

English at Work 白领英语
Episode 27: Getting down to business
第27集: 定心开始工作
发布坏消息时用的语言



- Narrator:** Hello again! 今天可是重要的一天, Mr Socrates 马上就要到 Tip Top 贸易公司的办公室了, 他要正式的接见每位员工。他会说什么呢? 还有他能不能喝到鲜榨橙汁?
- Tom:** Quickly everyone... he's coming out of the lift with Paul.
- Denise:** Anna quickly, get a glass of orange juice ready.
- Paul:** ...and if we come though this door here we get to the office and...
(coughs)... morning everyone. I'm sure we've all met Mr Socrates on the day of the fire... but today everything is a bit calmer and well he's here to say hello.
- Mr S:** Hi!
- Denise:** Biscuit Mr Socrates?
- Mr S:** Biscuit? You mean a goddamn cookie. Thanks.
- Anna:** Err, Mr Socrates, I'm Anna. Would you like some orange juice – freshly squeezed?
- Mr S:** You betcha as long as it's made from Florida oranges. Hey... Anna? Ain't you the girl who booked my hotel room?
- Anna:** Oh yes, sorry about the bed and...
- Mr S:** Hey, you got me a new room, it was great. You did a good job there. Well done.
- Anna:** Oh thanks.
- Tom:** Hello. It's Tom. I recommended the hotel, it was a...
- Paul:** Tom. Everyone, shall we gather round and hear what Mr Socrates has to say? Please.
- Mr S:** Hey... errr... what's your name?
- Paul:** Paul.
- Mr S:** Yeah you. Don't you think I should be sitting in the big chair?
- Paul:** Sorry. Yes of course. There you go.

Mr S: Now. Tip Top Trading. I've gotta give it to you straight. Things aren't looking good, in fact the outlook is gloomy. The global recession has led to a meltdown in the plastic fruits sector. And I've got to announce a profit warning. We just ain't selling enough of these bananas, oranges and lemons to make any money.

Paul: There's a bit of an economic squeeze on lemons!

Mr S: What?!

Anna: *(to herself)* Oh dear. I'm not sure what he's talking about but it sounds bad.

Narrator: 情况不妙啊, Anna. 他带来的可是坏消息, 他说 *I've got to give it to you straight*, 我必须很直接的告诉你, *the outlook is gloomy*, 未来行情看着不明朗, 他还提到了盈利预警 *a profit warning*, 公司利润会下滑。

Anna: Crikey! That is bad. What does it mean?

Narrator: 先听着吧!

Mr S: ...so, this calls for action. I'm going to have to -

Tom: Oh no, not me Mr Socrates, I've been a loyal employee, I couldn't face being unemployed.

Denise: Tom, calm down.

Mr S: I'm not talking about redundancies - yet.

Paul: Gosh, well that calls for another biscuit.

Mr S: My plan is... we're going into Europe.

SOUNDS OF SURPRISE AND INTEREST FROM THE TEAM

Anna: You mean we're moving to Europe?

Paul: No, no Anna. I think he means we're going to sell plastic fruit to the European market.

Tom: Oh right! Great. Mr Socrates, I've lots of experience with Europe. I had a holiday in Spain once... twice actually.

Denise: Well, we'll have to make sure our phones can make international calls.

Mr S: Hmm. Look everyone, I think you're gonna need some help with this so I'm bringing in my best marketing executive, Rachel. What she doesn't know about selling to Europe, you don't wanna know. She'll be here in a few weeks' time.

Denise: Do you know if she prefers tea or coffee... or orange juice perhaps?

Mr S: Look Diana...

Denise: Denise.

Mr S: Denise. Like Dennis right? She'll want the best – the best tea, coffee – and the best team. I'll expect improved results and profits. If not, your necks will be on the line – especially yours Paul.

Paul: Oh, chop chop. We'd better get to work.

Narrator: 真吓人! Your necks will be on the line 大家的脖子都要注意了, 他的意思是如果公司效益不提高, 那么大家都要被炒鱿鱼。这可真让人担心啊! 让我们再复习一下 Mr Socrates 发布坏消息时用到的一些表达方式:

I've got to give it to you straight
The outlook is gloomy
I've got to announce a profit warning

希望新的欧洲市场推销计划能提高销售额。How are you feeling Anna?

Anna: A little nervous. But I'm going to try my best to make sure this new strategy works.

Narrator: 有信心, 好样的!

Paul: Right everyone. I think we need to take Mr Socrates down to the Rose and Crown after work for a pint or two and show him some true English hospitality. How about it?

Mr S: I don't drink.

Paul: Ah well, perhaps some lemonade?

Narrator: Mr Socrates 不喝酒, 那就再看吧。好了, 我们下期节目再会!

Listening challenge 听力挑战:

Mr Socrates 想集中精力在哪个市场?

答案: 欧洲市场。