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Giving Presents 送礼

Insert

- *I give presents for birthdays, weddings.*
- *Valentine's day – oh and anniversaries too.*
- *Mother's Day.*
- *I buy presents mostly for birthdays and for Christmas as well.*

Oliver: 这么多的特别的时机和场合。

Jo: Yes, special occasions when people in the UK are likely to buy a present for someone – like birthdays.

Oliver: 生日, 对英国人来讲, 记住朋友和家人的生日是相当重要的事情。人们还会为很多事情买礼物, 比如婚礼。

Jo: Weddings, yes, and anniversaries.

Oliver: 周年纪念, 象结婚周年纪念或者你和你的爱人相识的周年纪念。对了还有母亲节。

Jo: Yes, you always have to show your mother how special she is on Mother's Day by buying a present – and of course, there's Christmas.

Oliver: 没错儿, 还有英国人每年最盛大的节日—圣诞节。在今天的 BBC 英语教学节目中, 我们将和大家聊一聊礼物——以及什么时候送礼物。

Jo: How to know what to give somebody as a present – we'll be hearing from lots of British people.

Oliver: 此外, 我们还要告诉你很多在英国关于送礼物的礼节。

Jo: That's all coming up – I'm Jo and with me today is Oliver.

Oliver: Hello there!

Oliver: So it seems like there are a lot of special occasions in the UK when you might buy presents, Jo.

Jo: Yes there are, Oliver.

- Oliver: But does everyone give presents for all of those occasions?
- Jo: Well no. It depends on the person.
- Oliver: 要看是什么样的人 – **it depends**. 有些人可能非常喜欢送礼物, 但是有的人就正好相反。But how do British people decide what to buy as a present Jo?
- Jo: Well, let's ask some of them shall we?

Insert

- *Well I think about what they like – say if I'm choosing a book for someone I think about something I've read that they might like according to their interests or their hobbies.*
- *If I'm buying somebody a present, I always look at the sort of things they wear or buy themselves or have in their homes or what they eat – you can tell an awful lot about people from those things.*
- *I prefer to buy useful things because I know that they won't get chucked away.*

- Jo: So it's important to think about what the person likes – we hear the first woman use the word 'say' – say if I'm choosing a book for someone. It kind of means 'for example'.
- Oliver: **Say** 在英语中可以用来表达举个例子意思。在这里她的意思就是说, 比如说我想送给某人一本书。
- Jo: Say if I'm choosing a book for someone I think about something they might like according to their interests. According to.
- Oliver: 依照、根据。根据他们的兴趣和爱好。
- Jo: Interests and hobbies. Another way to decide what to buy someone as a present is to look at the sorts of things they wear, buy and eat.
- Oliver: The sorts of things 那种事情。你可以从那些事情里发现非常多的和那些人有关的事情。在这里 **awful** 用来强调程度, 非常、非常多。
- Jo: You can tell, you can find out, an awful lot about people by even looking at what they have in their homes.
- Oliver: 看起来, 如果你想送一份合适的礼物, 就先得做好侦探工作。不过如果你对有些人不是特别了解, 我们采访过的一个男士说他会买实用性强的东西。
- Jo: Useful things that they can definitely use – say soap – because everyone gets washed – or a photo frame.
- Oliver: 也就是说, 实用性的礼物就是象香皂、像框什么的, 人们肯定可以派上用场而不会丢掉的东西。
- Jo: Something that won't get chucked away.
- Oliver: **Chuck** 在这里是扔的意思, 是一种非正式的用法。Let's listen to those people again.

Insert

- Well I think about what they like – say if I'm choosing a book for someone I think about something I've read that they might like according to their interests or their hobbies.

- If I'm buying somebody a present I always look at the sort of things they wear or buy themselves or have in their homes or what they eat – you can tell an awful lot about people from those things.

- I prefer to buy useful things because I know that they won't get chucked away.

Jo: We have lots more to tell you about giving presents in the UK but before we do – let's look at some of today's language so far. First of all, some of those special occasions.

Oliver: 一个特别的时机和场合。比如情人节。

Jo: Valentine's Day.

Oliver: 母亲节。

Jo: Mother's Day.

Oliver: 周年纪念。

Jo: Anniversary – for example, a wedding anniversary.

Oliver: 或者你和你爱的人相识的周年纪念。

Jo: And the other language – according to.

Oliver: 根据、依照。

Jo: And – to chuck away.

Oliver: Chuck 是 throw 的非正式用法。丢弃。

Jo: You're listening to BBC Learning English and today we're talking about presents. Now we've looked at how people decide what presents to buy.

Oliver: 还有你需要做什么样的调研工作才可以知道别人会喜欢什么礼物，或许，Jo 你说大家可以告诉彼此呢？

Jo: That's not a bad idea Oliver – but do people think it's right to tell someone what you want as a present?

Insert

- Oh no, I think that's really quite impolite – I think it's alright if you drop subtle hints, just mention things that you like but to say 'I want a bike for my birthday' is unbearably rude.

- I don't think you should ever hint or tell. I think you are removing all of the joy and surprise from life if you are telling people what you want for presents – I think it's absolutely wrong.

Jo: So one woman there said she thinks it really is impolite to tell someone what you want for a present.

Oliver: 无礼的。但是她说如果你给出一些非常巧妙的暗示是没问题的。给出暗示。

Jo: **To drop a hint – a subtle hint.**

Oliver: 巧妙的暗示。只是偶尔提及你喜欢的东西。提及、提到。

Jo: **To mention. So she thinks it's OK to mention things you like but to say for example, "I want a bike for my birthday" is unbearably rude.**

Oliver: **Unbearably** 的意思是难以忍受得。但是 **unbearably rude** 的意思是非常粗鲁和无礼。

Jo: **The other woman said she doesn't think you should ever hint or tell what presents you want, as you are removing all the joy and surprise from life.**

Oliver: 嗯，她的意思是这么做会失去很多的生活乐趣和惊喜，而且绝对是错误的。

Jo: **It's absolutely wrong. But not everyone thinks it's so wrong.**

Insert

*- Yes, it's absolutely right to tell someone what you might like as a present in the hope that they'll buy it for you – in fact I drop quite a few hints.
- I think ahead of Christmas when you're expected to provide more than one gift let's say it's really useful to have an indication of what somebody might like.*

Jo: **So before we heard people saying it was absolutely wrong and now we are hearing it's absolutely right – in the hope that someone will buy that present for you if you tell them.**

Oliver: 期待有人会买礼物给你。

Jo: **And we heard that expression again – to drop a hint. She says she drops quite a few hints. Quite a few.**

Oliver: 她给了非常多的暗示。现在有些人觉得圣诞节的时候告诉别人你想要什么样的礼物已经没什么不好的。

Jo: **Yes, at Christmas in the UK you often have to give people more than one present.**

Oliver: 在那个例子里，得到关于某些人喜欢什么样的礼物的暗示是非常有用的。得到暗示。

Jo: **To have an indication. People often write Christmas lists.**

Oliver: 人们会列出一个自己希望得到的礼物的单子，让别人从中挑选东西去买给自己!

Jo: **Now one time when people definitely ask for specific presents is for a wedding.**

Oliver: 在英国，即将结婚的新人通常会列出一个清单。 **A wedding list** 也就是说他们把自己需要的或者需要从专门的地方购买的东西列在单子里，他们邀请的客人可

以挑选单子里的东西购买作为送给他们新人的新婚礼物。现在通常都是在线定购。

Jo: There are many different opinions about wedding lists too. Here's some language to help you. Cheeky.

Oliver: Cheeky 是英国英语里常用的词儿，意思是厚脸皮的。

Jo: And when talking about money you might use the verb worth – to be worth something.

Oliver: Worth 相应的东西值相应的价钱。

Jo: To agree.

Oliver: 同意什么人的看法。

Jo: Greediness.

Oliver: 贪婪的。

Jo: And you'll hear the word hassle.

Oliver: 争吵。这儿有一个习惯用法是避免了很多的争吵。

Jo: To save a lot of hassle.

Insert

-Something I do find a bit strange is wedding lists I just think it's a little bit cheeky to ask someone to buy you a specific gift worth a certain amount of money.

- I just don't agree with them. Everyone's got everything – it's just greediness.

- If it's a wedding, it's useful to have a list, so that people don't buy the same thing all the time. I can see that they are a useful thing it does save a lot of hassle especially if people can buy online and get it wrapped for them and all that stuff.

Oliver: 我觉得这位女士之所以认为结婚礼物清单是贪婪的表现是因为在英国很多人都是在正式结婚前已经住在了一起，换句话说，他们已经有了一个家所应该具备的东西，那么列出礼品清单，只是希望得到更多的或者是更昂贵的东西当然是贪婪的啦。

Jo: It's time for another language recap.

Insert

To drop a hint 给出暗示。 A subtle hint 巧妙的暗示。 To mention 提及、提到。 Quite a few 相当多的。 To have an indication 得到暗示。 A wedding list 结婚礼物清单。

Cheeky 厚脸皮。 Worth 值钱的。 Hassle 争吵。 To save hassle 避免争吵。

Oliver: Wow, so buying presents can be difficult in the UK, can't it Jo? You have a lot of special occasions to buy for.

Jo: Well it's not too difficult for us, Oliver, because we're used to it.

Oliver: 没错儿，你当然做过了。

Jo: Are things different in China, Oliver?

Oliver: Yes, a bit different. We never ever tell people what we want as a present, 'cause we think that is greedy. And we don't have a wedding present list. But if friends want buy something as a wedding present, they do tell the new couple before they buy, just to help them avoid getting the same presents. And wedding presents are often practical ones.

Jo: Well it's a very interesting topic, and we could talk more about giving presents but we have no more time today Oliver, we have to finish there. Don't forget if you want to email us – you can write to us at chinaelt@bbc.co.uk

Oliver: 如果你希望提高自己的英语水平，也不要忘记登陆我们的网站，网址是。
www.bbcchina.com.cn

Jo: We look forward to hearing from you. Bye for now.

Oliver: Bye!