



# WOMEN

## Discussion

### Basic Questions

1. What are women best at?  
*Women are best at...*
2. Are women equal to men?  
*Yes, they are... / No, they aren't...*
3. What is the most annoying thing about women?  
*The most annoying thing is...*
4. How would the world be different if all leaders were women?  
*If all leaders are women, the world would be....*
5. Who are the greatest women in your country's history?  
*The greatest women in my country's history are....*

## Extended Questions

1. What common characteristics do all women share?  
*Common characteristics that women share are.....*
2. Do you think women should be allowed to fight in wars?  
*Yes, I think... / No, I don't think...*
3. Someone once said: "Women get the last word in every argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument." Do you agree?  
*Yes, I do... / No, I don't...*
4. Are women more important than men?  
*Yes, I think... / No, I don't think...*

## **VOCABULARY**

1. **Feminine** /'fem·ə·nən/  
(adjective) having qualities or appearance traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy and prettiness.  
*Ex.: His voice was soft and feminine opposite to his body.*
2. **Feminism** /'fem·ə·nɪz·əm/  
(noun) the advocacy of women's rights on the grounds of political, social, and economic equality to men.  
*Ex.: Feminism has become an important issue all over the world.*
3. **Maternity** /mə'tɜr·nɪ·tɪ/  
(noun) motherhood ; the period during pregnancy and shortly after childbirth.  
*Ex.: She will have a maternity leave for forty days.*

**4. Wife /wīf/**

(noun) a married woman considered in relation to her spouse.

*Ex.: The man has two wives.*

**5. Maiden /mādn/**

(noun) unmarried woman

*Ex.: I saw a beautiful maiden next-door.*

**6. Lass /las/**

(noun) a girl or young woman.

*Ex.: He married a lass from Yorkshire.*

## Useful Expression

- 1. A woman's work is never done - Housework and raising children are jobs that have no end.**

*Ex.: After a difficult day at the office, Greta came home and began cooking dinner. "A woman's work is never done," she sighed.*

- 2. Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned - There is nothing as unpleasant as a woman who has been offended or whose love has not been returned.**

*Ex.: When Mary Ann discovered that George was not in love with her, George discovered that hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.*

- 3. A woman of her word - A woman who can be expected to keep or follow through with her promises or intentions; a truthful, trustworthy, or reliable person.**

*Ex.: I've found Mary to be a woman of her word so far, so I'm confident she'll get us the best deal possible.*

## Exercise

### Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is marked on March 8 every year. Countries around the world celebrate IWD to give credit to the economic, political and social achievements of women and to show respect to their contributions in the development of their countries. The IWD was first celebrated on 19 March 1911 in Germany following a declaration by the Socialist Party of America. It's only in the beginning of the 20th century that the day was officially and internationally acknowledged due to the rapid industrialization and the social protest that it accompanied.

On this day women are usually given flowers and small gifts. It is also celebrated as an equivalent of Mother's Day in some countries. Children also give small gifts to their mothers and grandmothers. In countries like Portugal, it is customary, at the night of 8 March, for groups of women to celebrate the holiday with women-only dinners and parties. In 1975, the United Nations gave official sanction to and started financing International Women's Day.

Although, women are becoming more powerful in business, entertainment, politics and many more areas, there are still a lot of inequalities around the world which call for the mobilization of everybody to grant women the proper status they merit.

**Comprehension:**

1. **When was the first IWD celebrated?**
  - a. In the end of the 20th century
  - b. In the middle of the 20th century
  - c. Early in the 20th century.
  
2. **Social unrest and industrialization were some of the causes that led to IWD**
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
3. **The IWD is celebrated \_\_\_\_\_ around the world**
  - a. similarly
  - b. differently
  
4. **Women still need to fight**
  - a. for more equality
  - b. for higher wages