

## Dishonouring Fred 爵士丢了乌纱帽

英语学习点: *Vocabulary: Public Humiliation* 有关羞辱的词汇

The man formally known as Sir Fred Goodwin is going to have to get used to being called plain old Mr Goodwin. He has now lost his **knighthood**.

The former head of Royal Bank of Scotland became the subject of a **public outcry** after RBS had to be bailed out by the British taxpayer, whose bill came to £45 billion (450 billion yuan).



*British taxpayers had to hand over £45 billion to RBS.*

Unsurprisingly, Sir Fred left the **company under a cloud**. But it was after this that the Scot was really **pilloried** - for drawing payments worth about £700,000 (seven million yuan) a year from a massive pension pot worth £16 million (160 million yuan).

After coming under fire for the package, Sir Fred eventually reduced his pension by £200,000 (two million yuan). But that wasn't enough to **appease** his critics, who have never forgiven Sir Fred for his role in causing the financial crisis. They continued **baying for blood** and began to **clamour** for the removal of a knighthood he had received in 2004 for services to banking.

Yesterday the Queen stripped the honour from the **discredited** banker. But now some people have **hit out** at the government for **vilifying** Goodwin. They believe that he has been made a **scapegoat** and is **taking the fall** for a much wider global financial crisis. The former Chancellor Alistair Darling said:

"I'm not here to defend Sir Fred... I just think we're getting into awful trouble here if we **go after** people on a whim."

At least Goodwin has a nickname he can revert to if he finds himself missing his title. In his days as a cost-cutting superboss he was proud of being known as 'Fred the Shred'.

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. Is Fred Goodwin a popular man in the UK?
2. What was Fred Goodwin called when he had a knighthood?
3. Was it cloudy when Goodwin left RBS?
4. Is this statement true, false or not given? *Fred Goodwin chose to reduce his pension.*
5. Look at the article. What noun describes a person or group that is blamed for something they are not entirely responsible for?

## 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. Following the scandal there was a massive public \_\_\_\_\_.

outcry	outlie	outsigh	out-try
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2. The government recently \_\_\_\_\_ about its proposals to change the health service.

became on fire	came under fire	got fired	put out a fire
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3. "It's not my fault! You're just making me a \_\_\_\_\_!"

scapegoat	scapecat	scapedonkey	scapepig
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4. After the firm's dismal performance, the shareholders were \_\_\_\_\_.

paying for blood	saying their blood	baying for blood	laying blood
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5. "It's time you stopped apologising and \_\_\_\_\_ your critics!"

hit out	hit at	hit at out	hit out at
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## Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

### Quiz 小测验

1. Is Fred Goodwin a popular man in the UK? No.
2. What was Fred Goodwin called when he had a knighthood? Sir Fred Goodwin.
3. Was it cloudy when Goodwin left RBS? Possibly, but that isn't relevant. If someone leaves a company under a cloud it means that they leave in disgrace.
4. Is this statement true, false or not given? *Fred Goodwin chose to reduce his pension.* True.
5. Look at the article. What noun describes a person or group that is blamed for something they are not entirely responsible for? A scapegoat.

### Exercise 练习

1. Following the scandal there was a massive public outcry.
2. The government recently came under fire about its proposals to change the health service.
3. "It's not my fault! You're just making me a scapegoat!"
4. After the firm's dismal performance, the shareholders were baying for blood.
5. "It's time you stopped apologising and hit out at your critics!"

### Glossary 词汇表

a knighthood 爵位	a public outcry 公众呼吁
to leave under a cloud 因坏名声而灰溜溜地离开	to be pilloried 当众受辱/受嘲弄
to come under fire 受到批评	to appease someone 安抚某人
to bay for blood 群起而攻之	to clamour for something 大声要求
to be discredited 使丢脸	to hit out at something 猛打/痛打
to vilify someone 诽谤/中伤某人	a scapegoat 替罪羊
to take the fall for something 众人错一人承担	to go after someone 追逐并制裁某人