Take Away English 随身英语 20 September 2012

BBC 英伦网

New words 字典里的新词

Vocabulary: Language and new words 语言和新词

If you're studying a foreign language, you'll know that learning **vocabulary** can often be a **painstaking** process. After all, there are thousands upon thousands of words, **expressions** and **idioms** to learn.

But sometimes, new words appear that can confound even **native speakers**. Each year, a new set of **neologisms** is added to the dictionary, reflecting the changing tastes and habits of a nation.



Members of the public were invited to submit new words and **phrases** to the Collins online dictionary, around 80 of which were chosen to appear in the new edition. They range from **slang** or **colloquial** terms, to words describing food, technology or scientific ideas.

For example, a young person might describe something as '**totes amazeballs**'; a phrase which has **evolved** from "totally amazing" and has been popularized by characters in teenage reality programmes. If you're happy about a situation, perhaps you might be '**made up**'; if not, you may end up telling someone to '**jog on**,' or go away.

Some of the words added may be a little more familiar. 'Facebook' is one of the world's biggest social media websites, so it's not surprising that it has made it into the dictionary. Similarly, terms such as '**SMS**' and 'Twitterer' reflect the ever-advancing technological age in which we live.

Maybe you know a '**bridezilla**', a **play on words** to describe a woman whose behaviour in planning her wedding is intolerable. If you're health conscious, you might be filling your supermarket trolley with **superfoods**.

Sometimes, learning a language can be tough and, with new words being added all the time, don't panic if you find that you've forgotten the name of something. Now, you can safely call it an **oojamaflip**, instead.

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 noun in the article means 'new words'?
- 2. How many new words were added to the Collins online dictionary?

3. Is the following statement true, false or not given? "The phrase 'totes amazeballs' refers to football."

- 4. If you are stressed when planning a wedding, what might you be called?
- 5. Which two terms in the article refer to social media?

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. Building a house from playing cards is a _____ process.

painkillers painstaking painful painting

2. I'm fluent in French, but I'll never be as good as a ______ speaker.

native national	naive	named
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3. I don't bother watching television these days, because there are too many _____ programmes.

	really	/ relative	real	reality	
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4. I'm not very health _____; I even eat chocolate for breakfast!

conscientious	consequence	conscience	conscious

5. I can't stand her taste in music, it's really _____.

internal intolerable interview interpret
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. What noun in the article means 'new words'? Neologisms

2. How many new words were added to the Collins online dictionary? Around 80

3. Is the following statement true, false or not given? "The phrase 'totes amazeballs' refers to football." <u>False. 'Totes amazeballs' is a slang term which means "totally amazing".</u>

4. If you are stressed when planning a wedding, what might you be called? Bridezilla

5. Which two terms in the article refer to social media? 'Facebook' and 'Twitterer'

Exercise 练习

1. Building a house from playing cards is a <u>painstaking</u> process.

2. I'm fluent in French, but I'll never be as good as a <u>native</u> speaker.

3. I don't bother watching television these days, because there are too many <u>reality</u> programmes.

4. I'm not very health <u>conscious;</u> I even eat chocolate for breakfast!

5. I can't stand her taste in music, it's really intolerable.

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Glossary 词汇表

vocabulary	词汇
painstaking	艰苦的
expressions	表达
idioms	成语
native speakers	说母语的人
neologisms	新词
phrases	短语
slang	俚语
colloquial	通俗的,口语的
totes amazeballs (totally amazing)	完全太棒了
evolved	进化
made up	(新词)满意,高兴
jog on	(新词)走开
SMS	短信
bridezilla	难缠新娘
play on words	玩字面游戏
superfoods	超级食品
oojamaflip (something whose name you cannot remember)	记不清名称的物品/那个什么,什么来着?

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