

## The Lonely Bulldog 英国成孤家寡人

英语学习点: *Isolation Vocabulary* 与孤立相关的词汇

Britain has found itself swimming against the tide in the last few days, after a European Union make-or-break summit to save the euro.

The British PM David Cameron vetoed treaty changes for the 27-member bloc aimed at forging a tax and budget consensus to tackle the eurozone debt crisis.



Is he a symbol of the British spirit?

Mr Cameron argued he had to protect Britain's financial services industry from further taxation and was praised by eurosceptic politicians in his Conservative Party who had urged him to show the "bulldog spirit". The bulldog has become an unofficial symbol of the British spirit of independence and defiance.

But many in Britain believe that the decision to go it alone has put the bulldog in the doghouse. Opposition leader Ed Milliband fears the country could be left out of the loop in future decisions taken by the continental group. And the Liberal Democrat Nick Clegg, Cameron's partner in a coalition government, has acknowledged that there is "a real danger that over time the UK will be marginalised within the EU".

Business leaders are also concerned about a perception that their country could become isolated in Europe. Ian Rodgers, director of the trade body UK Steel, says the domestic metals industry is dominated by foreign firms, which would make their investments in Britain on the basis that it was a key part of the European community.

Across the English Channel, the British stance caused some irritation. According to the European Commission's president Jose Manuel Barroso, "the UK's position on financial regulation represented a "risk to the integrity of the single market".

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

## Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Is this statement true, false or not given? *The EU summit has managed to save the euro.*
2. Who was happy with Cameron's veto, according to the article?
3. What does the bulldog symbolise?
4. Who wasn't happy with the "bulldog spirit" shown by Cameron?
5. Look at the article. What expression highlights the critical importance of the EU meeting?

## Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. John didn't know his sister was moving to Australia. He was annoyed because the family kept him out of the \_\_\_\_\_.

tide	loop	doghouse	single
market			

2. The European \_\_\_\_\_ market is the largest such market in the world with almost 500 million residents.

singles'	married	double	single
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3. During a recession people avoid spending money but there are always those who decide to \_\_\_\_\_ against the tide and splash the cash.

run	jump	swim
fish		

4. It took many anti-smoking campaigns for doctors to change people's \_\_\_\_\_ that cigarettes are harmless to health.

perception	stance	integrity	prejudice
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5. Mary did well in her exams. She was \_\_\_\_\_ by her teachers.

vetoed	urged	praised	isolated
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## Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

### Quiz 小测验

1. Is this statement true, false or not given? *The EU summit has managed to save the euro.*  
It is not given. The impact of the discussions over the euro hasn't been mentioned.
2. Who was happy with Cameron's veto, according to the article? Eurosceptic politicians in his party.
3. What does the bulldog symbolise? The British independent and fighting spirit.
4. Who wasn't happy with the "bulldog spirit" shown by Cameron? Politicians Ed Milliband and Nick Clegg fear Britain might be excluded from decision-making in the EU and business leaders are concerned that the country might be seen as isolated in Europe. The EC president expressed concern about the future of the single market.
5. Look at the article. What expression highlights the critical importance of the EU meeting? A make-or-break summit.

### Exercise 练习

1. John didn't know his sister was moving to Australia. He was annoyed because the family kept him out of the loop.
2. The European single market is the largest such market in the world with almost 500 million residents.
3. During a recession people avoid spending money but there are always those who decide to swim against the tide and splash the cash.
4. It took many anti-smoking campaigns for doctors to change people's perception that cigarettes are harmless to health.
5. Mary did well in her exams. She was praised by her teachers.

### Glossary 词汇表

to swim against the tide 逆流而行	a make-or-break summit 决定成败与否的峰会
the euro 欧元	to veto 否决, 反对
a bloc 一个联盟	a consensus 共识
to tackle something 解决什么问题	the eurozone debt crisis 欧元区债务危机
the financial services industry 金融服务产业	a eurosceptic 反对欧洲一体化者
the bulldog spirit 战斗精神	to go it alone 单干
in the doghouse 被打入冷宫	to be left out of the loop 被排除在外
the continental group 欧洲大陆组合	to be marginalised 受排挤, 被边缘化
the perception 看法, 观念	to be isolated 被孤立
a stance 立场, 态度	irritation 恼怒
integrity 整合性	the single market 欧洲单一货币市场