

# 3B Stereotypes - or are they?

## 1 GRAMMAR articles: a / an, the, no article

a Circle the correct answers.

- I think girls / the girls are better at learning languages / the languages than boys / the boys.
- Did you lock door / the door when you left house / the house this morning?
- My sister is married to German / a German. He's engineer / an engineer.
- I don't usually like fish / the fish, but salmon / the salmon we had last night was delicious.
- We go to cinema / the cinema once a week / the week.
- Don't worry! It's not the end / end of the world / world.
- Do you think women / the women are more sensitive than men / the men?
- What beautiful / a beautiful day! Let's have lunch / a lunch in the garden.

b Are the highlighted phrases right (✓) or wrong (✗)? Correct the wrong phrases.



- That's lovely dress – the colour suits you.    
 a lovely dress
- He's hoping to visit his parents the next weekend.
- The money doesn't make people happy.
- My grandfather left school when he was 14.
- They go to the dentist about twice the year.
- Have you watched DVD that I lent you?
- That was one of the best meals I've ever had.
- What noisy child! Where are his parents?
- Alex is studying to become doctor.
- I love the cats, but my boyfriend doesn't like them.
- Her husband sits in front of the TV all day.
- She always gets to the work at half past five.

## 2 PRONUNCIATION /ə/, sentence stress, /ðə/ or /ði:/?

a iChecker Listen and complete the sentences.

- I'd like to speak to the manager.
- I've put the \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ are we going to \_\_\_\_\_ tonight?
- Could you \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ for a moment?
- She needs to see a \_\_\_\_\_ about her \_\_\_\_\_.
- We want to \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow.

b Listen again and repeat. Copy the rhythm.

c iChecker Listen and repeat the phrases. Pay attention to the pronunciation of *the*.

- The conversation was about the woman next door.
- The university invited a guest to speak at the meeting.
- I sometimes go to the theatre in the evening.
- We took the lift instead of walking up the stairs.
- The office gave me all the information I needed.
- The grey skirt is nice, but I prefer the black one.

### 3 READING

a Read the article once and put the headings in the correct place.

- A Men are better navigators than women
- B Women talk more than men
- C Men don't see colours as well as women

# Stereotypes supported by science

1 \_\_\_\_\_

Men **have a reputation** for wearing clothes that don't look good together – if men do look good, it's because their girlfriends or wives have helped them get dressed. Why's that?

Science says: Let's take a look at chromosomes – the parts of our DNA that control many things about us. The colour red is carried only by the X chromosome. Women have two X chromosomes, and so they are **more likely** to be able to see red. Men only have one X chromosome. How we see colour depends on the ability to see red, blue, and green, so women are more likely to see colours better. Being able to see colours well was important in prehistoric times when women looked for fruit for food. They had to be able to tell the difference between the types of fruit on the trees so that they didn't choose a type that was **poisonous**. For them, seeing different colours meant they could survive.

2 \_\_\_\_\_

Most men have a natural ability to read maps while women usually need to turn them round. How come?

Science says: Men are able to see the size and position of things much quicker than women. This ability is called 'spatial awareness'. Researchers discovered in a study of four-year-old children that only one girl has this ability for every four boys. Once again, the explanation can be found in the past. Do you remember those prehistoric women? Well, while they were looking for fruit, the men travelled long distances to hunt animals. When they had caught enough, they had to find their way home again. And this is where they learnt 'spatial awareness'. The women didn't need it because they hardly ever went out of sight of their homes, but for the men, it was **vital**.

3 \_\_\_\_\_

Humans are social animals, so why is it that men don't like sharing their problems while women tell their best friends everything?

Science says: The answer is in the brain. The parts **responsible for** language are 17% larger in a woman's brain than in a man's brain. Also, women use both the left and the right side of the brain to use language, while men use only one side – their strongest side. And there's more. The part of the brain that connects the two parts together – the corpus callosum – is larger in women too, which means that they can move information from one part to the other part more quickly. Nobody is sure why these differences exist, but it's clear that women have a **definite advantage** over men when it comes to communication.

b Read the article again. Choose the right answers.

- 1 Men can find it difficult to perceive...
  - a three colours.
  - (b) one colour.**
  - c any colours.
- 2 Seeing colours well helped prehistoric women...
  - a find interesting things to eat.
  - b cook food correctly.
  - c choose the right fruit.
- 3 The results of the study showed that...
  - a four-year-olds don't have spatial awareness.
  - b boys learn spatial awareness before girls.
  - c girls don't have spatial awareness.
- 4 Women didn't need spatial awareness in prehistoric times because...
  - a the men were always with them.
  - b they never left home.
  - c they didn't travel far from home.
- 5 Men are worse at communicating because...
  - a part of their brains are smaller.
  - b their brains are 17% smaller.
  - c their brains are larger.
- 6 The function of the corpus callosum in the brain is...
  - a to communicate between both sides.
  - b to store different languages.
  - c to control the language process.

c Look at the **highlighted** words and phrases. What do you think they mean? Use your dictionary to look up their meaning and pronunciation.

d Complete the sentences with one of the **highlighted** words or phrases.

- 1 It's a definite advantage to have good exam results if you want to go to university.
- 2 Don't eat those mushrooms you found outside! They could be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Who's \_\_\_\_\_ making this mess?
- 4 She's \_\_\_\_\_ to accept if you invite her partner as well.
- 5 Italian people \_\_\_\_\_ for being great cooks.
- 6 It's \_\_\_\_\_ I finish the report before the end of the day.

#### 4 VOCABULARY

collocation: verbs / adjectives + prepositions

a **Circle** the correct prepositions.

- 1 They're arriving *at / on / in* London on Friday.
- 2 That suitcase belongs *for / from / to* me.
- 3 Shall we ask someone *at / for / of* directions?
- 4 We might go camping, but it depends *in / of / on* the weather.
- 5 Everybody laughed *about / at / to* me when I fell off the chair.
- 6 Who's going to pay *for / of / with* the meal?
- 7 I dreamt *about / from / with* my old school friends last night.
- 8 That girl reminds me *about / of / to* my cousin.

b Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

- 1 Tony used to be married to Teresa.
- 2 My boyfriend isn't very keen \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables.
- 3 They're worried \_\_\_\_\_ their teenage son.
- 4 We're not very interested \_\_\_\_\_ abstract art.
- 5 I'm very different \_\_\_\_\_ my sister.
- 6 Adam's very good \_\_\_\_\_ maths.
- 7 I'm fed up \_\_\_\_\_ this weather.
- 8 He's famous \_\_\_\_\_ his role in *Sherlock Holmes*.

#### 5 WHEN ARE PREPOSITIONS STRESSED?

a **iChecker** Listen and complete the dialogues.

- 1 A Who did you argue with ?  
B I \_\_\_\_\_ with my \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 A Who are you \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
B I'm \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_!
- 3 A What are you so \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
B I'm \_\_\_\_\_ about my \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 A What are you \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
B I'm \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.

b Listen again and repeat. Copy the rhythm.

#### 6 LISTENING

a **iChecker** Listen to a radio phone-in programme. Which speaker has the most traditional view about men doing the cooking?

- 1 Nick     2 Eve     3 Frank     4 Martina



b Listen again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- 1 Nick is unemployed. T
- 2 He wouldn't like to be a chef. —
- 3 Eve cooks all the meals in her house. —
- 4 She spends a lot of time cleaning the kitchen. —
- 5 Frank thinks that girls work harder than they used to. —
- 6 Frank thinks that girls nowadays can cook. —
- 7 Martina's partner does all the cooking. —
- 8 Martina respects men that can cook. —

c Listen again with the audioscript on p.71.

#### USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Learn these words and phrases.

- claim (vb) /kleɪm/  
 reduce /rɪ'djuːs/  
 almost /ɔːl'məʊst/  
 slightly /slɑːtli/  
 whereas /weər'æz/  
 according to /ə'kɔːdɪŋ tuː/  
 in fact /ɪn 'fækt/  
 range from /reɪndʒ frəm/  
 tend to /tend tə/  
 be sceptical of /biː 'skeptɪkl əv/

**iChecker TESTS FILE 3**