

Practice speaking:

- 1-Convince someone in the class to donate money to your cause.
- 2-How do you politely decline someone's solicitations for donations?
- 3-Are there good reasons NOT to donate to someone's cause?
- 4-Would you consider donating a body part to another person? Would it matter if you knew the person?
- 5-Have you ever donated blood? Talk about the experience.

Read the article below. This article appeared in a New Zealand paper, so they use the word banknotes instead of the American term, "dollars".

Empty Boxes and Politeness Dent Generosity

People will not give money if they are thanked in advance or presented with an empty donation box, but will dig deep if they see banknotes, according to a study by New Zealand academics released on Wednesday.

The research by Victoria University of Wellington's economics department showed that how much is already in a donation box, the mix of coins and notes, and what sorts of signs are present will influence how generous the public will be. The behavior of people faced with a clear donation box at the entrance to the city's art gallery was filmed by a hidden camera.

"The most important thing is to never leave the box empty," said senior lecturer John Randal.

"But it is also important to ensure there is a balance of notes and coins so that whether people want to make a large or small donation, that they feel it is appropriate to do so."

- 1.What does "dig deep" mean in this article?
- 2.Without looking at the article, give a short summary.
- 3.What lesson should be learned from this study?
- 4.How would you describe a "generous person"?
- 5.What does the word "dent" in the title mean? How do you dent generosity? You can dent your car. Are the meanings the same?
- 6.Are you a person that gives money to the homeless person on the street corner? Why or why not?
- 7.Do you donate your time to any organization?