

## Anya Taylor Joy.mp3

[00:00:00] What's up everyone? I'm Teacher Mike. Do you know the Queen's Gambit lead actress Anna Taylor Joy doesn't speak English as her native tongue? Today we are going to listen to her English and study with her.

[00:00:13] I was really frightened my first day of rehearsals because I just saw all of these like icons of cinema come in and they were all so English and I'm like a mutt of lots of different places.

[00:00:24] Why does she call herself a 'mutt?'

[00:00:33] How is everyone doing? I'm a few days away from my flight back to China, so I'm a bit nervous and it's a bit busy packing and getting everything ready. It's killing me! Anyway, I just finished the Queen's Gambit, and it is an awesome show. Everybody needs to watch it. But before you go and watch that show, I would love it if you could subscribe to my channel. And it would be a great compliment if you could leave a like or maybe write me a message. The actress that plays Beth, Anya Taylor Joy, describes herself as a mutt.

[00:01:04] And I'm like a mutt.

[00:01:05] This is a humorous way to describe yourself if you come from a very diverse ethnic background. I'm just going to read to you quickly her family background because it's crazy. Born in the USA to a mother who is English and Spanish but grew up in Zambia, Africa. Her father was Scottish-Argentinean, and right after she was born and got a US passport, they moved to Argentina where she grew up speaking Spanish for six years. Let's have a look at her Spanish.

[00:01:31] He did. For me it was quite strange, because I talk a lot and I am very external. So I was happy to be deep inside this character.

[00:01:32] When she was six, her family moved to England, but she refused to speak English for two years.

[00:01:45] And then I refused to learn English because I wanted to go home. And in my six, seven-year-old brain, I was like, if I can't speak the same language as these people, maybe like my parents are definitely going to take me home.

[00:01:57] Wow. So how did she end up learning English then?

[00:02:00] I just became enamored with reading. There was this library in my school and I just so desperately wanted to be able to access that world. And so my uncle taught me to read reading Harry Potter.

[00:02:11] She very clearly has a nice British accent when she talks. But in the show she is using the American English accent. What are the effects of learning English from Harry Potter?

[00:02:20] I was such an annoying child? Like, I was either casting spells continuously or using very annoying words, Mummy, I cleaned the dishes meticulously.

[00:02:32] It's kind of funny. Again, Harry Potter, magic, not exactly how we speak in day to day English.

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[00:04:19] Let's learn some phrases, shall we?

[00:04:21] I'm worried about you.

[00:04:23] What on earth for?

[00:04:25] What on earth for? This is when we really want to emphasize and express a little bit of disagreement. What on earth are you doing? What on earth were you thinking? Why on earth are you going there? Why on earth are you dating her?

[00:04:40] In this next clip, she's speaking Spanish, but because she speaks English and Spanish so fluently, she kind of has a little Spanglish going on. Let's have a listen.

[00:04:49] It's like you can do anything and you know he has your back. Help me get out of here Hedwig.

[00:04:52] Spanish, Spanish, Spanish. He has your back. 'Have someone's back' means I always support you, I'll always defend you no matter what. You guys have my back? I knew it. I'll always have your back. I'll support you no matter what. Or if someone didn't have your back you can say "why on earth didn't you have my back?"

[00:05:13] Look, you're so nice. I really want to be your friend. But like I need some time. I need to take like a breather.

[00:05:18] Take a breather. This just means to rest and you can use this in a lot of different situations. You're out hiking. Hey, man, I need to take a breather. Maybe you're

on your computer all day at work. I need to take a breather. I need to take a breather. Let me take a breather.

[00:05:37] I think it would have been a bit of a cop out to make her softer or more palatable in that way, because then you don't get the payoff of her growth at the end of the story.

[00:05:47] Cop out. Now, cop in English can mean policemen, but in this case it just means to make an excuse. Sorry bro, I can't come to the party. Gotta do my laundry tonight. Man, that is such a cop out. You're not tired. That's just a cop out. That's a cop out. You're just lying to yourself.

[00:06:04] If you can figure something out here.

[00:06:06] You know what I think Brad Pitt did that to all of us.

[00:06:08] I feel you so hard.

[00:06:12] I feel you. It's not literally touching you. No, no, no. I understand you. I get you. I feel the same way as you. Man, the Queen's Gambit is so good. I feel you. We have the same thinking. I feel you.

[00:06:26] Let's move on to some vocabulary words. Similar to the phrase 'I feel you' is a great word: resonate. Let's have a listen.

[00:06:35] And having that incredulousness, having that lack of understanding of like wait, why does this matter? Was a wonderful thing to be able to portray, especially in the sixties. But I think something that will resonate with a lot of people now today, because it's almost like she wasn't gifted the handbook that says you're a girl, this is what you're allowed to want.

[00:06:55] 'Resonate' has a similar meaning, like, I understand your feeling. I feel the same way. Being a parent is so tiring. Yeah, I really resonate with that. I can resonate with what you're saying. You can't resonate with what she's going through.

[00:07:08] I've had lots of different hair colors, so it's been quite easy for people to be like, oh, you look so much like the girl from blah but with different hair.

[00:07:16] Blah. This is a great little filler word like 什么什么什么. So first I went to the grocery store and then I went to the pharmacy and blah blah blah blah blah. Now I'm at home. My son's just running everywhere. He picks up that toy and then this bottle and blah blah blah blah blah. You could also use it to describe a feeling. Today I feel so blah. Maybe you feel tired and your mind's not working normally and you just need to take a breather. I'm sure a lot of you can resonate with feeling blah.

[00:07:43] The movie ended and it was almost like this veil was lifted from over my eyes and I was like... I've been playing a psychopath for like a month and a half. Kind of. Ugh, that was toxic. Like I couldn't keep any of her jewelry. I had to take it all off. At the time I had to defend her.

[00:08:01] This word 'toxic' has become really popular lately. It literally means poisonous, but today we use it to talk about anything which is bad for you. In this case, she's talking about her character was toxic. It was poisoning her real-life personality. She should not be dating him. He's so toxic. They are in a toxic relationship. Spending so much time on your phone is so toxic. Not getting enough sleep is really toxic. Having friends that always discourage you is really toxic.

[00:08:31] I wanted the audience in watching her journey have moments where they wanted to leap into the screen and shake her because she's being such a brat. And I really don't like Emma today. Emma is misbehaving terribly. Just being a brat. I don't want to do this. So yeah, I wanted the moments when Emma's being a brat to really have her be a brat.

[00:08:52] Another great word: brat. We often use this for children like 熊孩子.

[00:08:59] No!!! Take me home!!!

[00:08:59] But adults can also often act like children so when this happens, you can call them a brat. Just being very selfish and very immature. You brat. Why are you being

such a brat? You're twenty-five years old. Stop being such a brat. Little Mike is never a brat.

[00:08:59] Anyway, that's all I have for you today. Let's take a breather. Don't forget to check out Lingoda's one-week free trial. Don't miss out on the €20 discount on a one-month subscription.

[00:09:29] Have you subscribed yet? Why not? That's just a cop out. I thought you had my back. Don't be a brat. Leave a like or a message below. What on earth are you waiting for? Until next time, stay safe. Stay happy, stay healthy. I'm Teacher Mike, see you next time!