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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/133/2021_2022__E8_B5_96_E 4_B8_96_E9_9B_84_E9_c96_133304.htm Lesson 6 Table Manners in Anglo-America "Oh, no! Here I am at an American familys home at the dinner table. There are all kinds of plates, saucers, cups, and silverware at my place. Which should I use for which food? Should I sit down first or wait for the host to invite me? Should I have brought a gift? Someone please tell me what to do ! " Have you ever been in or had a nightmare about this situation? Dont worry ! This article will help steer you through the rocks and reefs of Anglo-American table manners so that if you are ever abroad in Canada or the United States, or at someones home from one of those countries, you will feel right at home. It is important to distinguish what kind of occasion you will be attending before you plan for a pleasant evening. Most Anglo-Americans enjoy entertaining at home, but they dont enjoy stuffy, formal dinners. They invite their friends over for a fun evening, not as a test of ones knowledge of cultural traditions. If, however, you are invited to a formal affair, such as a so-called "sit-down" dinner, you may want to know in advance some basic rules of "black tie" etiquette. The first thing to remember when attending a dinner at a Western home is that you are the guest and that you are a foreigner. No one will invite you if he does not really want you to enter his "castle; so you can be sure that you are wanted. Additionally, as you do not come from the same country or culture as your host, he or she or

they will surely be aware of this, and will be very forgiving if you unintentionally do or say something which would otherwise offend them .Keeping these two simple tips in mind should greatly ease your concern about being present at a dinner in someone elses home. Before arriving at your hosts home, you may want to make sure of three things. First, be a few minutes late, say, about five to ten minutes if possible. Never be early, as the host may not have everything prepared yet. Nor should you be more than 20 minutes late. Your host may begin to worry about whether you are able to attend the dinner or not. Next, as to whether to bring a gift, in most informal gatherings, it is not necessary. If you like, you can bring some fruit or sweets, or, especially if there is a hostess, some flowers. These are thoughtful cheerful gifts sure to please. Do not bring alcoholic beverages unless you are sure of your hosts or hostesss preferences in drinks. Above all, do not spend a lot of money, and never give money. As we say in English, "its the thought that counts : finally, wear comfortable clothing. One can overdress as well as appear sloppy. For a special occasion or religious holiday, such as a retirement party or Christmas, a tie and jacket would be suitable for the gentlemen and a dress or sweater and skirt far the ladies. For more formal affairs, you will probably be told what to wear, such as "formal dress requested," etc. A tie and jacket or tuxedo for the gents and an evening gown for the ladies would be in order here. If you are unsure what to wear, you can always ask the host. Gifts are seldom appropriate for these affairs, unless for a wedding reception, at which gifts are more customary

than cash. Your host in his home will usually motion you where to sit. At formal gatherings, name cards are sometimes provided, or you will be told where to sit. Do not be alarmed by a great deal of cutlery : simply start from the outside and work your way in. Formal affairs often have several courses of food with the appropriate cutlery for each dish. There is no harm in checking with your neighbor to see what implement he is using. After all, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do: It is customary to ask others to pass dishes to you for self-serving; at a formal dinner party, there is usually catering (service) . Again, do not hesitate to ask others for information or advice. They are usually pleased to help you. The most important piece of advice is this : enjoy yourself. No host enjoys seeing nervous or fearful guests who are struggling to "do the right thing" at his home or expensive formal dinner party. Watch others or ask for their advice, and join in the conversation and good times as best you can . If you do, after the first such evening out, you will certainly look forward to the next ! 100Test 下载频 道开通,各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com