



Is Housework Real Work? - B1



NEWZY WARM-UP

Respond to these questions.

- Do you do a lot of housework?
- Are there any chores that you hate doing?
- In your opinion, is it a good idea to pay a maid to do the housework for you? Why or why not?.

NEWZY READING COMPREHENSION

Read the article below and then respond to the questions.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-56178510>

1. Where did this story take place?
2. How long was the couple married?
3. How much does the man have to compensate his ex-wife?
4. Why?
5. According to the new law mentioned in the article, is housework considered an obligation? Explain.
6. What are some other examples of unpaid work that are protected by this law?
7. Why is this new law important?
8. What was the response on social media?
9. What else costs about the same as the amount of compensation this woman received?
10. Do Chinese women spend more or less time on unpaid work compared to other OECD countries?

NEWZY VOCABULARY EXERCISE

Complete the collocation with the correct verb "take" "make" or "do" and then fill in the blanks with the appropriate expressions.

a mistake, the shopping, a break, a mess, your time, the dishes, the bed, a sandwich, out the trash, a photo, a video, the laundry, a seat, housework.

TAKE

MAKE

DO

1. I have no clean underwear left in the closet. I guess it's time to
2. If you want to feel successful and motivated you should first thing in the morning.
3. Can you ? It smells like fish in here, gross!
4. Once everyone has, the film will start.
5. You're watching TV and eating?! I thought you were while I was cleaning the bathroom! And look, you ! Now I have to vacuum...
6. When I do the housework I like to, whereas my mother likes to do



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everything as fast possible and never

7. My wife cooks such amazing food that I always and post it on Instagram even if she just

8. Stop playing and go The guests will be here any minute!

SPEAKING

Do you think household chores and tasks related to raising children are difficult? How often should they be done? How long do they take? How much would you estimate the financial value of these activities to be?

	<i>frequency</i>	<i>duration</i>	<i>price</i>
do the ironing			
do the laundry			
vacuum			
make the bed			
change the sheets			
empty and load the dishwasher			
do the dishes by hand			
fold and put away dry laundry			
mop the floor			
dust the books and house plants			
take out the trash			
wash the bathtub/shower			
make breakfast for the children			
clean the oven and stovetop			
do the shopping			
prepare a holiday meal for a dozen guests			
cook lunch and dinner			
explain a grammar rule to children			
bathe the children			
help children with their homework			
take the children to an extracurricular activity (sport, theater, private lessons, etc.)			





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READING COMPREHENSION

Read the article below and then respond to the questions.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-56178510l>

1. Where did this story take place? **In China.**
2. How long was the couple married? **5 years.**
3. How much does the man have to compensate his ex-wife? **50,000 yuan (\$7,700; £5,460) plus 2,000 yuan per month for alimony.**
4. Why? **He did not shoulder any housework or childcare responsibilities.**
5. According to a new law, is house work considered an obligation? Explain. **No it is considered intangible property value, in other words it contributes to the family economy.**
6. What are some other examples of unpaid work that are protected by this law? **Child raising, caring for elderly relatives, and assisting partners in their work.**
7. Why is this new law important? **Before the new law, this type of compensation was only available with a prenuptial agreement, which is very uncommon in China.**
8. What was the response on social media? **It was viewed 570 million times and sparked heated debate. Many people said 50,000 yuan wasn't enough. Others told women to be independent.**
9. What else costs about the same as the amount of compensation this woman received? **A nanny for a year.**
10. Do Chinese women spend more or less time on unpaid work compared to other OECD countries? **On average women spend 2X time on unpaid work, in China it is 2.5X compared to men.**



VOCABULARY EXERCISE

Finish the expression with the correct verb "take" "make" or "do" and then fill in the blanks with the appropriate expression.

**take a break, your seat, out the trash, your time
make a mistake, the bed, a decision, a sandwich
Do the shopping, the laundry, the dishes, housework**

1. I have no clean underwear left in the closet. It's time to **do the laundry.**
2. If you want to feel successful and motivated you should **make your bed** first thing in the morning.
3. Can you **take out the trash**? It smells like fish in here, gross!
4. Once everyone has **taken their seats**, the film will start.
5. You're watching TV and eating?! I thought you were **doing the dishes** while I was cleaning the bathroom! And look, you **made a mess**! Now I have to vacuum...
6. When I do the housework I like to **take my time**, whereas my mother likes to do everything as fast possible and never **takes a break.**
7. My wife cooks such amazing food that I always **take a photo** and post it on Instagram even if she just **made a sandwich.**
8. Stop playing and go **do the shopping.** The guests will be here any minute!