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Task 3

Read this article about tipping in the United States. In the sentences that follow the text there are some gaps. Your task is to fill the gaps with one word so that the sentences correspond to what the text says. Contractions (e.g. *don't*) count as one word. Write the words on the lines. An example has been given for you.

Tipping in the US

Australians "employed in a service-related industry" are likely to think it is a bonus to get an American customer. Americans "employed in a service-related industry" are likely to groan inwardly as soon as they hear their customer has an Australian accent. All because tipping plays a lesser part in Australia's service environment. In Australia, you are more likely to leave something *at* the "tip" (garbage dump), than to leave a tip. "Did he give you a good tip?" is more likely to refer to information that aids in placing a bet on the horses or dogs than to payment for service.

The tipping issue can be a difficult one for both sides. Americans might be surprised to learn that Australians can feel self-conscious about leaving a tip. It took several years before I felt comfortable doing so, despite all the discussion about the low wages (sometimes less than \$3 per hour). I just couldn't help feeling that leaving a couple of dollars on the table was the equivalent of saying "you look poor enough to be grateful for this pittance I am prepared to throw your way".

I was surprised to get here and see how precisely a tip is calculated. It is not a casual throwing down of change. For example you might have \$1.80 in change in your pocket, but if the 15% tip comes out at \$1.45, then that's all that many people will leave. I have even seen people request change, rather than leave a tip that is 50c more than the calculation. Here's a tip on calculation - I have found it easiest to calculate the 15% by first calculating 10% by moving the decimal point (for example \$27 gives you \$2.70), and then adding half of the 10% ($\$2.70/2 = \1.35 . $\$2.70 + \$1.35 = \$4.05$. In this case I would think a round \$4 is quite adequate).

I had also thought the tips would go up and down to reflect how you feel about the quality of the service. However, most people stick to the 15% or 20%. I have heard mutterings about how a tip is not deserved, but I have yet to see anyone act upon this.

In Australia, I was used to handing money directly to someone. So it was unusual at first to see people leave the tip on the table and walk away from it. Nicking off with a tip is obviously such a strong taboo, you can even leave it on the table when the next round of customers is preparing to sit down.

There is also an informal rule of etiquette that if one party is paying for the meal for everyone, then the other party will pay the tip.

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0) An Australian waiter will probably be happy to have an
American customer.

15) _____ is not very common in Australian restaurants.

16) When you give somebody a good tip in Australia, you are actually
giving them some _____.

17) It took the writer of this article _____ to accept the custom of
leaving a tip.

18) The writer of the article felt that giving a tip was the same as saying,
“You are _____.”

19) Tips are calculated very _____ in America.

20) Instead of giving the waiter a larger tip, Americans will ask for the
_____.

21) In America the amount of money you leave as a tip doesn't depend on
what you think of the _____.

22) In Australia people _____ leave the tip on the table.

23) If your American friend invites you for dinner and pays for the meal,
_____ should pay the tip.

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