

# 0004

M: Hello everyone /and welcome to EnglishPod! My name is Marco.

A: I' m Amira.

M: Hey, Amira, how are you today?

A: I' m doing great! What about you?

M: I' m doing pretty good! I' m excited about *this*, uh, *lesson* 后定说明 that you have for us today.

A: Yes, it' s actually a very, very useful lesson. It' s about *someone asking his boss for an assistant*.

M: Oh, okay, an assistant.

A: Yes.

M: What' s an assistant?

A: Well, it' s someone /who helps you with your work around the office.

M: Okay, great, so, let' s listen to this, uh, dialogue /and when we come back /we' ll take a look at all the interesting and useful vocabulary that you' ll find.

## Header 1

A: ...like I told you before, we just don' t have the re- sources to hire you an assistant.

B: I understand that, but the fact is we' re under- staffed (a.)人员不足 ; 人手太少.

A: The timing is just not right. The economy is bad, and it' s too risky **to take on** 雇佣 new staff.

B: Yeah, I guess you' re right.... here' s an idea, what if we hire an intern 实习生? She would take some of the weight off my shoulders.

A: She?

B: Yeah, you know, a recent graduate 大学毕业生. She could give me a hand 帮我一把 with some of these projects /and we could keep our costs down 控制成本.

A: That sounds reasonable... let me see *what I can do*.

A: Tony, I' d like to introduce you to your new assis- tant.

B: OK, great! Let' s meet her!

C: Hi, I' m Adam.

B: Oh... hi... I' m Tony...

A: And we' re back. Tony? Hehe. He' s surprised, ha?

M: Yeah, he' s, uh... I don' t know **why though** he' s surprised. I think we should talk about that a little bit later.

### Example 1. 案例

I don' t know why though he' s surprised.

这句话的语序在非常流利的口语中很常见，但更标准的语序应该是："I don' t know why he' s surprised, though."

- Why: 表示“为什么”，用于提问原因。
- Though: 表示“然而”、“不过”、“但是”，用于引入一个相反的论点或表示转折。
- 当这两个词组合在一起时，“though”的语气被弱化了，它不再表示强烈的转折，而是为问题增加了一种委婉的质疑、好奇或思考的色彩。

主要陈述: "I don't know why he's surprised." (我不知道他为什么惊讶。)

添加的语气 ("though"): 这个 though 为整个句子增添了一层含义，相当于在说：

- "...不过，他的这种惊讶，让我觉得有点没道理/难以理解。”
- "...但说实话，我觉得他根本没必要惊讶。”
- "...但在我看来，这事并不令人意外啊。”

说话者用 though 来表达自己的观点：我认为他的惊讶，是出乎我意料的（或者是不应该的）。

"why though" 通常用在非正式的口语中，带有以下一种或多种语气：

Header 1	Header 2
1.真诚的困惑：	A: Mike hates chocolate. (Mike讨厌巧克力。) B: <b>Why though?</b> It's so good! (为啥啊？巧克力这么好吃！)
2.委婉的质疑或反驳（就像你的例句）	He said he's quitting his job. <b>I don't know why though</b> , he just got a promotion. (他说他要辞职。我真不明白为啥，他刚升了职啊。) → 言下之意：我觉得他这个决定很傻。
3.深入探讨：	The movie was successful. <b>Why though?</b> Let's analyze its marketing strategy. (电影很卖座。不过原因是啥呢？我们来分析一下它的营销策略吧。)

A: Yes, for now 目前；暂时 let's look at some interesting vocabulary and phrases here.

Marco, I know you've chosen one for us.

M: Yeah, the first one /that I wanna take a look at /is resources.

A: Resources.

M: Resources.

A: Resources.

M: And *that means*, in this text, basically, *money*.

A: Right.

M: So, the office doesn't have enough money.

A: Okay, I've chosen another interesting word for you /and that's understaffed (a.)人手不足的；人员不足的。

M: Understaffed.

A: Understaffed.

M: Understaffed.

A: Now, understaffed means that /they don't have enough people working there.

M: They don't have enough workers.

A: Right, they don't have enough employees.

M: Perfect! Okay, um, the next one is *timing is just not right* 时机不对。

A: The timing is just not right.

M: The timing is just not right.

A: The timing is just not right.

M: Okay, let' s listen to /how we can use this entire phrase in a different situation, so then we can understand what it means. Let' s listen.

Example one.

A: I was gonna sell my house, but the timing is just not right.

Example two.

B: Honey, I think we should have a baby.

C: The timing is just not right.

M: Okay, great, I guess *that makes it*, uh, *clear*.

A: Yes, actually, it' s very obvious 明显的, 显然的 /that **it means that** it' s just not a good time.

M: Right, perfect!

A: Yeah, I have another interesting phrase for you, which is *weight off my shoulders* 解脱,放下肩头重担.

M: Weight off my shoulders.

A: Weight off my shoulders.

M: Weight off my shoulders.

A: So, *to take weight off my shoulders* 卸下我肩上的重担 is another way of saying "to help me with my work" or "to take some of my work away from me" .

M: If you have a lot of things to do /and I come and help you /that means that **I took some of the weight off your shoulders**.

A: Yes.

M: Let' s look at *the next*, uh, *phrase* /that we have here /and it' s *give me a hand*.

A: Give me a hand.

M: Give me a hand.

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M: Okay, now, this is not literal, it' s not that /I' m gonna give you somebody' s hand, right? Let' s listen to some examples /and then we can come back and explain what it means.

Example one.

A: Can you give me a hand with these boxes?

Example two.

B: Neil, I' ll need you to give me a hand with this sales report 销售报告.

Example three.

C: Here, let me give you a hand with your suitcase ( ( 旅行用的 ) 手提箱, 衣箱) 我来帮你提箱子吧.

A: Alright, *give me a hand* is another way of saying "help" or "to help out 帮助" .

M: Exactly, to help out.

A: Right.

M: Perfect.

A: Now, 主 the last phrase we' re going to look at here in this dialogue 系 is *keep our costs down*.

M: Keep our costs down.

A: Keep our costs down.

M: Keep our costs down.

A: So, *to keep our costs down* means to try and not spent (v.) so much money.

M: Exactly, many companies, for example, now, uh, control (v.) how much printing you do 你的打印量.

A: Yes.

M: Right?

A: Yes.

M: To keep the costs down of paper. 降低或控制纸张的成本 (= **To keep** the cost of paper **down**)

A: Yeah, so, in other words /they do not want to have unnecessary spending.

M: Perfect! Okay, I think it' s time for us to listen to this dialogue one more time, but I want everyone to listen and see /why Tony is surprised *at the end* /when he meets (v.) his intern, when he meets his assistant.

### Header 1

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B: Yeah, I guess you' re right.... here' s an idea, what if we hire an intern? She would take some of the weight off my shoulders.

A: She?

B: Yeah, you know, a recent graduate. She could give me a hand with some of these projects and we could keep our costs down.

A: That sounds reasonable... let me see what I can do.

A: Tony, I' d like to introduce you to your new assis- tant.

B: OK, great! Let' s meet her!

C: Hi, I' m Adam.

B: Oh... hi... I' m Tony...

A: Well, you know, Marco, I think that /Tony was really surprised, because he was kind of hoping to have a female intern?

M: Yeah, I think /that' s exactly what he was expecting. Maybe this guy is a little bit sexist (a.) ( 尤指对女性 ) 性别歧视者的, he thought that /an intern 实习生 should be a girl, but instead he was surprised.

A: Instead *he got Adam* 结果他得到了亚当! Hehe.

M: Exactly, and it looks like Adam is really big and really tall, because he' s got that deep voice.

A: Right, an intern, Marco, do you wanna elaborate (v.)详细说明 , 详尽阐述 on that? 你想详细说明一下吗 ?

M: Working at a company, uh, with a very low salary /or sometimes no salary at all, but *what you' re gaining* is experience 经验 , 阅历 /and you' re, um, learning (v.) a lot of things. Everyone /主 who *has, um, been an intern* or *has had an intern* 谓 knows that 每个 “当过实习生的人” 和 “带过实习生的人” 都知道 /sometimes , um, they are not treated (v.) all that well 他们并没有得到那么好的待遇, sometimes they just serve (v.) coffee or... or they have to do paperwork 文书工作, so...

A: Or like photocopying (v.)影印 ; 复制 ; 复印 things 或者像复印东西 and...

M: Exactly.

A: Yeah.

M: But some internships are really, really cool /and some are really good experiences for, uh, learning.

A: Yes, definitely, um... actually, I... I know friend of mine, she used to 曾经 work (v.) as an intern /in one of those really big companies /and she told me that /she has gained (v.) so much experience doing that.

M: Yeah, I mean /*even if* you don' t get paid, 主 the experience that you get 系 is really good and, um, that just **opens doors for** maybe getting another job /or sometimes 主 the interns 谓 **get hired** 获得被雇佣 by the company to stay, because they do such a good job.

嗯, 这可能会为获得另一份工作打开机会之门, 有时实习生也会被公司录用留下来, 因为他们工作表现非常出色。

A: Yeah, I think *that' s mostly the case* 大多数情况下都是这样, ha?

M: Yeah, that happened to me once, I started working as an intern /and after three months /I was hired by the company, so, it does happen, believe me.

A: So, you did a good job.

M: Uh, yeah, of course.

A: Hehe.

M: Alright, folks, we' re out of time today. I hope that /you enjoyed our lesson /and, uh, we' ll be back tomorrow with another really cool and really interesting lesson from EnglishPod. Don' t forget to come to our website at englishpod.com /where you' ll find some really great and interesting resources /to help you learn and improve your English even more.

A: Yes, you should definitely do that. And Marco and I would love to receive your comments and suggestions /that you can leave (v.) on our community forum, but for now, it' s time for us to say...

M: Bye!

A: Bye!

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