

Is sexism all over?

The influence of language on future choices

- Try to name these jobs.
- What do you notice?
In groups, discuss the influence of language.
- Can you find any other names that can be used for these jobs?

Read these jobs titles and their definitions. Try and replace them with a more gender-neutral term. You can even propose your own new word.

- Cleaning lady: a person whose job is to clean other people's homes.
- Housewife: a married woman who mainly cares for her family and manages household affairs.
- Steward or stewardess: a person employed to look after the passengers on a ship, aircraft or train.
- Mailman: postman. He carries the mail.
- Spokesman: a person who speaks for a group of people.
- Watchman: a man employed to look after an empty building, especially at night.

B/ Boost your vocabulary

C/ Boost your grammar

Wage and employment gaps between men and women still exist! Link the sentences below to show contrast. Use link words such as: even if, however, yet, although.

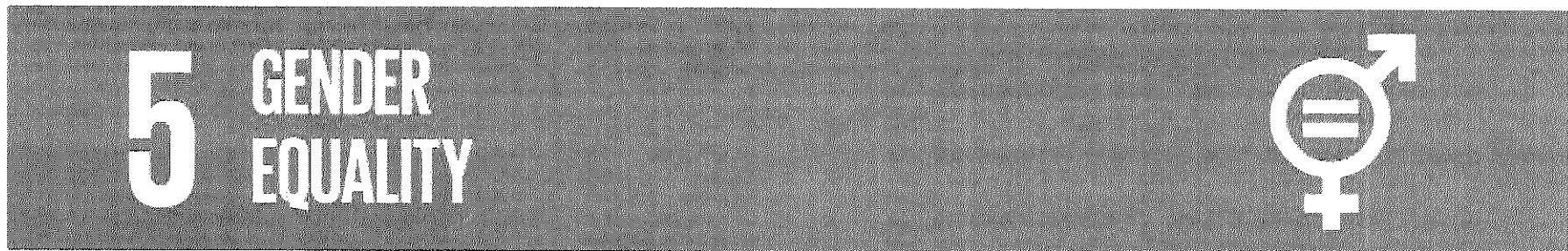
- Men and women have the same university diploma in Canada. // Women earn 16% less than men.
- 70% of girls are interested in science. // 24% of women work in science-related jobs.
- Women represent half of the world's population. // There are few women presidents.

C/ Boost your writing

Read the following statements and give your opinion. Write 3 sentences to say if you agree or not, explain why and give an example.

- a. Girls are not good at science.
- b. Boys cannot attend ballet classes.
- c. A woman's place is in the kitchen.

D/ Read and react



Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

There has been progress over the last decades: More girls are going to school, fewer girls are forced into early marriage, more women are serving in parliament and positions of leadership, and laws are being reformed to advance gender equality.

Despite these gains, many challenges remain: discriminatory laws and social norms remain pervasive, women continue to be underrepresented at all levels of political leadership, and 1 in 5 women and girls between the ages of 15 and 49 report experiencing physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner within a 12-month period.

1. Give a definition of gender equality.
2. Why do we need a gender-equal society? Would only women benefit from it? Answer those questions in 50 words.