



上天堂? (A better place!)

Mary once worked with Jason. Now, Mary left and works for another company. One day, a man, Joe, came to the office for her.

Joe : Hello! I am Joe. Is this Lion Magazine Publishing company?

Jason: Yes, may I help you?

Joe : Is Mary here? I am her ex-husband. I drop by to give her some documents.

Jason: She's at a better place now.

Joe : Oh my god! How sad! What happened to her?

Jason: Oh...I'm sorry. I mean she found a new job, and she works at a better place now.

Joe : I see. It's such a good news. So do you know at which company she works? Where is that "better" place?

Jason: (laugh) The New York Times.

Let's Trace

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|-------------------|---|--|
| magazine | ● | ● a woman's ex-husband is a man that she was married to but now divorces. |
| press | ● | ● a paper or a set of papers with written or printed information |
| ex-husband | ● | ● kind of thin book with large pages and photos and is published every week or month |
| document | ● | ● news, magazines, periodicals and often radio and television news broadcasting |

瑪麗以前與傑森共事。瑪麗現在離職了，並且在別家公司上班。有一天一位男士，喬，來辦公室找她。

喬： 哈囉！我是喬。請問這裡是獅子雜誌社嗎？

傑森： 是的，有什麼事可以幫忙的嗎？

喬： 瑪麗在嗎？我是她的前夫。我順道過來拿些文件給她。

傑森： 她在更好的地方了（原意指在天堂）。

喬： 我的天！太悲哀了！她發生什麼事了？

傑森： 喔！抱歉。我的意思是她現在找到新工作，在較好的環境工作了。

喬： 原來如此。這真的是好消息。那你知道她現在在哪家公司工作嗎？哪一個「更好的」環境？

傑森： （微笑）紐約時報。

Let's Trace (Answer)

magazine	●	●	a woman's ex-husband is a man that she was married to but now divorces.
press	●	●	a paper or a set of papers with written or printed information
ex-husband	●	●	kind of thin book with large pages and photos and is published every week or month
document	●	●	news, magazines, periodicals and often radio and television news broadcasting



To Know More About “a better place”: 在對話中，傑森直覺就以「a better place」來表示瑪麗在更好的地方工作，但是沒有想到這個用法在英文有上天堂的意思。所以當我們在用字遣詞時，要注意該用法翻成英文是否有別的解讀，這樣才不會鬧笑話哦！



真可恥？ (It's a shame!)

Link and Tim are college students. They just took the English oral test last week. Before they took the test, Link told Tim that he would get good grades on it because he spent a few weeks to prepare for it.

Tim: Hey, are you okay? Your MSN signature says “I wanna die.”

Link: Hah, that. Did you see the English oral test grades on the bulletin board?

Tim: Oh, I missed it.

Link: You got A plus. And I got D.

Tim: Geez! It's a shame. You made more efforts to prepare for it than I did. How could it happen?

Link: It's a shame? I'm ashamed? Please don't pour salt on the wound. I already felt terrible and depressed.

Tim: (put his hand on Link's shoulder) When I said “it's a shame.”, I mean it's a pity that you can't make it this time.

Let's Trace

grade	●	● cause someone to feel unhappy
signature	●	● give a score to a student's exam
mention	●	● a person's name or nickname, usually in his or her own handwriting
depress	●	● refer to something or someone

林可和提姆是大學生。他們上週考完英語口試。當他們考試之前，林可告訴提姆他一定會考得很好，因為他已經花了好幾週準備。

提姆： 嗨，你還好吧？你的 MSN 暱稱寫「我想死」。

林可： 呃，那個呀。那你有看到公佈欄公佈的英文口試成績了嗎？

提姆： 哦！沒有耶。

林可： 你得 A 加，而我得 D。

提姆： 天啊！真是可恥（其實是可惜的意思。）明明你就比我努力。怎麼可能啊！

林可： 真是可恥？我很可恥？請不要在傷口灑鹽。我已經覺得夠難過而且夠沮喪了。

提姆： （把手放在林可的肩膀上）我說「真是可惜！」的意思是說很可惜這次你表現不好啦！

Let's Trace (Answer)

grade	●	●	cause someone to feel unhappy
signature	●	●	give a score to a student's exam
mention	●	●	a person's name or nickname, usually in his or her own handwriting
depress	●	●	refer to something or someone



To Know More About “it's a shame”: 原來提姆是想安慰用功卻收不到成效的林可，結果一句「It's a shame.」反而讓林可的心情更差了，其實並不是提姆的錯，原因出在林可，根本不知道「It's a shame.」其實是可惜之意。一時會錯意的情況，真的叫提姆哭笑不得，所以各位同學也別誤會囉！