

Unit 6 - Battle of the Sexes

Task 1: Vocabulary building. Complete the unfinished words in the following sentences taken from a study on housework. The words are all related to household chores.

- 1- Women complain their men only vac the middle of the carpet - and then walk over it in dirty shoes.
- 2- Doing the lau is one of the main tasks which men fail to complete to their wife's satisfaction.
- 3- Not rearranging sofa cushions tidily enough and ma the bed incorrectly are also areas where men fall short.
- 4- The study found nearly half of the women claimed their partner often sw the floor, but leaves dust under furniture and corners.
- 5- A third said their men do not use enough water when they m the floor.
- 6- Despite the findings, two thirds of women admit their partners genuinely try to set the ta right, at dinner time.
- 7- The survey also revealed one fifth of men aren't even aware of wi down the counter when they finish doing the dishes.
- 8- Men are also more likely to throw mess into drawers rather than fo the clothes properly.
- 9- When it comes to washing up, most men overload the dis, preventing everything from getting clean.
- 10- Perhaps it is the case that men just don't realise how much work goes into having a clean and tidy home and they are more concerned about wa the dog or ta the trash out.

Task 2: Do you have a preference (strong or mild) or no preference for a certain sex to do a certain job? Write a sentence stating your agreement or disagreement with the following statements.

a) I have always preferred a female dentist because they are more delicate.

b) I would never hire a man as my child's babysitter.

c) I always feel safer when I know the pilot of the plane I am in is a man.

d) My secretary has to be a woman because they are more organized than men.

e) Women can be good mechanics but I always prefer a man to fix my car.

- f) If you really want to learn to drive, find a male driving instructor.
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Task 3: There are different nouns for male and female animals. Complete the sentences below with the words in the box. If necessary, look them up in the dictionary.

<i>lioness</i>	<i>bee</i>	<i>mare</i>	<i>cow</i>
		<i>hen</i>	<i>stallion</i>
	<i>drone</i>	<i>queen</i>	
<i>bull</i>	<i>lion</i>	<i>rooster</i>	

- 1- The _____ is larger, usually more brightly colored, and has larger combs on top of their heads compared to the _____.
- 2- The _____ is the male horse that has not been castrated. They have a more muscular physique as compared to a female horse, known as _____.
- 3- The _____ is called the king of the jungle, but in reality it is the _____ the one that does all the hunting.
- 4- More muscular and aggressive, the _____ has long been an important symbol in many cultures while the _____ has always been of interest to people as provider of dairy products.
- 5- Unlike the worker _____, the _____ does not have stingers and does not participate in nectar and pollen gathering; its primary role is to mate with a fertile _____.

Task 4: Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap

CHANGING ROLES IN THE HOUSEHOLD

If you went back 1 time, to say the 1950s America, and appeared in a typical household during dinner time it would be clear 2 was in charge of household chores. In those times, the man of the house went to work every day to make the money to support the family. Then at the end of his shift he would go home to be cared for 3 his wife. The wife, who also had the role of mother, cleaner, cook, first aid attendant, seamstress and teacher, would be in charge of managing and attending to everything that happened within the home.

Now let's move forward a few decades, when double income families became the norm in the United States. Once it became more common for both mums and dads to go to work each day, chores started being divided up between parents. Mums were often in charge 4 all kitchen and indoor cleaning tasks, whereas dads were more frequently responsible 5 mowing the lawn, shoveling the driveway, taking out the trash and fixing the car. Chore division was therefore very much based 6 each parent's gender.

Although both these situations can still be found nowadays, much more commonly we are seeing families who share tasks and chores with 7 regard to gender. Stay-at-home dads, working single mums, boyfriends cleaning the pantry, and daughters mowing the lawn are all regular occurrences in the 21st century. Our modern day households have family members sharing duties based on likes and dislikes, as 8 as goals and strengths.