
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Authentic Real English 地道英语

Throw in the towel 认输、放弃



- 关于台词的备注:
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Feifei

大家好，欢迎来到 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目。我是冯菲菲。

Neil

And I'm Neil. Hey, do you know what, Feifei? I've had enough!

Feifei

你受够了？你受够什么了？

Neil

Trying to do all my washing.

Feifei

Really – is it that hard?

Neil

It is. I just can't keep up with all the clothes I have to wash, dry and iron. It doesn't matter how much washing I do, I keep running out of clean clothes.

Feifei

Yes, I can see. Haven't you been wearing that shirt all week?! 那你现在准备怎么办呢？

Neil

I don't know. I think I'll just throw in the towel.

Feifei

Um...Washing just one towel won't help – you can't wear that to work.

Neil

That's not what I meant. 'To throw in the towel' is a saying that means to admit defeat. The phrase comes from boxing. If a boxer is being hit too much, and is losing the fight, sometimes his coach will throw a towel into the boxing ring to signal that the fight is over. He's been defeated.

Feifei

Got it! 表达“to throw in the towel 扔毛巾”的意思是“承认失败”。这个说法源自拳击运动，原本指拳击运动员的教练向擂台里扔毛巾以示认输的做法，现在它也用于该运动以外的语境中，比喻“放弃、认输”。**And for you, it means no clean clothes! Let's hear some more examples of this phrase, shall we?**

Examples

I've tried my best, but this job is just too hard. I'm afraid I'm gonna have to throw in the towel and quit.

I know the race is tough, but don't throw in the towel, keep going and you might actually win!

I've been trying to learn Korean for years but I'm not making any progress. So I guess it's time to throw in the towel.

Feifei

这里是 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目，本集节目中给大家介绍的英语说法是“throw in the towel”。刚刚 Neil 说洗衣服这件事枯燥无聊，没完没了，所以他用到了“throw in the towel”这个搭配，表示放弃，再也不想干了。**You can't cope, can you, Neil?**

Neil

I have tried. There's just too much to do.

Feifei

Maybe you've got too many clothes. But if you're not going to wash them, what are you going to wear?

Neil

Well, I've still got my nightclub gear I used to wear as a student – will that do?

Feifei

Hmm, I think you'd be better off just wearing a towel, Neil!

Neil

Hmm, thanks for the fashion advice. I think my best option is to take everything to the launderette.

Feifei

这个主意不错！**See you!**

Neil
Goodbye!