

## Monkey Business 商场上动物行为的借鉴

*Vocabulary: management 词汇: 企业管理*

Do you want to understand your **work colleagues** better? Go to the zoo and observe the monkeys. That's the advice of the Dutch **business consultant** Patrick van Veen, who has biology on his **CV**.

He takes groups of business people around Chester Zoo in Britain and teaches them how primitive behaviour is **alive and well in the workplace**.

The mainly female audience attending the course **nod** when Mr van Veen describes how most offices have a set of **dominant** males, who **slap each other's backs, stamp their feet and draw themselves up tall**.



Watching the monkeys **grooming** one another, Mr van Veen emphasises the importance of this kind of supportive behaviour at work. "We spend a lot of time in **chit-chat**, drinking coffee with each other," he told BBC reporter Katie Prescott. "That's grooming behaviour, like primates do."

The consultant says managers might **neglect** to do this sometimes, but it is a vital part of keeping a happy environment in the workplace.

Exploring the similarities in behaviour between man and monkeys might be a new idea for a business, but the theory behind it is well known.

Sonya Hill, a research officer at Chester Zoo, points out that there's only a 1.4% difference in **genetic material** between humans and **chimpanzees**.

The course, held in several countries across Europe, has also given Mr van Veen the opportunity to do some observation of his own about the way different cultures react in the **corporate** world. He says that Germans are very **hierarchical**, but **open-minded** about changes in **management style**. The Dutch, according to the consultant, tend not to like change.

A visit to the zoo can prove inspiring and help people to understand the politics at play in the workplace. So, next time you want to see who is really King Kong in your office, pay close attention to who is grooming who.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

## Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. What are Patrick van Veen's two careers?
2. Why do women nod when Mr van Veen describes behaviour in the office?
3. What else do humans and monkeys have in common, apart from behaviour?
4. Is the following statement true, false or not given? *In Germany each office worker tends to make his own decisions.*
5. What action is described in the article as one of praise and grooming?

## Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Mary's son doesn't take "no" for an answer. If you don't give him what he wants, the seven year old \_\_\_\_\_ his feet and screams.

beats	steps	stamps	envelopes
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2. Johnny's neighbour is a great cook and he visits her often. The \_\_\_\_\_ is pleasant but his main interest is the food she offers him.

cha-cha-cha	blah blah	pick up	chit-chat
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3. Nowadays some couples decide to live together rather than get married. Many people are open-\_\_\_\_\_ about it.

headed	minded	groomed	eyed
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4. My mother is the \_\_\_\_\_ figure in the family. What she says goes.

dominant	doomed	dormant	doormat
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5. The police arrested the suspect after they found his \_\_\_\_\_ material on the knife used to kill the victim.

corporate	hierarchical	grooming	genetic
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## **Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇**

### **Quiz 小测验**

1. What are Patrick van Veen's two careers? He is a business consultant and a biologist.
2. Why do women nod when Mr van Veen describes behaviour in the office? Because they think men in their office behave like dominant male monkeys.
3. What else do humans and monkeys have in common, apart from behaviour? Genetic material.
4. Is the following statement true, false or not given? *In Germany each office worker tends to make his own decisions.* False. According to Mr van Veen, Germans are very hierarchical.
5. What action is described in the article as one of praise and grooming? To slap each other's backs.

### **Exercise 练习**

1. Mary's son doesn't take "no" for an answer. If you don't give him what he wants, the seven year old stamps his feet and screams.
2. Johnny's neighbour is a great cook and he visits her often. The chit-chat is pleasant but his main interest is the food she offers him.
3. Nowadays some couples decide to live together rather than get married. Many people are open- minded about it.
4. My mother is the dominant figure in the family. What she says goes.
5. The police arrested the suspect after they found his genetic material on the knife used to kill the victim.

## Glossary 词汇表

<b>a work colleague</b>	同事
<b>a business consultant</b>	商业顾问
<b>a CV (curriculum vitae)</b>	简历
<b>alive and well</b>	盛行的
<b>the workplace</b>	工作场所
<b>to nod</b>	点头
<b>dominant</b>	主导
<b>to slap each other's backs</b>	拍对方的后背
<b>to stamp their feet</b>	跺脚
<b>to draw themselves up tall</b>	把身体挺得笔直，摆出威风凛凛的样子
<b>to groom</b>	培训
<b>chit-chat</b>	聊天
<b>to neglect</b>	忽视
<b>genetic material</b>	遗传基因
<b>a chimpanzee</b>	黑猩猩
<b>corporate</b>	企业
<b>hierarchical</b>	等级制度的
<b>open-minded</b>	思想开放的，愿接受新事物的
<b>management style</b>	管理风格