in England wear very less clothes in winter, don't they scare cold? Thank you."

Li: So this is a question about English culture, I suppose. Ming 纳闷为什么英国人大冬天里还穿夏天的衣服。 Like you today, Rosie.

Rosie: Well, the first thing I should say, Ming, is that a lot of people do wear lots of clothes in winter – woolly jumpers, thick socks, scarves, gloves, and hats. Like Li today.

- Li:** Yes, but I often see guys in t-shirts and girls wearing really short skirts in winter. In China, you hardly ever see someone dressed like that when it is cold.
- Rosie:** Mmmm, well one reason might be that in London people don't spend very long outdoors in winter. They go to somewhere warm like a café or a pub. And they get the train or the bus rather than walk around.
- Li:** 这倒也是。英国人天冷的时候不会在户外呆很长时间，最多就是五分钟， but even for just five minutes outside, it's still nicer to be warm. I sometimes see girls wearing tiny dresses in winter.
- Rosie:** Some people do dress like that when they go out in the evening, especially if they're going to a nightclub. They don't want to go out in big winter clothes - they don't think it looks very fashionable.
- Li:** 女孩子们如果晚上出去聚会的话就会穿上短裙。 But they sometimes don't even wear a coat!
- Rosie:** But I wonder if that's to avoid paying the cloakroom fee? You know you often have to pay to put your coat in a cloakroom when you go to a nightclub.
- Li:** That's right. Rosie 说这些女孩外出不穿大衣也许是因为怕花存衣费。存衣处是 cloakroom 存衣费是 fee. 也许是怕取衣服的时候排长队...
- Rosie:** Or maybe it's just that English people like to be eccentric. To be honest, I'm not quite sure why some people wear summer clothes in winter.
- Li:** 或许是英国人喜欢古怪 to be eccentric... But for those who do like to keep warm, could you tell us some important words we need to know in English?
- Rosie:** Well, you'll need to know the word for jumper...
- Li:** 毛衣。
- Rosie:** Coat.
- Li:** 大衣。

- Rosie:** A hat and gloves.
- Li:** 帽子和手套。
- Rosie:** And what else? You can wear leg warmers or thick woolly socks.
- Li:** 暖腿套和后毛袜。
- Rosie:** (*shivering*) And all this will help to keep nice and warm.
- Li:** Rosie 看上去可是冻得够呛。Rosie, are you shivering?
- Rosie:** Brrr.... I'm fine, Li...
- Li:** You look like you're freezing. You have goosebumps on your arms. 鸡皮疙瘩就是 goosebumps. I told you to bring a coat!
- Rosie:** Well I must admit it is a bit chilly out here. Could I borrow your scarf?
- Li:** My scarf? No, you can't borrow my scarf.
- Rosie:** Well, what about a glove? Just one glove?
- Li:** One of my gloves? That means one of my hands is going to be cold.
- Rosie:** Oh go on Li, don't be cold-hearted...
- Li:** Very funny. 我可不是个心肠冰冷的人。来吧，快穿上我的这件毛衣吧。 You can wear one of my jumpers. And you can have one of my gloves.
- Rosie:** Thanks Li... Oh look, this looks like a nice café. Shall we have a nice warm drink?
- Li:** Yes, let's go in. Well, I hope we've answered your question, Ming. If you have a questions about English email us at questions.chinaelt@bbc.co.uk.

Rosie: Bye! And remember to bring warm clothes if you come to England in winter!

Li: Brrrrrrr! Bye!