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**Abigail:** Hello, I'm Abigail and I'm in a shoe shop, with Li, and we're doing some shoe shopping.

**Li:** Yes 没错我们俩就在一家鞋店里 shoe shop 我一直想买双运动鞋。你看这双怎么样? These are OK.

**Abigail:** Well, we're not really supposed to be looking for your trainers, Li. We're here because we have an interesting and amusing phrase, which our listeners might like to learn.

**Li:** 我知道你想通过情景对话来教授一个新词语。But while we're here, I can look at trainers!

**Abigail:** Well, I suppose you can look at some trainers. But let's not forget why we're here.

**Li:** ... [long pause]

**Abigail:** Li? Why we're here?

**Li:** Yes of course 英语短语。Ha! Look that lady has really funny hair! 你看那个女的头发真有意思。

**Abigail:** Li, you're being really childish today. But that's useful because I can use our phrase for today – act your age not your shoe size.

**Li:** Act your age, not your shoe size. 按照你的年龄做事, 不要按你的鞋号做事。How shall we explain what it means, Abigail?

**Abigail:** Well, I think you've explained it beautifully already Li, through everything you've said and done. But here are some more clues to what it means:

### **Examples**

*I was really upset. She just told me to act my age not my shoe size!*

*These people are so childish. They need to act their age not their shoe size.*

*(Laughing in background)*

*Will you please act your age not your shoe size?!*

- Li:** 如果你的行为举止像个孩子，不成熟，别人就会对你说 'act your age, not your shoe size'.
- Abigail:** Hmm... yes they can.
- Li:** 不过我的鞋号是 37。My shoe size is 37. My age is 30. So I have to act seven years younger?? 我的举止要更年轻点儿对吧？
- Abigail:** Ah yes, well, 37 - that's a Chinese size. This saying, 'act your age not your shoe size' only works for British and American sizes.
- Li:** 当然了，英国和美国的鞋号比中国的鞋号标码要小。The numbers are smaller.
- Abigail:** Yes, so for example in UK sizes, I think your feet are size 4.
- Li:** 按照英国鞋号我应该穿 4 号。不过我说话，做事不应该像四岁的小孩子一样。I shouldn't act like I'm four.
- Abigail:** Exactly!
- Li:** 也许我们应该把这个短语改成 'act your Chinese shoe size, not your British shoe size'. 那样就更准确了，你说呢？What do you think?
- Abigail:** Err, yeah, we could... It's not quite as catchy...