

# We Pay the Tax



Written by: Ann Woomert



## Literacy Focus

### Reading Level: Early Reader

(Note: These books have not been levelled using standardized book levelling systems. See back cover for our suggested levels.)

### Word Count and Vocabulary

Word Count: 302 words

High Frequency Words: *new, our, were, want(ed), walk(ed), ready, could(n't), sure*

### Reinforcing Decoding Skills

Vowel + r: *first, thirsty, order, weather, other, counter, surprise*

Final y sounds: *day, pay, buy, my, money, hungry, thirsty, lucky, country*

Consonant digraphs -h: *thirsty, thing, chicken, chocolate, what, why, math, cashier, the, that, then, this*

### Book Introduction Considerations: (based on student need)

Meaning	Structure	Visual
p.1—building, countries, weather	• Irregular past tense: <i>met, was, were, felt, did, came, paid, said, got</i>	• Compound words: <i>something, inside everything</i>
p.3—second	• go/goes, do/does	• Punctuation ! ? "" - ... (ellipsis)
p.5—corner store, first, nervous	• Contractions: <i>couldn't, didn't</i>	• Money symbol: \$ i.e. \$4.78
p.7—counter, burger	• Question forms:; <i>"Why didn't...?", "Do we have to...?"</i>	• Captions
p.9—menu, cost	• Inflectional endings: -s, -ed, -ing	• Callouts: thinking
p.13—confused, prices, total, correct, cashier	• Glossary	• Menu
p.15—extra, tax, government, order, HST		• Receipt
p.17—paid, final total		• Calculations: numbers, symbols i.e. 13 %
p.18—pay		

# We Pay the Tax

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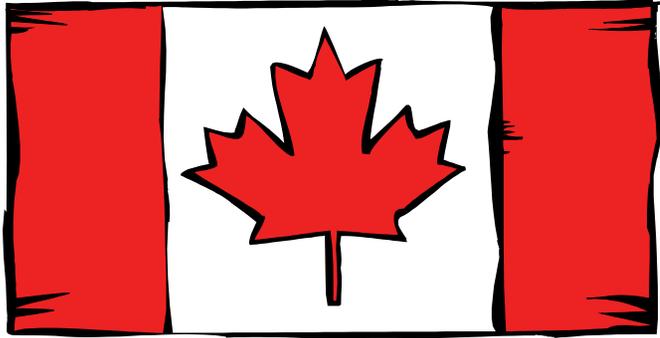
**Designed by:** Jeffery Robinson

**Edited by:** Moyra Bartlett & Jean Hambleton

Mohamed and I are new friends  
in Canada.

We met in our building.

We are from hot countries, so cold  
weather is new to us.



Our second day in Canada was a very cold day. We wanted to buy something hot to drink to warm up. Mohamed was hungry, too.



cold day

hot drink



We walked to the corner store  
near our building.  
It was the first time we had gone  
inside a store in Canada.  
We felt a little nervous.

Walking to the corner store



We walked up to the counter and looked at the menu.  
We decided to order hot chocolate, coffee, and a Chicken Burger.

corner  
store



store  
counter





The menu said that hot chocolate cost \$1.59, the coffee cost \$0.99, and the Chicken Burger cost \$1.65. We did the math and got the money ready – \$4.23.



## Take-Out Menu

Coffee .....\$0.99

Juice .....\$1.25

Hot Chocolate .....\$1.59

Small Sub.....\$2.50

Large Sub .....\$4.75

Chicken Burger .....\$1.65

Chicken Nuggets .....\$2.79

It was time to pay, so we went up to the **cashier**.

We were so thirsty and hungry.

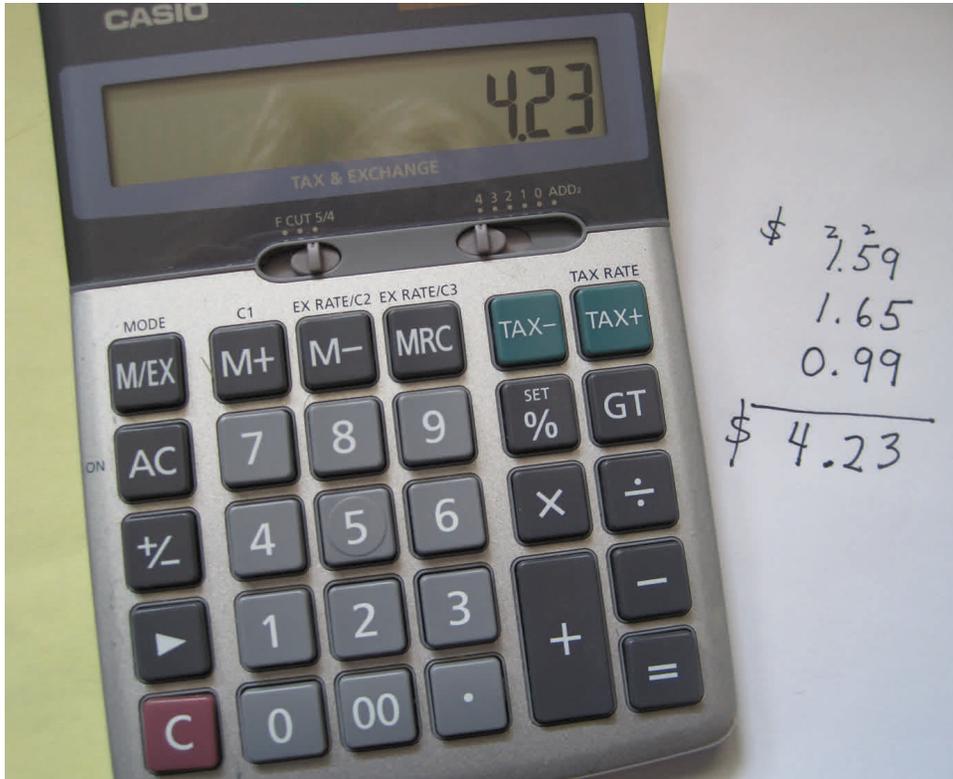
We couldn't wait to start!

Then we got a surprise...

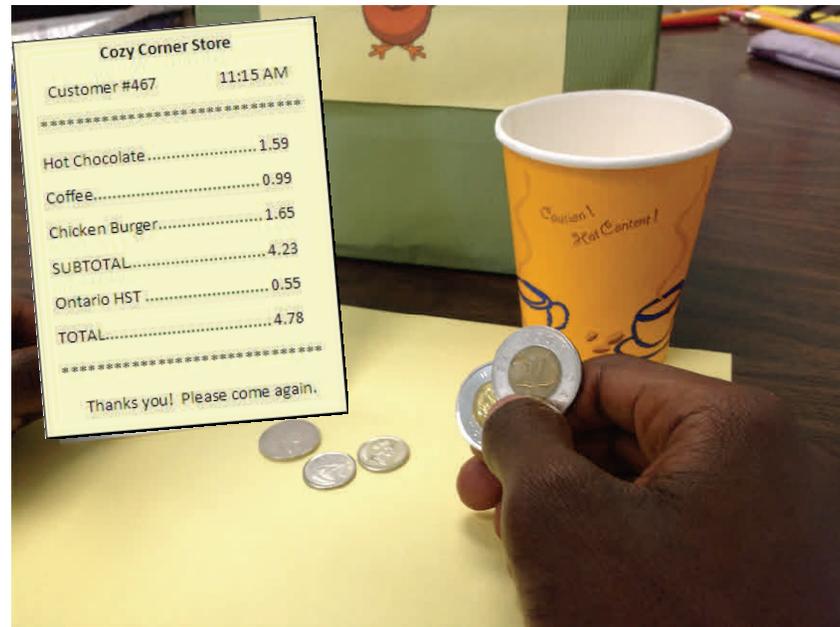
The cashier looked at us and said, "That will be \$4.78."



We looked at each other.  
We were confused.  
Mohamed asked the cashier,  
“Why do we **owe** \$4.78?  
We added the prices and got \$4.23  
for the **total**.  
We are sure we are correct.”



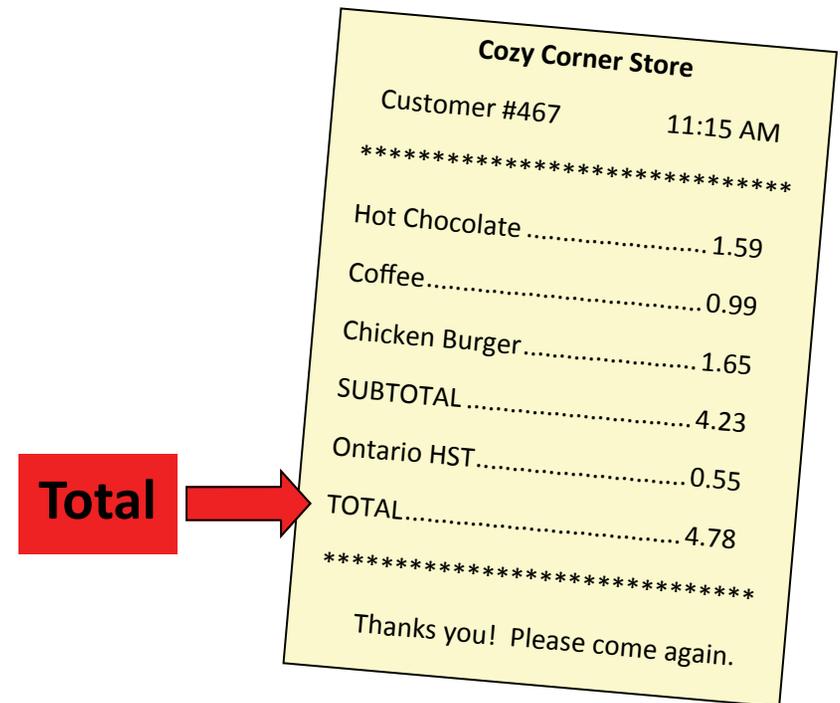
We were lucky our cashier was kind. He explained his total to us. He answered, " I have to add some extra money called **tax**. It is called the HST. This tax goes to the **government**. It is 13% of the total. For your order, it is an extra \$0.55."



# HST?

It was a good thing we had some extra money with us.

We paid the final total of \$4.78.



Now, we have some questions:

Do we have to pay taxes on everything we buy?

Why didn't we pay taxes in our countries?

What does the government in Canada do with the tax money?



## Glossary

<b>cashier</b>	the person who takes the money when you pay for something
<b>cost</b>	how much money something is, price
<b>government</b>	controls and directs a country, province, city or other area
<b>owe</b>	the duty you have to pay for something
<b>Tax (HST)</b>	extra money we must pay to the government
<b>total</b>	the answer you have when you add everything together

# Financial Literacy

## Financial Skills

- Learn that the cost of items for purchase are added to find a subtotal. Then a tax called HST is calculated and added to determine the final total.
- Learn that Ontario HST is 13%

## Building Financial Knowledge

Educated consumers need to know that the final prices of many items and services are affected by the addition of a sales tax. This knowledge helps the consumer to be able to determine exact prices, so that a budget can be maintained. In addition, consumers learn that by paying taxes, they are contributing to the many government services, supplies, and benefits provided for the people of the province.

**We Pay the Tax**

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## Think and Talk:

What do you know about tax?



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