NESOE Lesson - Student Version

Title: Buying a Hotdog

Level: Mid-Intermediate | **Length:** 60 minutes

P Section 1 – Reading Passage: Buying a Hotdog in the U.S.A.

If you visit the United States, one of the first things you'll notice is how many small transactions happen every day — from **ordering food** to **buying clothes** or even **grabbing a coffee on the go**. These small interactions are an important part of American culture.

Take the simple act of **buying a hotdog**. You walk up to a food cart, smell the grilled onions, and hear the sizzle. The vendor smiles and says, "Hey there! What can I get you today?" You might reply, "I'll have one hotdog with mustard and onions, please." The vendor could ask, "Would you like anything to drink?" and you might say, "A small soda, please."

These short exchanges show several things about American English: people are usually friendly, use polite forms like "please" and "thank you," and often add small talk — "Nice day, huh?" or "These are the best in town." This easy, casual communication style helps transactions feel friendly, even when they're quick.

The same polite patterns work in stores and restaurants. For example:

- **Buying clothes:** "Can I try this on?" or "Do you have this in a medium?"
- Ordering at a café: "I'd like a coffee to go, please."
- At the grocery store: "Could you double-bag that, please?"

These phrases help learners sound natural and confident in everyday interactions. Americans value friendliness and clarity — saying what you want directly, but with a smile. Whether it's a hotdog stand or a department store, these short conversations build confidence and connection one transaction at a time.

Section 2 – Role Play: Ordering a Hotdog

Characters: Tourist (Anna) and Vendor (Sam)

Sam: Hi there! What can I get you today?

Anna: Hi! I'll have one hotdog with ketchup and onions, please. **Sam:** Sure thing. Would you like any cheese or chili on that?

Anna: No, thank you. Just the hotdog. Oh — and a small soda, please.

Sam: Got it! That'll be \$4.50.

Anna: Here you go.

Sam: Thanks! Enjoy your lunch! **Anna:** Thanks, it smells amazing!

Section 3 - Vocabulary

Vendor, Cart, Transaction, Receipt, Cashier, Customer, Change, Price tag, Total, Takeout

Idioms: On the go, Grab a bite, Ring it up, Make small talk, No problem!

Section 4 - Common Grammar Mistakes and Corrections

• Incorrect: I want a hotdog with mustard and onions please.

Correct: I'd like a hotdog with mustard and onions, please.

• **Incorrect:** How much it cost?

Correct: How much does it cost?

Incorrect: I am not have cash.
 Correct: I don't have cash.

Incorrect: Can you repeat again?
 Correct: Can you repeat that?

• **Incorrect:** I want this one, please give me.

Correct: I'd like this one, please.

Incorrect: I am go to buy some coffee.
 Correct: I'm going to buy some coffee.

- **Incorrect:** He payed with card. **Correct:** He paid with a card.
- Incorrect: She don't want the receipt.
 Correct: She doesn't want the receipt.
- Incorrect: How much are costs?
 Correct: How much does it cost?
- Incorrect: I buyed it yesterday.
 Correct: I bought it yesterday.

Section 5 – Fill-in-the-Blank Practice

1. The food sells hotdogs near the park.
2. Can I get a for my payment?
3. The cashier will your purchase.
4. I don't have enough cash. Can I pay by?
5. The shows this shirt costs \$25.
6. People often make while waiting in line.
7. Let's a bite before the movie.
8. My food is for, please.
9. I gave the cashier \$10, and she gave me \$2 in
10. It's okay!!

Section 6 - Conversation Prompts

- What was the last thing you bought in person?
- How do people usually greet cashiers or food vendors in your country?
- What polite phrases do Americans often use when buying things?

⚠ Section 7 – Homework

Write a short paragraph describing a simple purchase, like ordering coffee or buying a T-shirt. Include details about what you said, how much it cost, and how the conversation went.

Try to use at least **five words or expressions** from today's vocabulary list.