
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

The English We Speak

Give me credit



This is not a word-for-word transcript

Li

Hello, this is The English We Speak with me Li...

Rob

And me Rob. So Li, here we are, shopping again... So, what is it you're going to buy today?

Li

Me? No, I thought you wanted to buy something? You said to me this morning **give me credit** - so here we are, all my credit cards, look, including my gold one - impressive, hey?

Rob

Yes. But Li, I didn't actually mean...

Li

(Interrupting) So I'll buy something on my credit card and you can pay me back later - that's **giving you credit** - right?

Rob

Err, wrong Li. Although it's a nice idea. **To give me credit** means give me praise or appreciation for something I've done. And this morning I walked the dog, washed the car, did the shopping, and I still got to work at 9 o'clock! So please, give me credit!

Li

OK, I'll have a think about whether you deserve credit while we hear some more examples of this phrase in action...

Examples

We must **give credit to** our sponsors who helped pay for this new building.

I'll **give her credit** for her beautiful handwriting, but the answers she gave in the test were all wrong!

Give me credit - I worked all night to get the project finished!

Li

So to give someone credit means to give them praise. I get the word **credit** now Rob. This has nothing to do with money, so I'll put away my credit cards... I'm not going to give you financial credit *or* credit in terms of praise.

Rob

No praise? Why's that?

Li

You didn't walk the dog because you haven't got one, the car is still dirty, and I did all the shopping! So don't take the credit for things you haven't done!

Rob

OK. Well, here's another phrase for you - **give credit where it's due...**

Li

Meaning?

Rob

You should at least acknowledge the things I *have* done - like turning up at the studio today to record this programme!

Li

Of course, Rob, you are a credit to the BBC!

Rob

Ahh, thanks Li. Err... any chance I could borrow your credit card now?

Both

Bye!