

Gender roles/stereotypes

Upper-Intermediate +

Warm up

Listen to the [song](#) (3 mins) and discuss the questions:

1. What is the song about?
2. What things would she do if she were a boy?
3. What would you do if you were a boy/girl?



Task 1

Try to explain the words and, if necessary, check the meanings in a dictionary:

1. normative gender role -
2. breadwinner -
3. emasculated -
4. vulnerability -
5. default perception-
6. to gauge -
7. inclination-
8. discernment -
9. to be on the cusp -
10. perpetuation -



Task 2

Fill in the gaps using words from Task 1.

1. Some men feel..... if they work for a woman.
2. Hershimmered around her in a way that left him unable to leave her alone, until he was certain the worst was over.
3. Men are often expected to be the in a family.
4. It is difficult..... what the other party's next move will be.
5. His lack of led to his disastrous choice of business partners.
6. The person who is telling the joke is being active in the..... of gender stereotypes.
7. We should be basing our decisions on solid facts, notand hunches.
8. The countryof economic expansion.

Task 3

Make up your own sentences using the words from Task 1.



Task 4

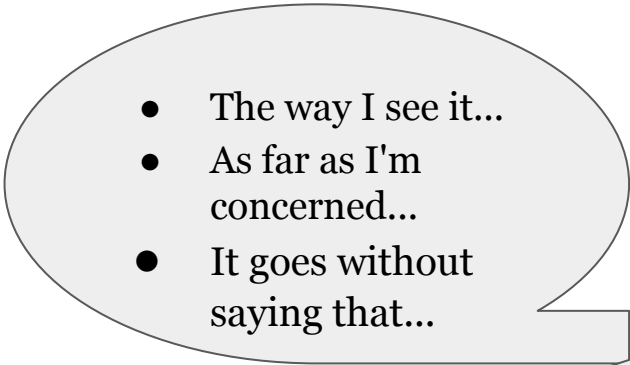
Discuss the [video](#) “How to avoid gender stereotypes” and answer the questions:

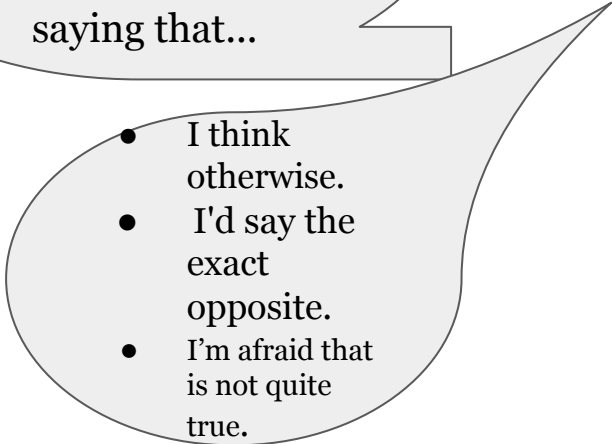
1. What question was asked at the beginning of the video?
2. What did the speaker experience 20 years ago as being a leader-woman?
3. What statistics does she provide on companies being led by women?
4. Why are there fewer women-leaders than men according to the research mentioned in the video?
5. What study was done in 2006 and what did the results show?
6. What are the ways of avoiding gender stereotypes?
7. What story did the speaker share about the case in Japan?
8. What message did the speaker leave in the end?

Task 5

Agree/disagree with the statements. Express your opinion using phrases on the right.

1. A woman's place is in the kitchen.
2. A male should be a breadwinner in the family.
3. Girls do better in school than boys.
4. Juggling work, kids and personal desires is a piece of cake.
5. Men are more competent leaders than women.

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- The way I see it...
 - As far as I'm concerned...
 - It goes without saying that...

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- I think otherwise.
 - I'd say the exact opposite.
 - I'm afraid that is not quite true.

Task 6

Discuss the questions:

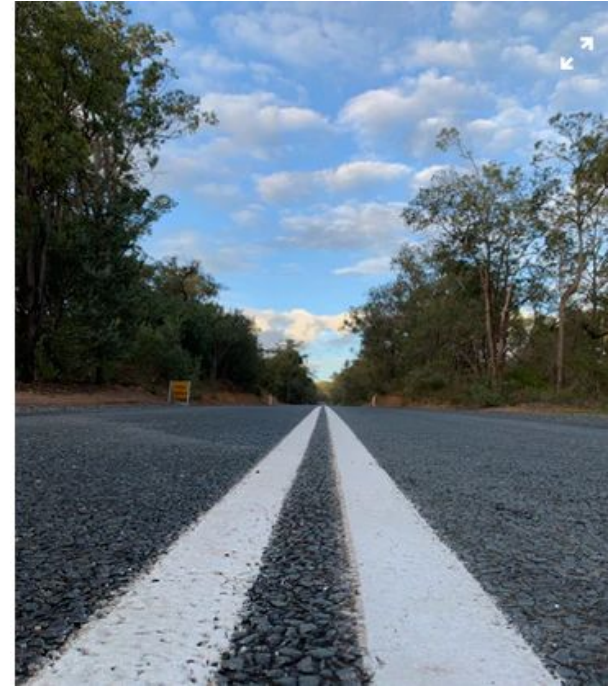
1. Are gender roles important in society?
2. What can you say about feminism?
3. Is it ok to be a stay-at-home dad? What are the advantages and drawbacks?
4. How to make a perfect life-work balance?
5. Do gender roles have an impact on a relationship between partners, situation at home in general?
6. Is there gender inequality in your country?
7. Did you like the video? Why/why not? Have you ever witnessed gender inequality at workplace?



Cool-down

Watch the [video](#) and discuss it.

- what opinions are mentioned
- what is your view
- how do some notions differ in western and eastern societies



Homework

- **Write a summary of the video (100-150 words)**
- **Use words and phrases from Task 1**
- **Give a detailed description of the information from the video**
- **Express your opinion on the topic of gender roles, stereotypes**



Keys:

Task 2

1. Emasculated
2. Vulnerability
3. Breadwinner
4. To gauge
5. Discernment
6. Perpetuation
7. Inclination
8. Was on the cusp

Task 4

1. The question: Are we finally at a point where considerations of women's legitimate leadership potential is recognized and interpreted in terms of corporate advancement?
2. The speaker was invited to join an evaluation committee in NY and didn't know what to expect. There were a lot of white men invited. A man approached her and said: "I am the black and you must be the woman". The speaker refers to inequality here.
3. 3% of top 50 companies in Europe are led by women. Women are 1.5 relative to men on corporate boards and globally women MBAs are hired at a lower level, less opportunities in terms of equitable compensation.
4. Because of the perpetuation gender-based stereotypes and unconscious bias.
5. They took 953 managers across Europe and asked an interesting question: they were supposed to associate 14 attributes, found by the team (team-building, problem-solving and so on), with a woman or a man. The results showed that almost all attributes that were deemed to be taking charge were associated with a man simply because of being a man whereas women by virtue of being women were perceived to be more competent at taking care. There are default perceptions, e.g. we think the word leader - we think about a man.
6. Being aware of fundamental challenges tied to these issues: mindset, behavior. The key for avoiding gender stereotypes is power of discernment - the ability to notice differences.
7. The speaker was lack of that discernment one day in Japan: she was driving a car with a Japanese colleague, the car didn't have a sideview and rearview mirror and she was dependent on this colleague to navigate. At the point of accessing/turning a highway the speaker asked her colleague if there was a car coming. The colleague said that there wasn't a car and the speaker started to accelerate and the colleague continued: "It is a large truck". They almost hit the stone wall.
8. We (people) have to get to the point where we can discern differences and use it to our advantage in workplaces and do not let stereotypes get in the way of accurate assessments and advancement of talent.