

Restaurants forced to give all tips to staff

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Restaurants in the UK will soon have to give all tips to their staff. The UK Prime Minister Theresa May announced new plans that will make it illegal for restaurants to keep the tips given by customers. For decades, many

restaurants have kept most of the tips customers add to their credit card payments or the money customers put in tip jars. Some restaurants use the tips as part of a worker's pay. Many people in England are angry about this. Restaurant workers are among the lowest paid staff in Britain and many of them rely on tips to survive. The food and drink industry in the UK is huge. There are over 150,000 hotels, bars and restaurants in the UK. These employ about two million people.

Many waiting staff in the UK are happy that the new law is coming in. They said they were fed up with international chain restaurants keeping the money that was meant for waiters. The staff also said restaurant managers often used the tips to help pay for the chefs and kitchen staff. Workers at the TGI Fridays restaurant chain went on strike earlier this year because of low pay. Prime Minister May said the new law would make sure restaurant workers are treated fairly. She said: "That's why we will introduce tough new legislation to ensure that workers get to keep all of their tips." A spokeswoman for the restaurant industry said a new law was unnecessary because the industry makes sure working conditions are fair.

Sources: bbc.com / mirror.co.uk / theguardian.com

Writing

There is no need to tip workers who already get paid. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

restaurants / tips / staff / customers / credit cards / survive / food / drink / hotels / happy / fed up / managers / chef / low pay / legislation / industry / working conditions

True / False

- a) Restaurants all over the world must now give all tips to their staff. T / F
- b) A new law may make it illegal for restaurants to keep tips. T / F
- c) Some restaurants pay workers using the tips customers give. T / F
- d) Around 2 million people work in hotels, bars and restaurants in the UK. T / F
- e) Many waiting staff in the UK are very unhappy with the new law. T / F
- f) Workers at all UK restaurants went on strike last year over low pay. T / F
- g) The UK's leader said the new law will mean workers are treated fairly. T / F
- h) An industry spokeswoman said conditions in restaurants are unfair. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. staff | a. the same |
| 2. illegal | b. furious |
| 3. money | c. tired |
| 4. angry | d. against the law |
| 5. huge | e. make sure |
| 6. fed up | f. enormous |
| 7. often | g. workers |
| 8. fairly | h. unneeded |
| 9. ensure | i. frequently |
| 10. unnecessary | j. cash |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of tipping?
- b) Why don't nurses, doctors and teachers get tips?
- c) What do you think of restaurants keeping customers' tips?
- d) Where did the idea of tipping come from?
- e) When have you given people a tip?
- f) Would you like to work in the food and drink industry?
- g) Why are restaurant staff so low-paid?
- h) What do you think of tipping?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. credit card | a. up |
| 2. the money customers put in | b. conditions |
| 3. many of them rely on tips | c. two million people |
| 4. The food and drink | d. payments |
| 5. These employ about | e. and kitchen staff |
| 6. They said they were fed | f. to survive |
| 7. help pay for the chefs | g. new legislation |
| 8. make sure restaurant workers | h. industry |
| 9. we will introduce tough | i. are treated fairly |
| 10. working | j. tip jars |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Should restaurant staff get tips?
- What do you think of giving your English teacher a tip?
- What do you think of international restaurant chains?
- How might restaurant staff be treated unfairly?
- Why do some countries tip and others don't?
- What are the good and bad things about working in a restaurant?
- What questions would you like to ask a restaurant worker?

Spelling

- cudn^onnae new plans
- make it lliega
- tips given by mstrocesu
- credit card meaptsny
- many of them elyr on tips
- These eylpom about two million people
- international cinah restaurants
- restaurant mgaa^snre
- workers are treated ryifla
- introduce tghuo new legislation
- the restaurant unr^siytd
- working iondctnois

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. f
6. c	7. i	8. a	9. e	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Hamburger

You think a hamburger restaurant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their restaurants. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): sushi, pizza or curry.

Role B – Sushi

You think a sushi restaurant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their restaurants. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hamburger, pizza or curry.

Role C – Pizza

You think a pizza restaurant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their restaurants. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): sushi, hamburger or curry.

Role D – Curry

You think a curry restaurant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their restaurants. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): sushi, pizza or hamburger.

Speaking – Restaurants

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| • steak | • hamburger |
| • falafel | • pizza |
| • sushi | • fish and chips |
| • curry | • fried chicken |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.