

Women Equality Day

Intermediate+ level

Warm-up quiz

Do you think the statements are true or false?

1. Switzerland was among the first countries to give women rights to vote
2. The idea of the 8th of March was to make women feel their fragility and tenderness
3. Women are still not allowed to drive in Saudi Arabia



Quiz answers

1. FALSE. Women in Switzerland gained the right to vote in federal elections only after a referendum in February 1971.
2. FALSE. The original idea of the 8th of March was to commemorate the cultural, political, and socioeconomic achievements of women.
3. FALSE. Women are allowed to drive in Saudi Arabia since 2018

**Were the questions hard to answer?
Are you surprised by the answers?**

Task 1 - An important holiday

Read [the article](#) and answer to the questions:

1. Which holiday is it about?
2. What is the history of the holiday (paraphrase in a few phrases)?
3. Was the strike successful?
4. Do you have a similar one in your native country?



Task 2 - A viral video (18+)



Watch [the video](#) called “Be a Lady They Said” and answer to the questions:

1. What is your impression?
2. Do you recognize the speaker? What movies and TV-series did she star in?
3. Do you agree with her ideas?

Task 3 - NO NO NO

Make a list of the most popular “BE”s and “DON’T”s in a context of gender inequality (according to the video):

BE.....		DON'T....

Task 4 - Change my mind

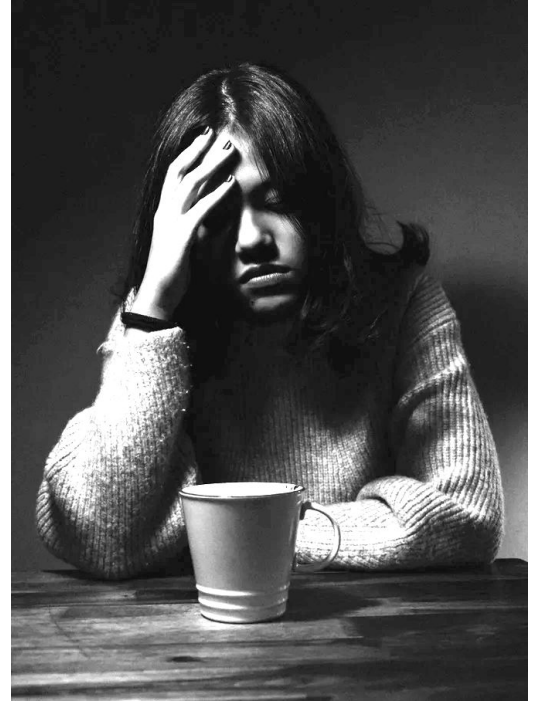
Try to disagree with these statements. Support your answers with examples and details.

1. Becoming a mother is every woman's vocation.
2. Women provoke sexual predators themselves (just look at their lipsticks and short skirts!).
3. Men are physically stronger than women.
4. Little boys should play with cars while girls should be given dolls.
5. We must forbid women to buy cigarettes. They are future mothers, it can do harm then.

Task 5 - Discussion

Discuss the questions:

1. Why is suffrage a measuring stick of equality?
2. Have you ever faced sexism?
3. Did your mother, aunts, grandmothers face it?
Has anything changed in your country since then?
4. Are there any issues from the list that still exist in your place?
 - men earn more (even if they work the same)
 - women participate less in social and political life
 - it's OK to make jokes about the "stupidity" of women
 - some jobs are still considered "male"



Keys

Task 1

1. Women Equality Day (an American holiday celebrated on the 26th of August).

3. Although the strike did not bring about immediate change, it was extraordinarily successful in demonstrating the breadth of support for women's rights.

Task 2

Cynthia Nixon is an American actress and liberal activist. "Sex and the City" is among movies she starred in.

Task 3

Possible answers:

- Don't be so provocative
- Don't be too fat, don't be too thin
- Don't talk too loud
- Don't be so bossy

- Be nothing, be less than nothing
- Be pure
- Be the cool girl