

Larry 到李华家来看蜘蛛人的 DVD。李华今天要学两个常用语, rocket science 和 chemistry。

LL: What's the matter, Li Hua? I can't believe you are having trouble with the DVD player. I mean, it's not rocket science!

LH: Rocket science? 这是我家, 又不是航空航天局, 怎么会有火箭科学。

LL: Well, when I said it wasn't rocket science, I meant it shouldn't be hard for you to get the DVD player to start.

LH: 噢, rocket Science 在这儿的意思是指很难弄懂的东西。但是使用 DVD 机不该是什么难事。

LL: That's it! Getting the DVD player to work should be as simple as pushing a few buttons, and not nearly as complicated as rocket science. . . Hey, look, you got it working, Li Hua!

LH: 行了, 没什么难的, 只要知道按哪个键就行了。

LL: Now all we need is popcorn to eat with our movie. I can go make some. I mean, making popcorn isn't rocket science.

LH: 好啊, 你负责爆米花, 东西都在厨房微波炉下面的抽屉里。

LL: Ok, I'm in the kitchen looking at the microwave, and I see three drawers. Which one is it?

LH: It's not rocket science, Larry. 你把三个抽屉都拉开看看不就行了吗!

LL: Oh, look at that! The popcorn was right on top. Now let me read the instructions. Hmm....Should be very easy. One doesn't have to be a rocket scientist to figure this out.

LH: Larry, 你怎么这么长时间啊! 要帮忙吗? 用微波炉爆米花, 不应该是 rocket Science 吧。

LL: It isn't rocket science, Li Hua. The instructions are very easy. It's just I can't get the plastic wrapper off the popcorn packet.

LH: 包装纸撕不开? I'm not a rocket scientist, but let me try. . .你看, 只要抓住两边轻轻这么一拉就开了。

LL: Wow, Li Hua. Maybe you are a rocket scientist after all. That was pretty good. I better let you do the rest.

LH: Larry, 别这么懒, 你又不是没用过微波炉。You know it's not rocket science.

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(Operating microwave machine.)

LL: Mmmm...This popcorn is really good, Li Hua. And so is the movie. The chemistry between the lead actor and actress is really good.

LH: 化学? 我最后一次上化学课还是高中的事。化学跟蜘蛛人和他的女朋友 Mary Jane 有什么关系呀?

LL: When two people are attracted to each other or get along really well -- they have chemistry.

LH: 我明白了, 就像做化学实验的时候一样。中文里也有两个人之间有化学反应的说法, 就是说两个人互相吸引, 或者是很合得来。

LL: So, now that you know what I meant by "chemistry," what do you think -- do the actors in Spiderman have good chemistry or not?

LH: 我觉得有。他们演得很逼真, 真让我觉得他们彼此相爱。但是我有一个问题, Larry.

LL: What is it, Li Hua?

LH: 有的时候化学物质混在一起可能起发生爆炸, 那这是不是“坏的”化学反应呢? 能用来形容人跟人之间的关系吗?

LL: Absolutely! When two people really don't like each other or can't get along -- that is bad chemistry.

LH: 我原来有两个邻居, 可以说是势不两立, 经常互相对骂, 他们俩而就是纯粹的 bad chemistry.

LL: It sure sounds like it. Speaking of bad chemistry, one of the people I work with really doesn't get along with my boss. They often argue about the littlest things.

LH: 你同事跟老板有 bad chemistry? 那可得小心, 不定哪天就会被炒了鱿鱼。

LL: You're right, Li Hua...Say, Li Hua, what do you think about the chemistry between us?

LH: Larry, 这还用问吗! It's not rocket science. 我们认识都快七年了, 没有 good chemistry, 就不会一直做朋友做到今天了。

今天李华学到了两个常用语。一个是 rocket science, 意思是很难做, 很难懂的事情。另一个是 chemistry, 是指人跟人之间的感情关系。

