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(Football match on TV)

- Rob:** (*watching the match on TV*) No! No! Don't pass the ball to him!
- Li:** (*sitting with young Dominic, writing and drawing*) Rob 声音这么大! 画得很不错嘛, Dominic!
- Dominic:** (*drawing a picture*) Thank you, mummy! This is a balloon and the letter B! And this is...
- Li:** 这是个气球... 那是条船, 对吧?
- Dominic:** No! This is a ball, to play football! Can't you see?!
- Li:** 大家好我是杨莉, 这是 Dominic.
- Dominic:** ...and I am five! I'm a big boy now!
- Li:** 当然了, 你是个五岁的大孩子了! Rob 就在那边看电视, 为他的球队加油呢。
- Rob:** Argh! They're going to lose!
- Li:** 我们的 Dominic 正在学习写字...

(Football match on TV – goal)

- Rob:** Oh nooooo! They've lost another goal! The writing is on the wall now!
- Li:** Oh, no, writing on the wall? 我可不允许任何人在我家这干干净净的墙上写字? ! Dominic, 是不是你在墙上写字了? ! 别淘气!
- Rob:** No, no, no - there's nothing written on your wall, Li! In English, we use the expression 'the writing is on the wall' when we want to say that something bad is going to happen to something or someone and there isn't much you can do about it. Like my team. If it loses this match it is out of the championship.
- Li:** 这么说当你说 'The writing is on the wall' 意思就是注定要失败, 这跟在墙上写字没有关系, 哦, 没人能在我的墙上写字哦?

Rob: No. Here are some examples of how you use this expression.

Examples

My auntie is really sad because she had to close her shop. To be honest, the writing has been on the wall for her business for a long time.

You know Mary. She's a party girl that loves the city but I've heard her husband is shy and has always wanted to live on a farm. The writing is definitely on the wall for their marriage.

I haven't studied hard this year and I have been doing badly in exams. My teachers told me if I don't try harder the writing is on the wall.

Li: 从以上例句大家可以看到这个短语的意思是某事或某人注定要失败，要崩溃。嘿，反正我的墙壁仍然干干净净的!没有人捣乱，嗯 **Dominic** 仍然是个听话的好孩子!

(Football match on TV – goal)

Rob: Goooooal! Finally!

(sound of glass breaking)

Rob: Oh, sorry Li. Your walls are free of writing but your carpet is flooded with wine. Sorry. I've just knocked my glass on the floor by accident and there is a big stain...

Li: 你瞧 Rob 你可真会闯祸! 把葡萄酒洒了一地，把这漂亮的地毯给毁了!

Rob: Red wine, white carpet... The writing was on the wall for this one. Sorry. And bye...

Li: Bye Rob. Bye carpet.

Dominic: Carpet?! I want to write on the carpet!