

## Are British people the politest in the world? 英国人最有礼貌吗？

研究人员分析了来自五大洲、讲八种不同语言的当地居民之间的互动后发现，英国人说“谢谢”的频率高过所有人。但这种表达感激的方式有多重要呢？

Around the world there are a variety of ways to **express gratitude** in thousands of different languages. Here in England, children are taught from a young age that they should say "thank you" whenever possible, with "what's the magic word?" being a familiar phrase with parents across the nation.

在世界各地，上千种不同语言中有各种各样表达感激之情的方式。在英国，孩子们在很小的时候就被教导说，只要有机会就应该说“谢谢”。家长们用家喻户晓的“那个神奇的词是什么？”这句话教育孩子要记得说“谢谢”。

Now scientists have looked at languages across five continents and found that officially no one expresses gratitude more than the British. But not as much as you may think – we only say 'thank you' just one in seven **occasions** that we should do.

现在，科学家们已经研究了五大洲的多种语言，发现没有人比英国人表达感激之情的次数多。但实际次数可能没你想的那么多，我们只在七分之一该表达感谢的场合中说“谢谢你”。

Russians only thanked each other three per cent of the time and Italians only 14 per cent. But Giovanni Rossi of the University of Helsinki and a lead author of the study said that this wasn't just people being **rude**.

俄罗斯人在交流时感谢彼此的比例是3%，而意大利人也只有14%。但赫尔辛基大学的乔瓦尼·罗西和这项研究的主要作者说，这不仅仅只因为人们比较粗鲁。

Giovanni and his fellow scientists suggest that English children might be **coerced** by adults to enter into a **politeness routine** when their parents might not even do the same.

乔瓦尼和他的同事们认为，英国的孩子可能是被成年人强迫养成一种礼貌习惯，然而他们的父母甚至可能不会这般礼貌。

## 1. 词汇表

<b>express</b>	表达
<b>gratitude</b>	感谢, 感激直情
<b>occasions</b>	场合
<b>rude</b>	粗鲁的
<b>coerced</b>	被迫的
<b>politeness</b>	礼貌的
<b>routine</b>	习惯, 例行公事

## 2. 阅读理解: 请在读完上文后, 回答下列问题。(答案见下页)

1. What is the 'magic word' that children are told to say?
2. Which people only said "thank you" three per cent of the time?
3. True or false? *British people are thought to be the politest because they say 'thank you' all the time.*
4. What does Giovanni suggest English parents do to their children?

### 3. 答案

1. What is the 'magic word' that children are told to say?

**The 'magic word' is "thank you".**

2. Which people only said "thank you" three per cent of the time?

**Research found Russians only thanked each other three per cent of the time.**

3. True or false? *British people are thought to be the politest because they say 'thank you' all the time.*

**False. Although research found the British say 'thank you' more times than anyone else, it's not as much as you may think – they only say 'thank you' just one in seven occasions that they should do.**

4. What does Giovanni suggest English parents do to their children?

**Giovanni and his fellow scientists suggest that English children might be coerced by adults to enter into a politeness routine.**