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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## The English We Speak

### A slap in the face



*This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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**Rob**

Welcome to The English We Speak with me, Rob.

**Feifei**

And me Feifei. Hello! So how did your interview go?

**Rob**

You know, quite good... ok... well not bad.

**Feifei**

So did you get the promotion?

**Rob**

Well... no. I didn't... it was a bit of a slap in the face actually.

**Feifei**

A slap in the face? Did they hit you?!

**Rob**

No, no, no. I mean not getting the job is a bit of an insult – I was the right man for the job – look at all my qualifications and experience.

**Feifei**

Oh dear. You sound quite offended Rob.

**Rob**

That's what 'a slap in the face' means – it's an action that can be seen as an insult or cause offence. It can also cause disappointment because you were expecting a more positive outcome.

**Feifei**

Like getting that promotion?

**Rob**

Exactly. Here are some more examples...

**Examples**

After all the extra work we put in, it was a slap in the face not to win the contract.

Not being invited on his stag do, was a real slap in the face – I thought I was his best friend!

**Feifei**

So 'a slap in the face' is an insult – or an action that causes offence or disappointment. It's not actually a physical slap in the face then?

**Rob**

That's right.

**Feifei**

So what are you going to do about getting a promotion?

**Rob**

Well to be honest, Feifei, it wasn't much of a promotion anyway – it was quite a boring job role and no more money – an idiot could have done it – I think you would have been good at it...

[SLAP]

...ow, what was that?

**Feifei**

That's a real slap in the face!

**Rob**

Was it something I said?