BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Question and Answer of the Week 你问我答动词短语



light up 和 brighten up 一样吗?

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Jiaying

大家好,欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的"你问我答"节目,我是佳莹。这档节目解答广大的英语爱好者们发来的和英语语言以及英国文化有关的问题。本期节目的问题来自一位网友,问题由我来代读。

Question

"Light up"和"brighten up"都有"点亮"的意思,请问它们有什么区别呢?

Jiaying

谢谢这位网友发来的问题。

先来看动词短语"light up",它的过去式是"lit up"。"Light up"有三个不同的核心含义。第一,动词短语"light up"表示"点燃",常用来谈论"点烟,点火",是个非正式用法。在表达这个含义时,不一定要说明所"点燃"的事物本身,这是因为我们通常可以根据上下文推断出被"点燃"的是什么。听两个使用了"light up"的例句。

Examples

He was lighting up right in front of the 'no smoking' sign!

(他在"禁止吸烟"的标识牌前点了烟!)

She held the match for him while he lit up.

(他点烟时,她为他举着火柴。)

Jiaying

动词短语"light up"的第二个意思是"变亮,照亮",通常用来谈论事物"从暗突然到明"的过程。比如,打开电脑或移动设备时,显示器会"亮起来"。听三个用"light up"表示这个含义的例句。

Examples

The keyboard lights up when it's being used.

(键盘在使用时是亮的。)

The lead singer asked the crowd to wave their phones in the air and suddenly the whole arena lit up.

(主唱让观众在空中挥舞他们的手机,突然间整个场馆都被点亮了。)

The fireworks were beautiful – they lit up the night sky.

(烟花很美,照亮了夜空。)

Jiaying

"Light up"的第三个主要含义是用"点亮"的字面含义比喻某人"面露喜色,露出饶有兴趣或喜出望外的神情"。这些情绪通常从眼神或神情中露出来,注意,这种转变通常很突然。听三个例句。

Examples

My father's eyes always light up when my mum walks in the room.

(每当我妈走进房间时,我爸的眼中总是露出喜色。)

Whenever she talks about her childhood home, my grandmother's eyes light up.

(每当谈到她儿时的家时,我姥姥总会满面喜色。)

Wang Zheng's face lit up when he got his present. He was so happy!

(王铮收到礼物时喜形于色。他高兴极了!)

Jiaying

接着,来看看"brighten"。大多数情况下,"brighten"和"brighten up"是可以互换使用的,但有时,我们更常单独使用动词"brighten"。来通过例句学习"brighten"和"brighten up"的三个不同的含义。

动词"brighten"或动词短语"brighten up"的第一个意思是"变亮,使…变得更亮"。你常能在人们聊天气时听到这个用法。听两个例句。

Examples

The late afternoon sun brightens this room so nicely.

(傍晚的阳光把这个房间照得很亮堂。)

It was grey and rainy this morning, but it's brightened up now.

(今天早上阴雨绵绵,但现在放晴了。)

Jiaying

来说说动词"brighten"和动词短语"brighten up"的第二个含义。它们都能用来谈论"使某个地方、衣橱或服饰变得更鲜艳、更有吸引力"。听两个例句。

Examples

We planted flowers to brighten the area outside the door.

(我们种下了鲜花,让门外那片土地亮丽生色。)

Jim's decided it's time to brighten up his wardrobe with lots of colours and prints! (吉姆决定是时候用色彩斑斓、配有印花的服饰给他的衣柜添一抹亮色了。)

Jiaying

最后,看第三个含义: "brighten"还可以表示"变得更开心、更感兴趣或更兴奋",可以描述一个人整体的情绪或这个人的神色。在这种情况下,我们往往只用动词"brighten",后面不加"up"。听两个例句。

Examples

She's still sad, but her friends' visit seemed to brighten her a little.

(虽然她仍很难过,但朋友的来访似乎使她高兴了一点。)

He stopped crying, and his eyes brightened when I showed him the teddy bear.

(当我给他看泰迪熊时,他不哭了,眼神里也露出了喜色。)

Jiaying

你可能注意到了,刚刚讲到的动词"brighten"和"light up"的第三个核心含义相近,都可以表示"从不开心变开心"的过程。但两者的细微差别是:"brighten"所描述的情感转变不彻底,如果一个人"brightens up",那么此人"变得比之前高兴了",但并不完全开心;而"light up"所描述的幸福感则更突然、更清晰可见。再来听前面的两个例句,对比一下"light up"和"brighten"这个用法的区别。

Examples

Wang Zheng's face lit up when he got his present. He was so happy!

(王铮收到礼物时面露喜色。他特别高兴!)

He stopped crying, and his eyes brightened when I showed him the teddy bear.

(当我给他看泰迪熊时,他不哭了,眼中也露出了喜色。)

Jiaying

谢谢这位网友的提问。归纳一下,"light up"是动词短语,可以表示"点着,点燃"、"突然发亮,照亮"或比喻"某人面露喜色,变得更感兴趣或喜出望外"。"Brighten"和"brighten up"的三个主要含义包括: "变亮,放晴",可以描述天气;"变得更鲜艳或有吸引力",常用来谈论地点和服饰;它还可以描述"变得开心、更感兴趣或更兴奋"。相比之下,"light up"所描述的转变更突然,而"brighten"所描述的变化则更逐渐、更缓慢。

如果你在英语学习中遇到了难题,欢迎通过微博向我们提问。我们的微博账号是"BBC英语教学"。你也可以发邮件给我们,邮箱地址是:questions.chinaelt@bbc.co.uk谢谢收听"你问我答"节目。我是佳莹。我们下次再会!