

臺南市政府「每日聽·英語廣播」文字稿

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Dr. Doris Brougham's advice on how to make English Tainan's second official language: Episode 1

Peter: Hi Ben, I saw Dr. Doris Brougham in Tainan City Hall last September. I wonder why she visited the city hall.

Ben: Ah, she was there for the first meeting of the English as Tainan's Second Official Language Promotion Committee. She is one of the committee members. In fact, I also attended the meeting.

Peter: Really? I am curious to know what she said about the Tainan City Government's policy to make English the city's second official language. The policy sounds very ambitious and challenging.

Ben: As founder of *Studio Classroom* and *Let's Talk in English*, Dr. Brougham knows well how to encourage people struggling to learn English. She shared a number of most helpful methods in the meeting. The first thing we need, she said, is to overcome our fear of speaking English. Whatever we learn, whether it is diving, driving or English, our first reaction is fear, so we need to think about how to overcome our fear.

Peter: That's absolutely true. I have many students whose English is actually quite good, but they are quiet in class because they are afraid of speaking English.

Ben: Yeah, I have students like that, too. That's why Dr. Brougham said we should make English fun. "Make it fun. Don't be afraid of making mistakes. Don't be afraid," she told us.

Peter: Quite right. What else did she say?

Ben: She said if we can make everyone interested in using English, we will make fast progress with this language policy. "We can start with schools, but that would be too slow. The key is to get everybody involved," she added.

Peter: But how do we get everyone in the city interested and involved? Not everyone wants to learn English.

Ben: Yeah, that really is the biggest difficulty. It is not easy to find motives for people to learn English. But Dr. Brougham pointed out that the most important thing is not to learn English but to use English. "Don't say, 'Let's learn English,' but say, 'Let's use English.' If you don't use it, you lose it," she said.

Peter: That's insightful. Language is not like swimming or biking. If you haven't swum or biked for a long time, you still know how to swim and bike. But if you don't use English, you forget and lose it.

Ben: True. Dr. Brougham also noted that if we want everyone to speak English, including company staff and even grandpas and grandmas, the first thing is to make speaking English simple. Don't give people too much. Just speak one sentence a day, such as "Where are you going to have supper?" Speak English every day. Make it simple enough for grandpas and grandmas to learn, and they will have a sense of achievement. When people are interested, they will learn fast. These are the key pieces of her advice.

Peter: Her advice is truly encouraging.

Ben: What's interesting is that she also gave the city government a "task." She said we ourselves must speak English. For example, we can set aside 10 minutes in a meeting to talk in English only. "See, if you don't speak English yourselves, how can you expect others to speak English? If we don't use it, they won't use it," she said.

Peter: Wow, now we must set a good example to others.

Ben: Dr. Brougham actually said if we use the right methods, we can make English Tainan's second official language in five years. She said five years can make a big difference.

Peter: Let's see. I hope this language policy will turn Tainan into one of the most well-known international cities in Asia.

彭蒙惠老師對臺南市推動英語為第二官方語言的建言：第一集

Peter: 嗨，Ben，我去年九月在臺南市政府看到彭蒙惠老師耶，不知道她去市府做什麼。

Ben: 她去參加臺南市政府推動英語為第二官方語言委員會第一次會議，彭老師是推動委員之一，其實我也有與會。

Peter: 真的？我很好奇她對市府推動英語為第二官方語有何看法，這個政策聽起來抱負遠大，充滿挑戰。

Ben: 彭老師創辦《空中英語教室》和《大家說英語》，她很知道如何鼓勵學英文遇到困難的人。她在會中分享一些很有幫助的作法，說最重要的是先克服講英語的恐懼感，因為人不管學什麼，像是潛水、開車、英文等，第一個反應是害怕，所以我們要思考如何克服恐懼。

Peter: 真的，我有很多學生英文其實很好，但上課時很安靜，因為害怕講英文。

Ben: 對啊，我也有這種學生。這就是為何彭老師說，應該讓學英文變得好玩，她告訴我們：「輕鬆一點，不要怕講錯，不要恐懼。」

Peter: 沒錯。她還說什麼？

Ben: 她說，如果我們引起大家學英文的熱忱，二官語政策的推動就很快，她還說：「我們可以從學校開始做，但這樣太慢了，關鍵是讓每一個人都參與。」

Peter: 但我們要怎麼讓每位市民都有興趣參與二官語政策呢？不是每個人都想學英語啊。

Ben: 這就是最大的困難點，很不容易創造大家學英文的動機，但彭老師也指出，最重要的不是學英文，而是用英文，她說：「不要說『大家學英語』，要說『大家用英語』，英語若不用，就忘光了。」

Peter: 有道理，學語言跟學游泳、學腳踏車不一樣。很久沒游泳或騎腳踏車，還是會游泳、騎車，可是英語一旦不用，就真的忘得一乾二淨。

Ben: 沒錯，彭老師還說，如果我們想要大家都說英語，包括公司員工、阿公阿嬤都來學，最重要的是讓講英文變得很簡單。不要叫大家學一大堆英文，一天一句就夠了，像是「你晚餐要去哪裡吃？」這類句子。每天都說英文，把講英文變得很簡單，簡單到阿公阿嬤都學得起來，這樣大家就會有成就感。大家對英文有興趣，就會學得很快。這些都是彭老師的重點建言。

Peter: 她的建言真鼓舞人心。

Ben: 有意思的事，彭老師還「出功課」給市府，她說市府人員本身一定要講英文，比如說，平常開會時，可以設定十分鐘，這十分鐘內，大家都講英文，她說：「大家知道嗎？如果你們自己不講英文，怎麼可以期待別人講英文呢？如果我們自己都不用英文，別人當然更不會用英文了。」

Peter: 哇，現在我們要以身作則了。

Ben: 彭老師說，如果我們用對方法，五年內就能讓英文成為臺南市第二官方語言，她說五年可以帶來很大的改變。

Peter: 我們拭目以待，我希望這個語言政策能讓臺南成為亞洲最知名的國際城市之一。