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Level 3 – 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.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

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

A court in the U.K. has said calling a man "bald" is sexist. The judge in the court said using the word could break equality laws. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently related to gender". This means that because most people who are bald are men, it is wrong to use the word against a man. This sex discrimination case came after a worker took his company to court. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an argument with his boss. The boss angrily called the worker "bald" and fired him. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was harmful, and that using it was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if the word bald was simply an insult, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers for the boss' company said calling a man bald was not sexual harassment. They said that women can also be bald. In court, they argued that: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could not be harassment. A court judge disagreed with the boss' lawyers. 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 lead judge said the word bald was related to gender. He said this was because more men than women are bald.

Sources: <https://www.ibc.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>

WARM-UPS

1. BALDNESS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about baldness. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

court / bald / sexist / equality / laws / gender / boss / argument /sexual harassment / decide / insult / lawyers / bald women / disagree /comments / gender / bald men

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. BALD IS BEST: Students A **strongly** believe it is better to be bald than to have hair; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. INEQUALITIES: What are these inequalities like in your country? How can we make things more equal? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	~ism	Equality
Sexism		
Racism		
Ageism		
Weightism		
Religion		
Money		

5. HAIR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "hair". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. HAIRSTYLES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best hairstyles at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Bald
- Ponytail
- Buzz cut
- Comb over
- Mohawk
- Afro
- Beehive
- Dreadlocks

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. court | a. A person who works in a court and decides if someone is right or wrong. |
| 2. bald | b. When someone is told to leave their job or position. |
| 3. gender | c. A place where important people, like a judge, decide if someone broke the law. |
| 4. sexist | d. Having no hair on your head. |
| 5. judge (noun) | e. Treating people unfairly because they are a man or a woman. |
| 6. equality | f. When everyone is treated the same and has the same rights. |
| 7. dismissal | g. Either of the two sexes (male and female). |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 8. insult (noun) | h. When two or more people do not think the same thing. |
| 9. harassment | i. Connected to something or someone in some way. |
| 10. lawyer | j. When someone is not allowed to join or be part of something. |
| 11. exclusion | k. Something mean or rude that you say to hurt someone's feelings. |
| 12. related to | l. Saying or writing something about a topic or event. |
| 13. disagreed | m. When someone bothers or upsets another person again and again because of their skin colour, sex, religion, age, etc.. |
| 14. commenting | n. A person who helps people with the law and works in courts. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. A court in the U.K. said bald men are sexist. **T / F**
2. A judge in a court said the word 'bald' could break equality laws. **T / F**
3. A company boss called a worker bald and fired him. **T / F**
4. The worker lost a court case against the company that fired him. **T / F**
5. A court decided the word bald was an insult, not harassment. **T / F**
6. The company said bald isn't a sexist word because women can be bald. **T / F**
7. A court judge disagreed with the company's lawyers. **T / F**
8. A judge said the word bald was related to gender. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. bald | a. prejudice |
| 2. laws | b. sex |
| 3. gender | c. speaking about |
| 4. discrimination | d. damaging |
| 5. harmful | e. claimed |
| 6. simply | f. hairless |
| 7. argued | g. connected |
| 8. related | h. top |
| 9. commenting on | i. regulations |
| 10. lead | j. just |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. using the word could break | a. with his boss |
| 2. the word bald is inherently related | b. baldness is the same |
| 3. most people who are bald | c. in the court |
| 4. The worker said he had an argument | d. was simply an insult |
| 5. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal | e. to gender |
| 6. The court had to decide if the word bald | f. with the boss' lawyers |
| 7. it could not | g. are men |
| 8. A court judge disagreed | h. of a woman's body |
| 9. commenting on a man's | i. equality laws |
| 10. making comments about parts | j. be harassment |

GAP FILL

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

A court in the U.K. has said calling a man "bald" is (1) _____. The judge in the court said using the word could break (2) _____ laws. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently (3) _____ to gender". This means that because most people who are bald are men, it is (4) _____ to use the word against a man. This sex discrimination case came after a (5) _____ took his company to court. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an argument with his (6) _____. The boss angrily called the worker "bald" and fired him. The worker won a case of unfair (7) _____ in the court. The judge said the word bald was (8) _____, and that using it was sexual harassment.

related
worker
sexist
dismissal
wrong
harmful
equality
boss

The court had to decide if the word bald was simply an (9) _____, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers for the boss' company said (10) _____ a man bald was not sexual harassment. They said that women can also be bald. In (11) _____, they argued that: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to (12) _____ to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could not be harassment. A court judge (13) _____ with the boss' lawyers. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the (14) _____ as a man making comments about parts of a woman's body. The (15) _____ judge said the word bald was related to (16) _____. He said this was because more men than women are bald.

same
lead
calling
gender
apply
insult
disagreed
court

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) The judge in the court said using the word could _____
 - a. break equality laws
 - b. break equally laws
 - c. break e-quality laws
 - d. break eek quality laws
- 2) The judge said this was because the word bald is inherently _____
 - a. related to gentle
 - b. related to agenda
 - c. related to gander
 - d. related to gender
- 3) The boss angrily called the worker "bald" _____
 - a. and fried him
 - b. and fired him
 - c. and fared him
 - d. and afraid him
- 4) The worker won a case _____
 - a. off-on fair dismissal
 - b. of non-fair dismal
 - c. of unfair dismissal
 - d. of unfair dismal
- 5) The judge said the word bald was harmful, and that using it _____
 - a. was sexually harassment
 - b. was sex you all harassment
 - c. was sexual harassment
 - d. was sex yule harassment
- 6) The court had to decide if the word bald was _____
 - a. simply an insults
 - b. simply a consult
 - c. simply an inn salt
 - d. simply an insult
- 7) it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of _____
 - a. the over sex
 - b. the others sex
 - c. the other sex
 - d. the another sex
- 8) She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a _____
 - a. man making comment
 - b. man making comments
 - c. man making commence
 - d. man making com mints
- 9) The lead judge said the word bald was _____
 - a. related to gender
 - b. related to gander
 - c. related to agenda
 - d. related two genders
- 10) He said this was because more men than _____
 - a. women are bailed
 - b. women are beard
 - c. women are bold
 - d. women are bald

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

A court in the U.K. has (1) _____ man "bald" is sexist. The judge in the court said using the word could (2) _____. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently related to gender". This means that because most people who are bald are men, it (3) _____ use the word against a man. This sex discrimination case came after a worker took his (4) _____. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an argument with his boss. The boss (5) _____ worker "bald" and fired him. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was harmful, and (6) _____ was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if the word bald was (7) _____, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers for the boss' company said calling a man bald (8) _____ harassment. They said that women can also be bald. In court, they argued that: "In order to be related to sex, it would (9) _____ to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could not be harassment. A court (10) _____ the boss' lawyers. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man (11) _____ parts of a woman's body. The lead judge said the word bald was (12) _____. He said this was because more men than women are bald.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. Who said the word 'bald' could break equality laws?
2. What did a judge say the world bald was related to?
3. Where did a worker take his company?
4. What did a boss do to a worker besides calling him bald?
5. Where did the worker win a case of unfair dismissal?
6. Who said the word 'bald' was not harassment?
7. Who did the company's lawyers say could be bald?
8. Who did a judge disagree with?
9. What did a judge liken commenting on a man's baldness to?
10. Who said more men than women were bald?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) Who said the word 'bald' could break equality laws?
 - a) a lawyer
 - b) a court judge
 - c) a bald man
 - d) a bald woman
- 2) What did a judge say the world bald was related to?
 - a) hair
 - b) baldness
 - c) babies
 - d) gender
- 3) Where did a worker take his company?
 - a) the moon and back
 - b) a restaurant
 - c) to court
 - d) a hair salon
- 4) What did a boss do to a worker besides calling him bald?
 - a) He fired him.
 - b) He shaved his head.
 - c) He gave him a cap.
 - d) He gave him a wig.
- 5) Where did the worker win a case of unfair dismissal?
 - a) in the USA
 - b) in a court
 - c) in a hair salon
 - d) on the Internet
- 6) Who said the word 'bald' was not harassment?
 - a) the company's lawyers
 - b) the worker
 - c) many women
 - d) barbers
- 7) Who did the company's lawyers say could be bald?
 - a) children
 - b) babies
 - c) women
 - d) old people
- 8) Who did a judge disagree with?
 - a) the boss' lawyers
 - b) women
 - c) his staff
 - d) the company worker
- 9) What did a judge liken commenting on a man's baldness to?
 - a) comments about weight
 - b) comments about religion
 - c) comments about race
 - d) comments about a woman's body
- 10) Who said more men than women were bald?
 - a) a bald man
 - b) a woman
 - c) the lead judge
 - d) a lawyer

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Bald

You think being bald is the best hairstyle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their hairstyle. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): ponytail, mohawk or dreadlocks.

Role B – Ponytail

You think a ponytail is the best hairstyle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their hairstyle. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): being bald, mohawk or dreadlocks.

Role C – Mohawk

You think a mohawk is the best hairstyle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their hairstyle. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): ponytail, being bald or dreadlocks.

Role D – Dreadlocks

You think dreadlocks are the best hairstyle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their hairstyle. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): ponytail, mohawk or being bald.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'bald' and 'sexist'.

bald	sexist
-------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• equality• wrong• case• argument• angrily• harmful	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• simply• also• other• disagreed• comments• lead
--	---

BALDNESS SURVEY

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

BALDNESS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'bald'?
3. What do you think of baldness?
4. Is it better to be bald or to have hair?
5. Is calling a man 'bald' sexist?
6. Is calling a woman 'bald' sexist?
7. What do you think of your hair?
8. Have you ever had an argument with a boss?
9. Does the word 'bald' in your country have a negative meaning?
10. What hairstyle would you really like to have?

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BALDNESS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'sexist'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How important is hair?
15. Is the word 'bald' an insult?
16. How hurt do you think a man would be by the word bald?
17. What are the advantages of being bald?
18. How much money do you spend on your hair?
19. Is it worse for a man or woman to be bald?
20. What questions would you like to ask a bald man?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

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

A court in the U.K. has said (1) _____ a man "bald" is sexist. The judge in the court said using the word could break (2) _____ laws. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently related to gender". This means that because (3) _____ people who are bald are men, it is wrong to use the word against a man. This sex discrimination case came after a worker (4) _____ his company to court. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an argument with his boss. The boss (5) _____ called the worker "bald" and fired him. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was (6) _____, and that using it was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide (7) _____ the word bald was simply an insult, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers for the boss' company said calling a man bald was not (8) _____ harassment. They said that women can also be bald. In court, they argued that: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to apply (9) _____ that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could not be harassment. A court judge disagreed (10) _____ the boss' lawyers. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man (11) _____ comments about parts of a woman's body. The lead judge said the word bald was related to (12) _____. He said this was because more men than women are bald.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) calling | (b) saying | (c) shouting | (d) arguing |
| 2. | (a) equally | (b) equals | (c) equality | (d) equestrian |
| 3. | (a) much | (b) most | (c) all | (d) no |
| 4. | (a) did | (b) gave | (c) had | (d) took |
| 5. | (a) angered | (b) angry | (c) angrily | (d) anger |
| 6. | (a) harmed | (b) harmful | (c) harmless | (d) harms |
| 7. | (a) what | (b) if | (c) so | (d) such |
| 8. | (a) sexy | (b) sexual | (c) sexes | (d) sexism |
| 9. | (a) for | (b) at | (c) to | (d) on |
| 10. | (a) up | (b) at | (c) of | (d) with |
| 11. | (a) waking | (b) faking | (c) taking | (d) making |
| 12. | (a) gene | (b) generation | (c) agenda | (d) gender |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. The deugj in the court
2. using the word could break yqteuial laws
3. related to degnre
4. This sex isitoamrcinidn case
5. he had an eutamgrn with his boss
6. The worker won a case of unfair similssda

Paragraph 2

7. the word bald was simply an nituls
8. or ehhertw it was harassment
9. In court, they geruad that
10. In order to be tedrael to sex
11. to the consilxeu of the other sex
12. ieasrdegd with the boss' lawyers

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () argument with his boss. The boss angrily called the worker "bald" and fired
- () The court had to decide if the word bald was simply an insult, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers
- () not be harassment. A court judge disagreed with the boss' lawyers. She said that commenting
- () discrimination case came after a worker took his company to court. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an
- () him. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald
- () was harmful, and that using it was sexual harassment.
- () to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could
- () people who are bald are men, it is wrong to use the word against a man. This sex
- () for the boss' company said calling a man bald was not sexual harassment. They said that women
- () on a man's baldness is the same as a man making comments about parts of a woman's body. The lead
- () can also be bald. In court, they argued that: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to apply
- (**1**) A court in the U.K. has said calling a man "bald" is sexist. The judge in the court said using the word could break equality
- () judge said the word bald was related to gender. He said this was because more men than women are bald.
- () laws. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently related to gender". This means that because most

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. equality word the break Using bald could laws.
2. gender. word to related The bald is inherently
3. bald men. who are people Most are
4. a worker court. After his took company to
5. case won a worker of unfair dismissal. The
6. said They also women be can that bald.
7. would to sex. It have apply to that
8. about comments body. parts of woman's Making a
9. the said to He word related gender. was
10. bald. men because more was This are

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

A court *in / at* the U.K. has said calling a man "bald" is sexist. The judge in the court said using the word could break *equally / equality* laws. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently related to *gender / gander / gender*". This means that because *most / much* people who are bald are *men / man*, it is wrong to use the word *again / against* a man. This sex discrimination case came after a worker *gave / took* his company *to / at* court. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an argument with his boss. The boss angrily called the worker "bald" and *fired / fried* him. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was *harmful / harmless*, and that using it was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if the word bald was *simply / simple* an insult, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers for the boss' company said *called / calling* a man bald was not sexual *harass / harassment*. They said that women can also be *bold / bald*. In court, they argued that: "*In / On* order to be related to sex, it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of the *another / other* sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could not be harassment. A court judge disagreed with the boss' *lawyers / laws*. She said that commenting on a man's baldness is the *different / same* as a man making comments about *apart / parts* of a woman's body. The lead judge said the word bald was related *to / at* gender. He said this was because more men than women are bald.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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

_ c__rt _n th_ __.K. h_s s__d c_ll_ng _ m_n "b_ld" _s s_x_st. Th_ j_dg_ _n th_ c__rt s__d _s_ng th_ w_rd c__ld br__k _q__l_ty l_ws. Th_ j_dg_ s__d th_s w_s b_c__s_ th_ w_rd b_ld _s "_nh_r_ntly r_l_t_d t_g_nd_r". Th_s m__ns th_t b_c__s_ m_st p__pl_ wh_ _r_ b_ld _r_ m_n, _t _s wrng t_ _s_ th_ w_rd _g__nst _ m_n. Th_s s_x d_scr_m_n_t__n c_s_ c_m__ft_r _ w_rk_r t__k h_s c_m_p_ny t_ c__rt. Th_ b_ss c_ll_d th_ w_rk_r b_ld. Th_ w_rk_r s__d h_ h_d _n _rg_m_nt w_th h_s b_ss. Th_ b_ss _ngr_ly c_ll_d th_ w_rk_r "b_ld" _nd f_r_d h_m. Th_ w_rk_r w_n _ c_s_ _f _nf__r d_sm_ss_l _n th_ c__rt. Th_ j_dg_ s__d th_ w_rd b_ld w_s h_rmf_l, _nd th_t _s_ng _t w_s s_x__l h_r_ssm_nt.

Th_ c__rt h_d t_ d_c_d_ _f th_ w_rd b_ld w_s s_mply _n _ns_lt, _r wh_th_r _t w_s h_r_ssm_nt. L_wy_rs f_r th_ b_ss' c_m_p_ny s__d c_ll_ng _ m_n b_ld w_s n_t s_x__l h_r_ssm_nt. Th_y s__d th_t w_m_n c_n _ls_ b_ b_ld. _n c__rt, th_y _rg__d th_t: "_n _rd_r t_ b_ r_l_t_d t_ s_x, _t w__ld h_v_ t_ _pply t_ th_t s_x t_ th_ _xcl_s__n _f th_ _th_r s_x." Th_y s__d th_t b_c__s_ w_m_n c_n _ls_ b_ b_ld, _t c__ld n_t b_ h_r_ssm_nt. _ c__rt j_dg_ d_s_gr__d w_th th_ b_ss' l_wy_rs. Sh_ s__d th_t c_mm_nt_ng _n _ m_n's b_ldn_ss _s th_ s_m_ _s _ m_n m_k_ng c_mm_nts _b__t p_rts _f _ w_m_n's b_dy. Th_ l__d j_dg_ s__d th_ w_rd b_ld w_s r_l_t_d t_ g_nd_r. H_ s__d th_s w_s b_c__s_ m_r_ m_n th_n w_m_n _r_ b_ld.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

a court in the uk has said calling a man bald is sexist the judge in the court said using the word could break equality laws the judge said this was because the word bald is inherently related to gender this means that because most people who are bald are men it is wrong to use the word against a man this sex discrimination case came after a worker took his company to court the boss called the worker bald the worker said he had an argument with his boss the boss angrily called the worker bald and fired him the worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court the judge said the word bald was harmful and that using it was sexual harassment

the court had to decide if the word bald was simply an insult or whether it was harassment lawyers for the boss company said calling a man bald was not sexual harassment they said that women can also be bald in court they argued that in order to be related to sex it would have to apply to that sex to the exclusion of the other sex they said that because women can also be bald it could not be harassment a court judge disagreed with the boss lawyers she said that commenting on a mans baldness is the same as a man making comments about parts of a womans body the lead judge said the word bald was related to gender he said this was because more men than women are bald

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

A court in the U.K. has said calling a man "bald" is sexist. The judge in the court said using the word could break equality laws. The judge said this was because the word bald is "inherently related to gender". This means that because most people who are bald are men, it is wrong to use the word against a woman. This sex discrimination case came after a worker took his company to court. The boss called the worker bald. The worker said he had an argument with his boss. The boss angrily called the worker "bald" and fired him. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in the court. The judge said the word bald was harmful, and that using it was sexual harassment. The court had to decide if the word bald was simply an insult, or whether it was harassment. Lawyers for the boss's company said calling a man bald was not sexual harassment. They said that women can also be bald. In court, they argued that: "In order to be related to sex, it would have to apply to that sex or the exclusion of the other sex." They said that because women can also be bald, it could not be harassment. A court judge disagreed with the boss's lawyers. 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 lead judge said the word bald was related to gender. He said this was because more men than women are bald.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. BALDNESS: Make a poster about baldness. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BALD: Write a magazine article about the word "bald" being sexist. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on baldness. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on baldness. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. d 3. g 4. e 5. a 6. f 7. b
8. k 9. m 10. n 11. j 12. i 13. h 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 T 3 T 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. a	5. d
6. j	7. e	8. g	9. c	10. h

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A court judge
2. Gender
3. To court
4. He fired him
5. In a court
6. The company's lawyers
7. Women
8. The boss' lawyers
9. Comments about a woman's body
10. The lead judge

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Using the word bald could break equality laws.
2. The word bald is inherently related to gender.
3. Most people who are bald are men.
4. After a worker took his company to court.
5. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal.
6. They said that women can also be bald.
7. It would have to apply to that sex.
8. Making comments about parts of a woman's body.
9. He said the word was related to gender.
10. This was because more men are bald.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)