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Level 2 – 17th October 2024

U.K. court says calling a man 'bald' is sexist

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-2.html>

A UK court has said calling a man "bald" is sexist. The court said using the word could break equality laws. This is because the word bald is directly related to gender. Most people who are bald are men, so it is wrong to use the word against men. This sex discrimination case came after a worker took his company to court. The boss angrily called the worker bald. The boss fired the worker. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was harmful. He said using it was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if 'bald' was an insult, or whether it was harassment. The boss' company said the word bald was not sexual harassment because women can be bald. They said: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." A court judge disagreed with the boss' company. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man making comments about parts of a woman's body. The top judge said the word bald was related to sex because more men than women are bald.

Sources: <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/bald-hair-men-man-ruling-high-court-latest-tony-finn/>
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/30968722/calling-man-bald-sexual-harassment-judge-rules/>
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/high-court-rules-calling-man-33866756>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. calling a man "bald" | a. to gender |
| 2. using the word could break | b. against men |
| 3. the word bald is directly related | c. case |
| 4. Most people who are bald | d. harassment |
| 5. it is wrong to use the word | e. is sexist |
| 6. This sex discrimination | f. dismissal |
| 7. The worker won a case of unfair | g. equality laws |
| 8. He said using it was sexual | h. are men |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The court had to decide if 'bald' | a. are bald |
| 2. whether it was | b. not sexual harassment |
| 3. the word bald was | c. of a woman's body |
| 4. In order to be related | d. harassment |
| 5. commenting on a man's | e. related to sex |
| 6. making comments about parts | f. to sex |
| 7. the word bald was | g. baldness |
| 8. more men than women | h. was an insult |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-2.html>

A UK court has said calling a man (1) _____. The court said using the word could (2) _____. This is because the word bald is directly related to gender. Most people who are bald are men, so it is (3) _____ the word against men. This sex discrimination case came after a worker took his (4) _____. The boss angrily called the worker bald. The boss (5) _____. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word (6) _____. He said using it was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if 'bald' (7) _____, or whether it was harassment. The boss' company said the word bald (8) _____ harassment because women can be bald. They said: "In order to be (9) _____, it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." A court judge (10) _____ boss' company. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man making (11) _____ of a woman's body. The top judge said the word bald was related to sex because (12) _____ women are bald.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-2.html>

A UK court has said calling a man "bald" is sexist. The court said using the word could break equality laws. This is because the word bald is directly related to gender. Most people who are bald are men, so it is wrong to use the word against men. This sex discrimination case came after a worker took his company to court. The boss angrily called the worker bald. The boss fired the worker. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was harmful. He said using it was sexual harassment. The court had to decide if 'bald' was an insult, or whether it was harassment. The boss' company said the word bald was not sexual harassment because women can be bald. They said: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." A court judge disagreed with the boss' company. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man making comments about parts of a woman's body. The top judge said the word bald was related to sex because more men than women are bald.

BALDNESS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about baldness in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

