

A to Z English

A to Z Am I the Jerk? 09: No Free Meal at Wedding

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Full Transcript

00:00:01 Jack

Welcome to the A-Z English podcast, where Jack and Social take you on a journey from learning the basics to mastering the nuances of the English language.

00:00:11 Jack

Our podcast is designed for non-native speakers who are looking to improve their English skills in a fun and interactive way. Each episode covers a wide range of topics.

00:00:23 Jack

From grammar and vocabulary to slang and culture to help you navigate the English speaking world with ease.

00:00:34 Xochitl

It is the English listeners welcome to another episode of and My picture which I can I discuss with the person in question about situation.

00:00:41 Xochitl

Not today.

00:00:42 Xochitl

I think Jack found any prompting the depths of Reddit, and we're gonna discuss whether the person in question is a jerk.

00:00:49 Xochitl

So, Jack?

00:00:49 Xochitl

Do you want to kick it off?

00:00:50 Jack

Yes, I would love.

00:00:51 Jack

To am I the jerk for asking my wedding guests to pay for their own meal?

00:00:58 Jack

My boyfriend male, 23 and I female 22, are getting married soon and we are both still in college.

00:01:07 Jack

He is in a PhD program and I'm about to enter one.

00:01:12 Jack

We don't want to wait to get married because of school.

00:01:15 Jack

We'd have to wait about five to seven years.

00:01:18 Jack

However, neither of us are financially supported by our parents or family members.

00:01:24 Jack

We can't afford a normal wedding, let alone a big one.

00:01:28 Jack

We would like our families to be able to come and celebrate with us.

00:01:33 Jack

We are planning a small courthouse wedding with only our immediate families in the room.

00:01:39 Jack

Then we want to offer dinner at a local restaurant as a wedding reception.

00:01:44 Jack

However, venue and rental and hosting costs are too pricey for us, so we offered the idea to our families that we are getting married at X place on X date and will be dining at X restaurant if they want to celebrate with us, they will have to pay for their own meals at the restaurant.

00:02:04 Jack

We have gotten some backlash from family members who don't want to or can't afford to pay for travel to our town, plus hotel plus dinner.

00:02:14 Jack

They're saying we should be more traditional should wait till we can afford a wedding before getting married.

00:02:21 Jack

Am I the jerk?

00:02:25 Jack

What do you think?

00:02:26 Xochitl

OK, I don't think they're the joke.

00:02:29 Xochitl

I will say this and I do not something that people who are getting married at this age usually want to hear, but they.

00:02:34 Xochitl

Are young to be getting it.

00:02:37 Xochitl

And they're out there.

00:02:38 Xochitl

That's young, I honestly think.

00:02:41 Xochitl

You could meet.

00:02:42 Xochitl

Most people don't want to hear that, but these are huge, like lower chance of success.

00:02:49 Xochitl

Of your marriage, if you get married, that young actually, especially if you're going to be going into a lengthy PhD program which is going to put a lot of stress on an edge and.

00:02:59 Xochitl

Money is a huge reason that, like divorce, skyrockets and I can see.

00:03:05 Xochitl

Them having many issues.

00:03:08 Xochitl

And I just don't see.

00:03:11 Xochitl

Why they need to get married like immediately, like the game and combine their finances and whatnot.

00:03:17 Xochitl

It might make it even.

00:03:18 Xochitl

More difficult to get aid.

00:03:20 Xochitl

Uhm, I don't really see the brush to get married, but I'm not them.

00:03:25 Xochitl

So since they actually think the jerk or.

00:03:30 Xochitl

Asking their family and friends to pay for their own meal.

00:03:33 Xochitl

I don't think so.

00:03:35 Xochitl

I think it's like expected at this rate.

00:03:40 Xochitl

Because they don't have the funds.

00:03:42 Xochitl

So I don't see what the big deal is.

00:03:45 Xochitl

However, I do see why some family members would be upset because they would want to go, but they can't really afford to travel.

00:03:51 Xochitl

And stay, so I think.

00:03:54 Xochitl

A good compromise might be they could have like a small thing now and then.

00:03:58 Xochitl

Say they might have a party in a few years when they're more established.

00:04:02 Xochitl

Or like also do like the I had a cousin do this where he did like a go fund me kind of thing.

00:04:08 Xochitl

But it was like.

00:04:10 Xochitl

Do you want to go to the wedding you contributed like X amount to the party I?

00:04:14 Xochitl

Guess this happened.

00:04:16 Xochitl

Agree as well.

00:04:16 Xochitl

People could give you money.

00:04:18 Xochitl

For the with the food that you can.

00:04:19 Xochitl

Eat at your wedding.

00:04:21 Jack

You get it's like 50 bucks a person and you get \$50. Uh, usually. So if you have two people \$100, you just give the money at the front door.

00:04:31 Jack

And you get a little ticket and that ticket gets you to the buffet.

00:04:37 Jack

It's it's more transactional in Korea, but I but it's more, but I like it, it's more transparent.

00:04:44 Jack

And in this case I don't.

00:04:46 Jack

Think. I mean, I think.

00:04:48 Jack

They are.

00:04:51 Jack

Jerk is too strong of a word, but they want to have.

00:04:55 Jack

Here's an expression they want to have their cake and eat it too.

00:05:00 Jack

Like they want to have the wedding, but they don't have the money to have the wedding, and so they're trying to find a way to do to to get what they want, even though they can't.

00:05:11 Jack

And so I think they should just get married at the courthouse with two witnesses, you know, or whatever you need one person and the other person.

00:05:22 Jack

Just get married and.

00:05:24 Jack

Just be married on paper and forget about the the celebration and the dress and the cake and all of the the festivities.

00:05:33 Jack

Just get married.

00:05:36 Jack

And then it it takes away all of that.

00:05:39 Jack

Uhm, the pressure from the family to to come up with the money, to participate and and come and and see the event just don't have the event.

00:05:49 Jack

Or like you said, just wait until you have the money.

00:05:54 Xochitl

Yeah, I just don't understand the rush to get.

00:05:58 Xochitl

Married, like if I was like.

00:06:02 Xochitl

OK.

00:06:05 Xochitl

Barring something like getting your spouse's health insurance or something like that, which I have friends who have gotten married young for those reasons, like I don't really see the point of rushing to get married.

00:06:19 Xochitl

She's just gonna be at the courthouse wedding anyway.

00:06:22 Jack

Yeah, I mean, it already is.

00:06:22 Xochitl

I guess I'm just saying.

00:06:24 Xochitl

No rush, yeah.

00:06:25 Jack

It already is almost a formality, just a a just to get the the paper and say we're married legal.

00:06:33 Jack

That's what they're doing already, so.

00:06:33 Xochitl

And come up.

00:06:36 Xochitl

I think it's like an immature mindset in my opinion, because when I was younger, which is something I cared a lot more about, like I think I remember the person I was dating when I was around her age.

00:06:47 Xochitl

And it was very serious relationship.

00:06:48 Xochitl

I was like, so much more enthusia.

00:06:51 Xochitl

About being married.

00:06:54 Xochitl

At that age, like I thought I would get married young.

00:06:59 Xochitl

To now that I'm like little older and I'm.

00:07:02 Xochitl

Like that's rush like.

00:07:04 Jack

Yeah, no.

00:07:05 Xochitl

It's kind of different because he's seeing.

00:07:09 Xochitl

How things pan out or don't pan out.

00:07:11 Xochitl

But either way, it's like they they.

00:07:13 Xochitl

Really know where to get married if you're actually.

00:07:15 Xochitl

Committed to somebody.

00:07:17 Jack

No, I totally agree.

00:07:18 Jack

I don't.

00:07:19 Jack

I don't see the the purpose in it other than.

00:07:23 Jack

They just want.

00:07:24 Jack

To that seems to be their their reason is they just.

00:07:27 Jack

Want to do it?

00:07:28 Jack

And I just don't understand it I.

00:07:30 Jack

Guess I'm too practical.

00:07:34 Xochitl

Yeah, to me it's kind of.

00:07:35 Xochitl

An sorry.

00:07:36 Xochitl

Go ahead.

00:07:36 Xochitl

I didn't.

00:07:36 Xochitl

Mean to cut you off.

00:07:37 Jack

No, I'm. I'm done.

00:07:39 Xochitl

I was just going to say I think it's kind of an immature mindset because like, I think I won.

00:07:44Xochitl

Wedding and the.

00:07:46Xochitl

Party and everything.

00:07:47Xochitl

I still want those things, but I'm just like if I'm in a relationship or whatever, I'm not like, it's not that immediate.

00:07:55Xochitl

Like, what's the immediacy, really?

00:07:57Xochitl

There's a lot of time and there's a lot of time to get married.

00:08:01Xochitl

Later in life and.

00:08:04Xochitl

And there's a lot of goals that I think are almost better.

00:08:06Xochitl

To achieve when you're not married like.

00:08:11Xochitl

Traveling there was something really freeing about traveling alone as a single person was not married, and getting through college or university like there's going to be a lot of things that you learn in your individual programs.

00:08:23Xochitl

UM, that can make your marriage better in the long run.

00:08:26Xochitl

But like, what's the?

00:08:29Xochitl

The rush to get married, I mean, you know, there's like this thing in the US at least, like getting married in grad school and then, like, you know.

00:08:37Xochitl

Those people that.

00:08:38Xochitl

You meet in grad school.

00:08:39Xochitl

Who are?

00:08:39Xochitl

Married like they're broke all the time and they're like mad at each other.

00:08:44Xochitl

Like you never super great situation.

00:08:44 Jack

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

00:08:47 Xochitl

Which is why a lot of times I've been divorced.

00:08:50 Xochitl

So yeah, I I know this wasn't the question, but I just don't really see the purpose.

00:08:57 Jack

Yeah, there's almost like a fear there.

00:08:58 Jack

It's like if we go to grad school.

00:09:00 Jack

What if what if one of us meets another person or some, you know, somebody more interesting?

00:09:05 Jack

And and this will, I don't know.

00:09:08 Jack

I I agree with you.

00:09:09 Xochitl

So what if I think Sam?

00:09:10 Jack

You know, it's an immature mindset.

00:09:13 Jack

So am I a jerk?

00:09:16 Jack

Am I right?

00:09:18 Jack

No, I don't think so.

00:09:20 Xochitl

Yeah, like, maybe sit on this and like, think like if there's just so much urgency to this whole site to that like maybe if.

00:09:28 Xochitl

You just take a step back.

00:09:30 Xochitl

If you if like people not being able to pay for their own meal or you not being able to pay for peoples meal at a wedding and that be like an obstacle to you getting married, it's not something we should be.

00:09:41 Xochitl

You shouldn't be getting married, I think.

00:09:43 Jack

Right, exactly.

00:09:46 Jack

And think about all the.

00:09:47 Jack

Other costs that go into housing.

00:09:50 Jack

With two people.

00:09:51 Jack

You know, how you going to pay?

00:09:52 Jack

The rent.

00:09:53 Jack

When you've got all those school bills coming up it just it just doesn't make sense.

00:09:57 Jack

It's just I I think they're they're being irrational so.

00:10:02 Xochitl

And it's so much harder to like if you're a student, you can get like in.

00:10:05 Xochitl

The US anyway.

00:10:06 Xochitl

You can get like.

00:10:06 Xochitl

Snap, or EBT, which is for viewers who don't understand or don't know those terms, so you can get like government.

00:10:13 Xochitl

When your student to pay for your groceries, and if you're married.

00:10:19 Xochitl

Assistance that you were entitled to goes way down, so it's really harder to get like certain loans.

00:10:25 Xochitl

It's harder to.

00:10:26 Xochitl

It might be easier for certain things, but it's a lot harder to get assistance.

00:10:30 Xochitl

Like Medicaid or medical programs?

00:10:34 Xochitl

Food benefits and everything like that is just way more difficult to get access to if you're married, because based on your two income household and your finances are joined.

00:10:44 Xochitl

So it.

00:10:44 Xochitl

Makes it much more difficult.

00:10:46 Jack

And if they're still together after their PhD programs when they're both doctors, then they'll be, then, God bless them, you know, they'll have a great marriage, great life.

00:10:56 Xochitl

Yeah, that's that's fine too.

00:11:00 Xochitl

Alright, so we've called it in.

00:11:02 Xochitl

Not not the jerk, but also, you know, think about this.

00:11:08 발표자

That's right.

00:11:12 Xochitl

☐

☐

All right, yours. If you have any opinion, let us know on the WhatsApp group whether you think this person is jerk or not. e-mail us at A-Z englishpodcast@gmail.com or leave a comment down below.

00:11:24 Xochitl

And we will see you next time.

00:11:26 Xochitl

Bye bye.

00:11:27 발표자

Bye bye.