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# 美国生活风向标

Culture

阅读提高·知识拓展·思维拓展

徜徉于世界文化经典的长河，学习地道英语，感悟别样人生！

[美]Ruth Devlin ◎主编

刘明华◎译

麦格希 中英双语阅读文库



吉林出版集团有限责任公司



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# I 前言

英语思想家培根说过：阅读使人深刻。阅读的真正目的是获取信息，开拓视野和陶冶情操。从语言学习的角度来说，学习语言若没有大量阅读就如隔靴搔痒，因为阅读中的语言是最丰富、最灵活、最具表现力、最符合生活情景的，同时读物中的情节、故事引人入胜，进而能充分调动读者的阅读兴趣，培养读者的文学修养，至此，语言的学习水到渠成。

“麦格希中英双语阅读文库”在世界范围内选材，涉及科普、社会文化、文学名著、传奇故事、成长励志等多个系列，充分满足英语学习者课外阅读之所需，在阅读中学习英语、提高能力。

## ◎难度适中

本套图书充分照顾读者的英语学习阶段和水平，从读者的阅读兴趣出发，以难易适中的英语语言为立足点，选材精心、编排合理。

### ◎精品荟萃

本套图书注重经典阅读与实用阅读并举。既包含国内外脍炙人口、耳熟能详的美文，又包含科普、人文、故事、励志类等多学科的精彩文章。

### ◎功能实用

本套图书充分体现了双语阅读的功能和优势，充分考虑到读者课外阅读的方便，超出核心词表的词汇均出现在使其意义明显的语境之中，并标注释义。

鉴于编者水平有限，凡不周之处，谬误之处，皆欢迎批评指正。

我们真心地希望本套图书承载的文化知识和英语阅读的策略对提高读者的英语著作欣赏水平和英语运用能力有所裨益。

**丛书编委会**

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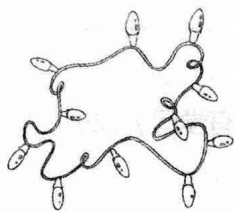
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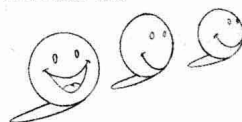
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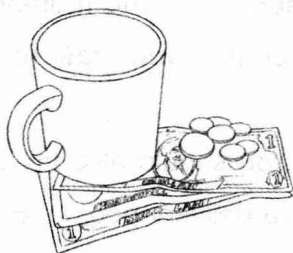
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## 01

# To Tip or Not to Tip

In America, people who serve you expect a tip for their service. Their *wages* are often low — many make only \$2.13 an hour — and tips help them earn enough money to make ends meet. In a restaurant, *tip* 15 to 20 percent of the bill before the



*Do you know when to tip and how much to give?*

## 给不给小费学问大

你知道何时该给小费以及该给多少吗？

在美国，为你服务的人期待收到小费。这些人的工资通常很低，许多人的时薪只有2.13美元，而小费有助他们赚取足够的钱以维持生计。在餐厅，客人要给账单税前金额的15%到20%当作小费。如果服务不周，你可

wage *n.* 工资

tip *v.* 给……小费



tax is added. If the service is poor, tip the *minimum* amount and then talk to the manager. Poor service is not corrected by simply leaving no tip. If service was very good, tip 20 percent or more. In a hotel, tip the bellman \$1—\$2 per bag for taking your bags to your room. Tip the maid who cleans your room about \$2 a night and pay it daily. Clearly *mark* the money “for housekeeping,” or the maid will not touch it. If you order room service, tip the waiter 15 percent of the bill.

You should also tip taxi drivers, hairdressers, skycaps and even pizza delivery people. But you don't have to tip everyone who helps you. Ask if you should tip and how much. Then you'll do the right

---

以只给最低额的小费，然后向经理投诉。差劲的服务并不会因为你不给小费而有所改进。若是服务极佳，你可以给20%或更多的小费。在饭店，你该给替你提行李到房间的行李员小费，每件行李要给1美元到2美元。你该给替你打扫房间的清洁女工小费，约为每晚2美元，而且要每天给。你要清楚注明这些钱是“给客房清洁的”小费，否则清洁女工就不会拿。如果叫了客房服务，应给服务生账单金额的15%作为小费。

此外，该给小费的还包括出租车司机、美发师、机场行李搬运人员，甚至披萨外送员。不过，不是看到每个服务员都要给小费。先问问是否该给小费和该给多少，这样就不会出错了。

thing.

### Conversation A

*(Jack and Laura have just finished eating dinner in a nice restaurant.)*

Jack: That was a great meal.

Laura: Yes. It was really good.

Jack: The bill is \$53.50.

Laura: How much should we tip?

Jack: Well, I thought the service was pretty good.

Laura: Yes. The **server** was very friendly.

Jack: But you did have to ask her for coffee three times.

### 会话A

*(杰克和劳拉在一家不错的餐厅用完晚餐。)*

杰克：这顿饭吃得真开心。

劳拉：对啊，真的很棒。

杰克：账单是53.5美元。

劳拉：那该给多少小费？

杰克：这个嘛，我觉得这里的 service 蛮好的。

劳拉：是啊，服务生很亲切。

杰克：可是，你还是向她要了3次，咖啡才送来。

**server** *n.* 服务生；侍者

Laura: Yes, but ...

Jack: Let's just tip 15 percent. Let's see ... that's \$8.

Laura: Do you have money to tip the girl at the coat check and also the parking *valet*?

Jack: Yes. I always make sure to carry small bills for that sort of thing.

Laura: Good for you.

### Conversation B

(Jack and Laura are in their hotel room.)

Laura: Did you tip the *bellman*?

劳拉：这倒是，不过……

杰克：那就给15%好了。我看看……要给8美元。

劳拉：你还有钱付小费给衣帽间的那个女孩子和代客停车的服务员吗？

杰克：有啊。我身上都一定会带一些零钱来应付这些支出。

劳拉：不错嘛。

### 会话B

(杰克和劳拉在饭店房间里。)

劳拉：行李员的小费给了没？

*valet* *n.* 侍者；服务员

*bellman* *n.* 男服务员；行李员

Jack: Yes. I gave him \$10. That's \$2 for each piece of *luggage*.

Laura: That seems like a lot of money!

Jack: I know. It seems like you have to tip everyone everywhere these days!

Laura: It sure does. We have to tip the parking *attendant* to bring us our car.

Jack: And the room service waiter.

Laura: And the maid.

Jack: It certainly would be cheaper to stay home!

Laura: Then we could tip ourselves!

---

杰克：给了。我给了他10美元，每件行李2美元。

劳拉：看来真是不少钱！

杰克：对啊。这年头好像到哪里都要给小费！

劳拉：当然了。我们要给帮忙取车的停车服务员小费。

杰克：还有客房服务生。

劳拉：还有清洁女仆。

杰克：待在家里一定比较划算！

劳拉：我们还可以奖赏自己呢！

---

*luggage* *n.* 行李

*attendant* *n.* 服务员

## Save Money When Shopping

If you're like most people, you love to save money. You probably try to buy things when they're *marked down*. When you go to *purchase* an item, sometimes you may find that it's sold out. In that case, at a grocery store or discount store, you can ask



*You don't have to always pay full price.*

### 逛街购物省钱有妙招

你不见得要按原价付款。

你要是跟大多数人一样，就会很爱省钱。你可能会趁减价的时候去买东西。你买东西时，有时候会发现货已售罄，这时，如果是在食杂店或是折扣商店，你可以向店家索取日后同价购买凭券，让你可以在折扣特卖结束后，仍以特价购买该样商品。

mark down 减低价格

purchase v. 购买

for a rain check. The rain check allows you to pay the sale price for the item after the sale is over.

Another way to save money is to look for products that offer *rebates*. After buying the product, you need to fill out the rebate form. Then mail it to the manufacturer with your cash register *receipt* and the UPC from the product package. In four to six weeks, the company will send the stated amount of money to you.

When you want to buy expensive items like cars, refrigerators or furniture, it's best to shop around. You can also ask for a better price, especially if you want to buy more than one item.

Why pay full price for something when there are so many ways to save?

另一个省钱妙招是寻找有优惠退款的商品。买了产品之后，要填写退款表格，然后连同收款机开的发票和产品包装上的统一商品条形码，一起寄给厂商。四到六星期之后，厂商就会退还给你规定的退款金额。

要买汽车、冰箱或家具等贵重物品时，最好是货比三家，尤其假如你要买的商品不止一样，就可以请店家给你折扣。

有那么多省钱妙方，何必乖乖按原价付款？

rebate *n.* (作为减免或折扣的) 部分退款

receipt *n.* 收据

## 10. Conversation A

(Jack and Laura are shopping for a new refrigerator.)

Jack: Hey Laura, what do you think of this refrigerator?

Laura: I really like it! It **dispenses** ice and water in the door. I've always wanted one like that. And you know, I like that **dishwasher** too. It's also on sale.

Jack: Let's see if the sales clerk will give us a good deal if we buy both items.

(A salesman comes over to them.)

Clerk: Have you found something you like? Can I answer any questions for you?

## 会话A

(杰克和劳拉正在选购一台新的冰箱。)

杰克: 嘿, 劳拉, 觉得这冰箱怎样?

劳拉: 我很喜欢! 放冰块和水的地方都配置在冰箱门上, 我一直想要一台这样的冰箱。跟你说, 我也喜欢那个洗碗机, 它也在打折。

杰克: 要是我们两样都买的话, 看店员会不会给我们优惠。

(一位售货员过来招呼他们。)

店员: 有没有看上的东西啊? 有什么问题需要我说明吗?

dispense *v.* 分配

dishwasher *n.* 洗碗机

Jack: Yes. If we buy this refrigerator and that dishwasher, can we get a better price?

Clerk: Sure. If you buy both, I'll give you \$100 off.

Laura: Sounds good to me. We'll take them!

### Conversation B

(Jack and Laura want to buy an item at a store, but they can't find it.)

Jack: (to a clerk) Excuse me! Where are the alarm clocks that are on sale?

Clerk: If we have any *in stock*, they would be on the bottom *shelf*

杰克：有，如果我们买这台冰箱和那台洗碗机，可以便宜点吗？

店员：当然，如果你们两样都买，我给你减去100美元。

劳拉：我觉得不错，那我们就买下来了！

### 会话B

(杰克和劳拉在一家店里想要买某样商品，但是却没找到。)

杰克：（对店员说）不好意思！你们特价的闹钟放在哪里？

店员：如果我们还有现货的话，会放在这里架子的最下层。我来看

in stock 有现货的

shelf *n.* 架子



right here. Let's check ... uh-oh, I'm afraid we're all sold out.

Laura: Oh. Can we get a rain check?

Clerk: Sure. Just ask the *cashier* at the front of the store.

Jack: Can we use the rain check anytime?

Clerk: No. The cashier will put a date on it. You have to use the rain check before that date.

Laura: OK, thanks for letting us know, and thanks for your help.

Clerk: You're welcome.

看……唉呀，恐怕卖完了。

劳拉：哦，可以跟你们拿日后同价兑换券吗？

店员：可以呀，跟前面收银员说就可以了。

杰克：随时都可以用同价兑换券吗？

店员：不行，收银员会在上面盖日期，你们得在期限之前用掉。

劳拉：好吧，谢谢你告诉我们，也谢谢你帮忙。

店员：不客气。

*cashier* *n.* 收银员；出纳员