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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## Authentic Real English 地道英语

### Curry favour 阿谀奉承

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#### **Feifei**

大家好，欢迎来到 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目。我是冯菲菲。

#### **Rob**

...and hello, I'm Rob. Erm, Feifei, why were you in the cafe with the boss earlier?

#### **Feifei**

Was I?

#### **Rob**

Come on. I saw you having lunch with the boss. Nobody ever has lunch with him.

#### **Feifei**

哎呀，刚才和上司吃饭，被 Rob 给看见了，我该找个什么借口呢？OK, I admit it. I was having lunch with the boss. What's wrong with that?

#### **Rob**

Well, we all know there is promotion in the department on offer – and you are obviously trying to curry favour with the boss so that you get the job. Honestly!

#### **Feifei**

Hold on. I can assure you I was not having curry with the boss – it was just a sandwich.

#### **Rob**

Feifei, if you curry favour with someone you are not eating curry. It means you are trying to get someone – the boss – to like you or even give you something. Something like a promotion.

#### **Feifei**

I was not! But I like the expression. 其实“curry favour”这个说法和“咖喱”没什么关系。If you curry favour with someone, you are trying to get them to like you or give you something. 也就是说“一个人讨好、奉承上司、老板、或有权的人”，就是俗话说的“拍马屁”。

**Rob**

OK. Let's hear some more examples of people currying favour with someone else.

**Examples**

I know what you're up to! You're trying to curry favour with the manager by telling her what a great job she's doing!

The company tried to curry favour with its employees by giving them all a pay rise.

He's trying to get free tickets to the gig by currying favour with the tour manager – it won't work!

**Feifei**

这里是 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目。本集节目中介绍的表达是“curry favour”，它用来描述一个人讨好有权利的人而从中获取利益。

**Rob**

Another way of saying it is you are trying to 'keep in with' someone.

**Feifei**

英语里另一个说法“keep in with someone”的意思和“curry favour”相似，用来描述一个人和他人搞好关系，友好相处。It's all a bit false, Rob, trying to make someone like you - which is why I was not trying to curry favour with the boss.

**Rob**

You won't get that promotion anyway.

**Feifei**

We were actually talking about you!

**Rob**

Oh yes?

**Feifei**

He wanted my advice on whether he should give the promotion to you.

**Rob**

To me! Well, come on then, what did you say?

**Feifei**

You'll need to curry favour with me, if you want to know that!

**Rob**

How about dinner? I know a nice little curry house just round the corner.

**Feifei**  
Bye.

**Rob**  
Bye.