
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Authentic Real English 地道英语

Small change



“零钱”还可以指“不值一提的事”

- 关于台词的备注:
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Feifei

大家好，欢迎来到 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目。你是 Neil。

Neil

And hello, you are Feifei.

Feifei

Neil, a question: if you looked into my purse, what would you find?

Neil

Not much! Probably lots of small coins that aren't worth much.

Feifei

Well, I'm not rich – but yes, you would find small change. 在英语里，“零钱、小面值硬币”的说法是“small change”。

Neil

OK, is this the phrase for this programme?

Feifei

Not exactly. The phrase is 'small change' but it's not about money. Something that is insignificant or trivial, meaning not important, can also be described as 'small change'.

Neil

Like getting a seat on the train during the rush hour is small change for me.

Feifei

And getting chocolate sprinkles on top of my cappuccino is small change for me.

Neil

Really? That's 'big change' for me!

Feifei

原来，搭配“small change”除了可以指“零钱”以外，还可以用来表示“不重要、没有意义或微不足道的事情”。

Neil

Let's hear some examples that are far from being small change.

Examples

I've only got a cold so my health problems are small change compared with your broken leg.

Eating out every night? Small change to Molly – she can afford it with the huge salary she's on.

Where I sit on the plane is small change to me, as long as we arrive on time.

Feifei

这里是 BBC 英语教学的《地道英语》节目。在这集节目里，我们正在学习“small change”这个说法。它除了有“零钱”的意思以外，还可以被用来形容事情相比之下“没有价值、不值一提”。这个说法后面可以接介词“to”指某事对某个人来说一点也不重要。

Neil

We can also describe someone as being small change, so they are not important. Feifei, do you think I'm small change in this programme?

Feifei

Of course not, Neil. 除了事物以外，我们还可以用“small change”来描述某人“无足轻重”。You are very important to this programme, and besides we couldn't afford the other presenter!

Neil

Ha ha. Very funny. So now we've explained 'small change', can you lend me some?

Feifei

You mean money? How much do you want?

Neil

Ten pounds?

Feifei

Neil, that is not small change, and your request is not small change either. So the answer is 'no'!

Neil

Ah, well, it was worth a try. See ya.

Feifei

Bye.