BBC LEARNING ENGLISH
Question and Answer of the Week 你问我答
Flame, blaze and flare
辨析这三个表示"火"的单词

- *关于台词的备注:*
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Jiaying
大家好，欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的"你问我答"节目。I'm Jiaying – joining me is Beth.

Beth
Hello, everybody.

Jiaying
在本期节目中，我们来回答一个和"火"有关的问题，问题如下：

Question
亲爱的"你问我答"主持人，你们好。我想请教一下"flame、blaze、flare"这三个有关"火焰"的词有什么区别。谢谢！

Beth
Thank you for your question. Well, all three are related to fire but are used in different ways. Let's look at 'flame' first. 'Flame' can be a verb, but it's more natural to use it as a noun. 'Flame' as a noun refers to a stream of glowing, burning gas in the fire. Neither of the other two words are used to refer to the stream of gas.

Jiaying
这三个词都可以翻译成"火"，但它们的用法不同。问题中的第一个词"flame"虽然可以作动词使用，但它作名词时的用法更自然。名词"flame"指的"火"是"火焰，火舌"，也就是"燃烧中的一股气流"。其它的两个词都没有"（一道）火焰"的含义。请听两个使用了名词"flame"的例句。

Examples
He lit the match and it produced a single flame.
（他点燃了火柴，火柴上燃起了一道火焰。）

The flames spread through the house and the firefighters tried desperately to put them out.
（当时，火焰吞噬了整栋房屋，消防队员拼尽全力灭火。）

Jiaying
在上面的两个例句中，名词"flame"都表示"火焰、火舌"。

如果某个物体"着火了"，就可以说"in flames"，或者用"burst into flames"来表示"突然开始猛烈燃烧"，也就是"突然起火"。听两个例句。

Examples
The building was in flames when the police arrived.
（警察到达时，大楼已经着火了。）

The car burst into flames after it broke down.
（这辆车抛锚后突然起火了。）

Beth
'Blaze' is most commonly used as a noun and refers to a huge, very strong fire. The emphasis is on the size. Neither of the other words are used to describe a large fire.

Jiaying
"Blaze"常用作名词，指"大火，烈火"，强调"火势极为猛烈"。听两个例句。

Examples
The footage shows the blaze as it spread through the factory.
（视频中播放了大火在工厂蔓延的情景。）

The blaze was so intense that the heat melted the metal structure.
（火势猛烈，热量熔化了金属结构。）

Beth
'Blaze' can also be used as a verb to describe the action of burning very fiercely and brightly.

Jiaying
"Blaze"还可以作动词使用，表示"熊熊燃烧，强烈地发光"。听两个包含动词"blaze"的例句。

Examples
The Sun blazed over the desert.
（阳光照耀着沙漠。）

The fire blazed for hours, long into the night.
（大火烧了几个小时，直至深夜。）

Jiaying
最后，我们来讲问题中的第三个词："flare"。

Beth
'Flare' can be used as a noun or a verb and refers to a fire suddenly increasing in brightness.

Jiaying
没错，名词"flare"指"突然闪耀的火光"。动词"flare"则表示"火突然烧旺起来"。比如："flare up（一下子烧起来）"。不论是作名词还是作动词，"flare"都强调"火焰突然旺起来，过程迅速且短暂"。听两个例句。

Examples
There was a flare in the fire when he threw some paper onto it.
（当他把纸扔到火上时，火焰中蹿起火光。）

The fire suddenly flared up again when the wind blew on it.
（风吹过，火一下子又燃了起来。）

Jiaying
好了，来归纳一下："flame"作名词时指"（一股）火焰，火舌"。"Blaze"作名词指"烈火，大火"，作动词表示"熊熊燃烧，猛烈地闪耀"。"Flare"作名词时指"火光"，作动词指"突然烧旺"，强调"燃烧的过程迅速且短暂"。

Beth
Thank you very much for listening. If you have a question about the English language you'd like to ask us, please send us an email. Our email address is: questions.chinaelt@bbc.co.uk

Jiaying
你也可以通过微博向我们提问。我们的微博账号是"BBC 英语教学"。Bye, everyone.

Beth
Bye!