Cultural Analysis 文化解析

In Chinese culture, the concept of 'face' plays a vital role in human relationships.1 'Face' here refers to one's self-respect and confidence.2 In Chinese culture, people would try to save their face or give face in order to maintain harmony and enhance their communication.3 In this episode, Cooper, May, and Nana were trying to save Dean's face when he had blown his tire.4 Such efforts to save Dean's face are signs of these people trying to maintain good relationships with him.5 Losing one's face should be avoided as it would result in embarrassment.6 While many people tend to believe that the concept of 'face' is only associated with Chinese culture,7 it is in fact also applied in many other cultures.8 In the United States, people tend to maintain their addressee's face by saying something that their addressee would like to hear,9 and this is recognized as a form of politeness in American culture.10 Just as we saw in this episode, when Dean apologized to everyone for making them walk instead of riding on bikes, Cooper said, "Don't talk like that.11 A good walk is a lot of fun."12 Saving face like this can be seen in both Chinese and American culture.13

